



Access & Functional Needs Advisory Committees in Emergency Management

**Enhancing Efficiency through State and Local Preparedness in
Emergency Management**

**Access & Functional Needs Advisory Committees foster trust, lead
to better plans, and promote preparedness.**



Today's Presenter



Sadie Martinez

Access & Functional Needs
Program Supervisor



Disclaimer

Information, materials, and technical assistance are intended solely as informational guidance and are neither a determination of legal rights or responsibilities under the ADA, nor binding on any agency with enforcement responsibility under the ADA.



“How To”
not
“Must Do”



Start | Stop | Continue | Change

Start:

Stop:

Continue:

Change:

I GOT THIS!

3 things I learned.

2 actions to apply what I learned.

1 way I'll share my learning.



Access and Functional Needs Resource Framework

The Access and Functional Needs Resource Framework suggests there are resources **EVERYONE** needs to function during emergencies and disasters regardless of who they are.

People



Places



Things



Money





Change in Language

Before:

Label-centric

*“That person
is an AFN.”*



Now:

Resource-centric

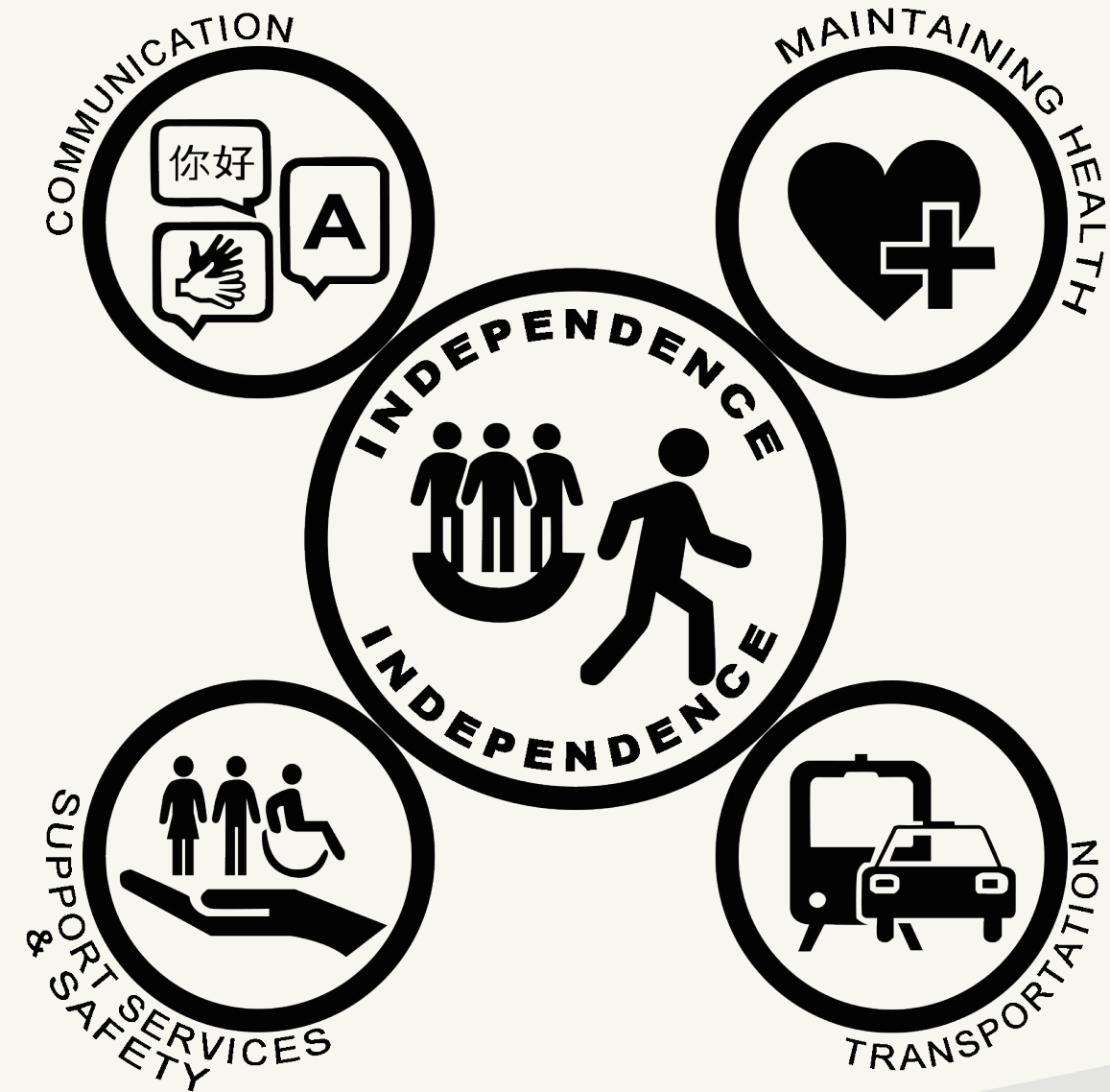
*“People need access to
resources in order to
function.”*



CMIST Resource Framework

Essential life-saving resources needed in disaster

- Communication
- Maintaining Health
- Independence
- Support Services & Safety
- Transportation





CMIST Includes the Whole Community



Everyone needs **ACCESS** to **CMIST** resources in order to **FUNCTION** during and after emergencies and disasters



Chronic Issues and Influencers

A Community's:

- Trust
- Economics
- Isolation (Geographic, Cultural, Social)
- Capacity
- Housing
- Racism



Impacts Access To:

- Communication
- Maintaining Health
- Independence
- Support Services/Safety
- Transportation



CMIST/TEICHR Community Representatives

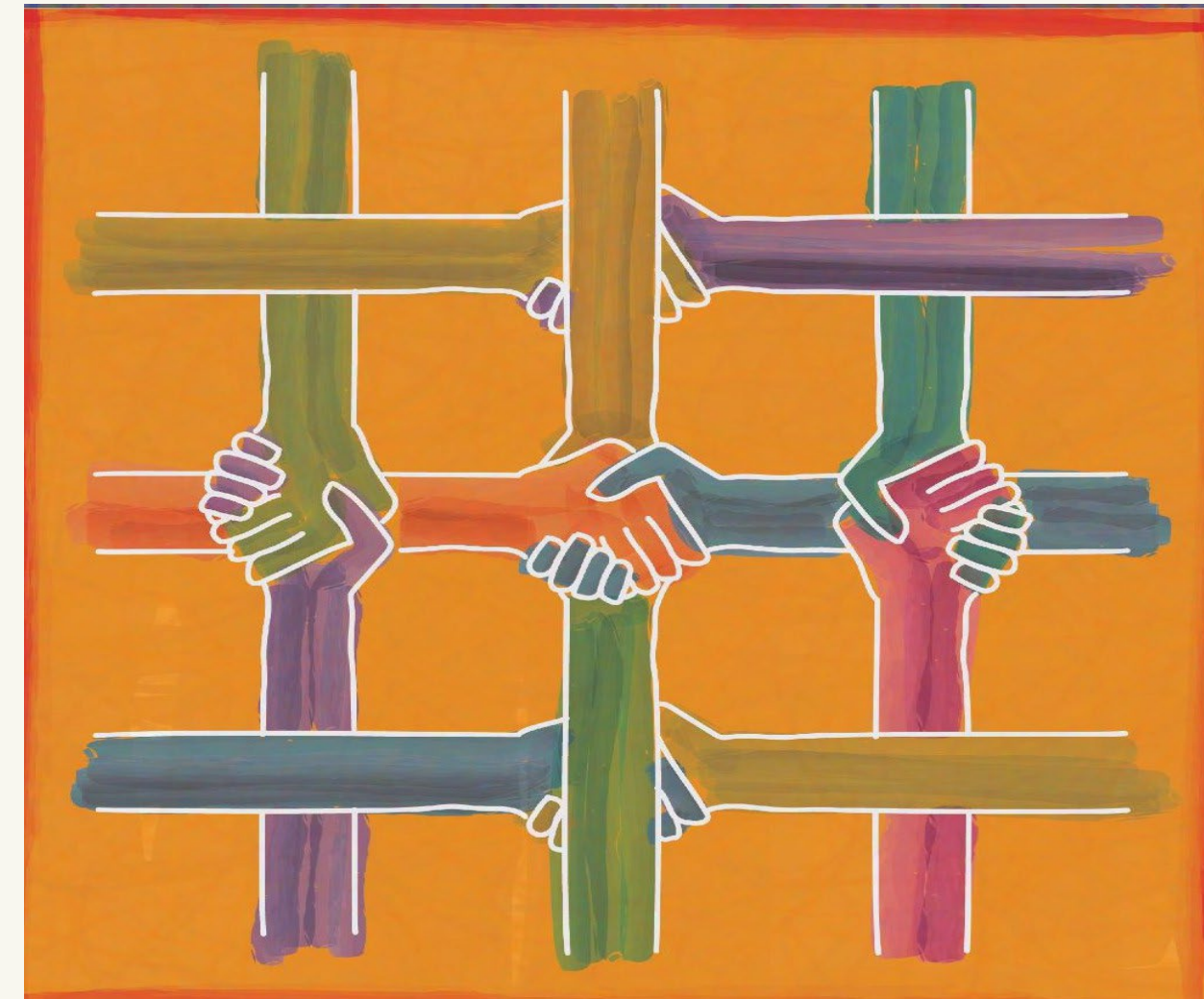
- Organized groups of diverse community representatives
- Included throughout emergency planning





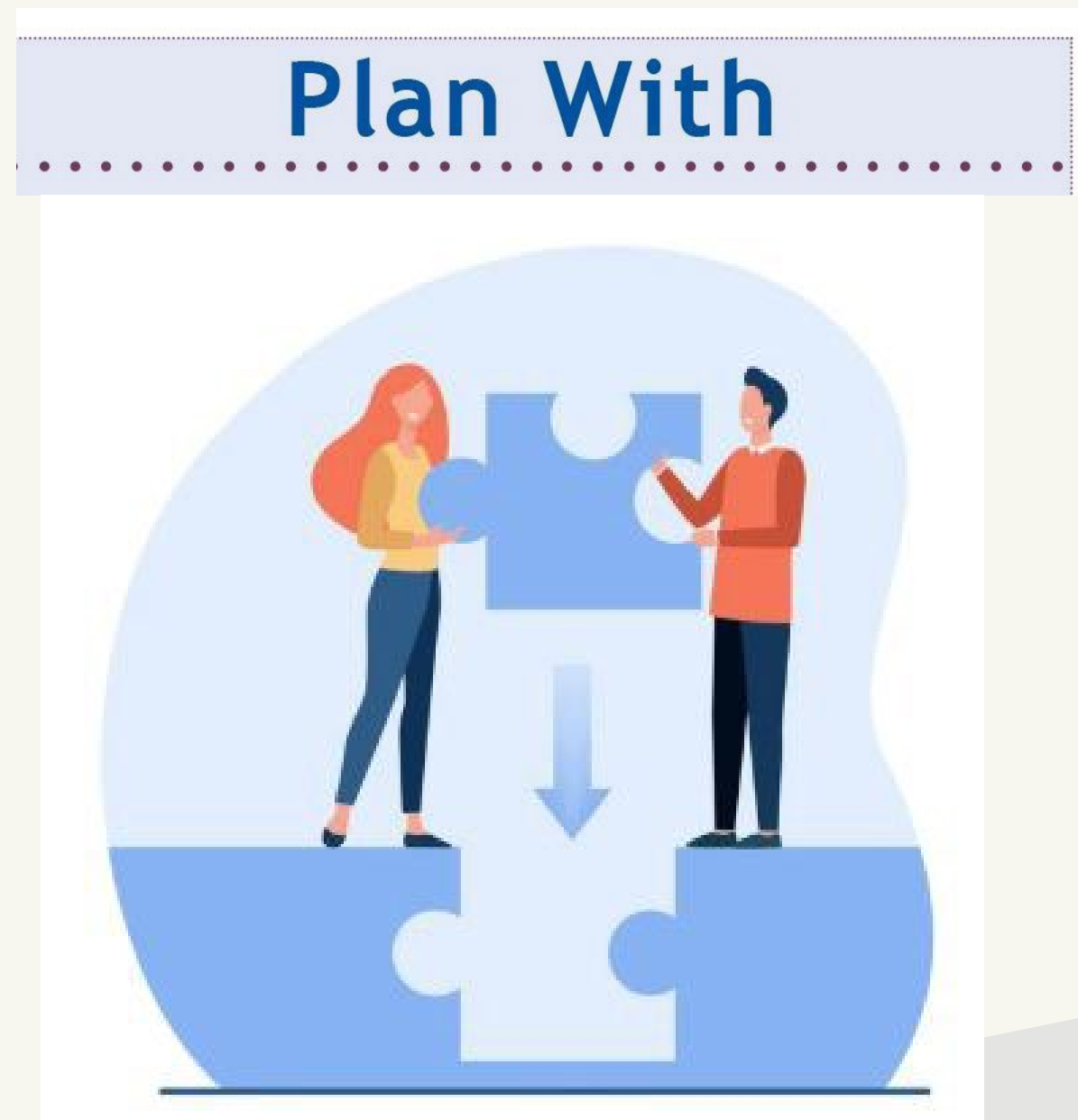
Collaborative Planning Benefits

- Understand community demographics
- Identify community capabilities and empower community as partners
- Foster trust, buy in, and relationships with community
- Input creates more effective plans
- Meets legal requirements
- Achieves efficiency through State and Local Preparedness
- MOU/MOAs that offer the potential of reimbursement versus cost share





When We Plan Together





AFN Steering or Advisory Committee

- An official AFN Committee, which includes whole community representatives affiliated with CMIST Community Support Service Partners
- May not be formal especially in Rural and Frontier Communities
- May be embedded into existing meeting groups



Benefits of AFN Steering or Advisory Committee

- Reduced loss of life and suffering before, during, and after disasters
- Empowering the community's capability to assist throughout the disaster cycle
- Building relationships of trust between emergency managers and the community
- Advancing and promoting greater personal preparedness
- Access and Functional Needs Coordination
- Achieves efficiency through State and Local Preparedness
- MOU/MOAs that offer the potential of reimbursement versus cost share



AFN Steering or Advisory Committee roles

Broaden, Enhance, and Validate in

Emergency Operations Planning & Strategies = Core Capabilities

Integrating Access & Functional Needs into

- Transportation and Evacuation
- Mass Care & Sheltering
- Communication
- Training and Exercising
- Recovery
 - Post Emergency Canvassing



AFN Steering or Advisory Committee Recommendations

- Meet on a regular basis
- Maintain a current roster
- Develop meeting agendas
- Included throughout the planning development cycle
- Produce better products and outcomes for the whole community in emergency management



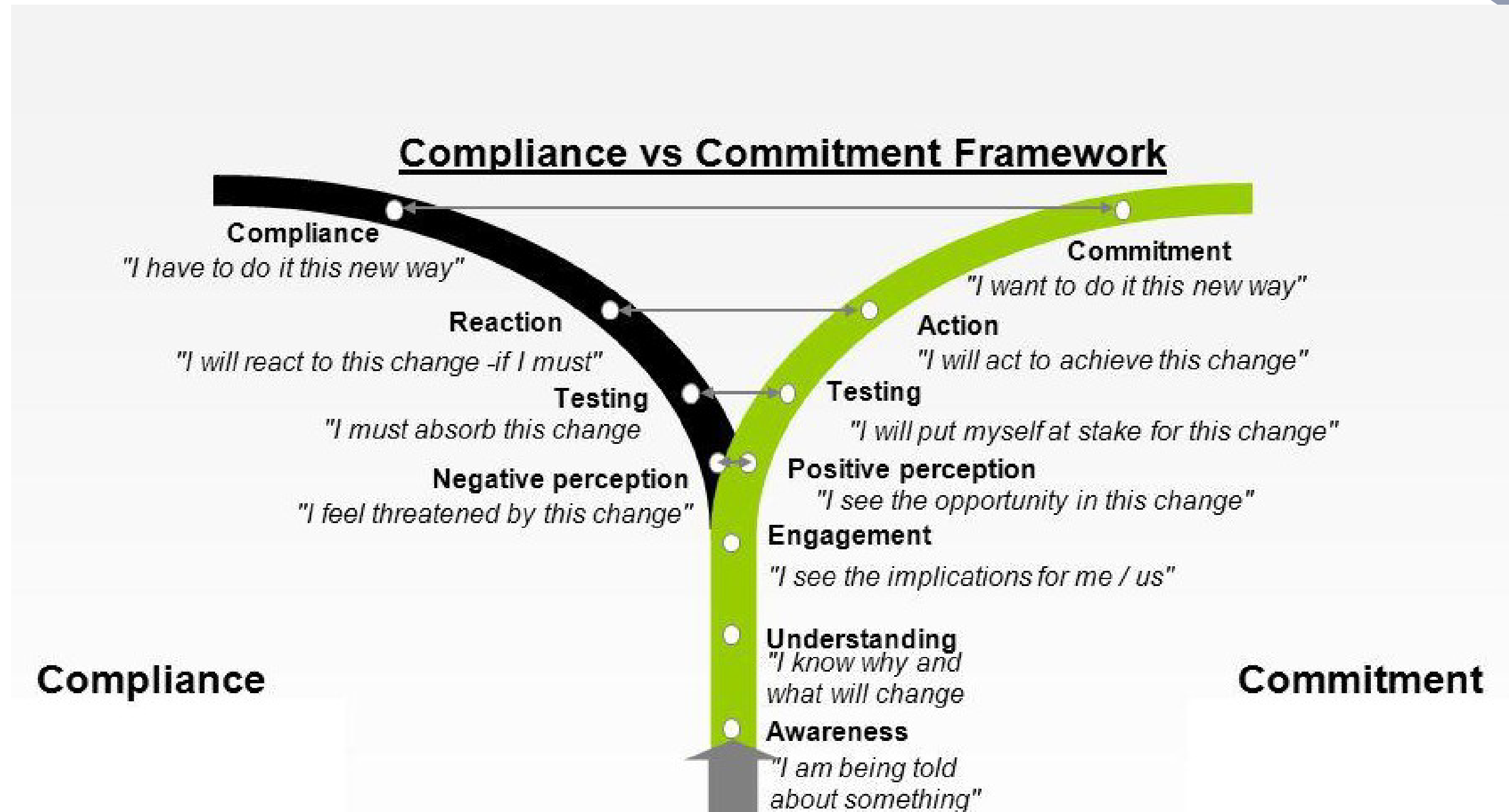
The Value of CMIST: Whole Community Integration

**Not Planning Alone
but
Planning Together**





The Value of CMIST: Commitment Supports Compliance





Start | Stop | Continue | Change

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Continue:

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Keep In Mind...

“We are not here to tolerate our differences, we are here to accept them. We are not here to celebrate our sameness, we are here to salute our distinctions. We are not born into equal circumstances or with equal abilities, but we should have equal opportunities”

~ #greenlightbook.

~Matthew McConaughey



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YouTube Recording:

bit.ly/intro2AFNR



Vulnerable Populations Mapping:

How data mapping can support a whole community approach

Dawn Brantley (MA)



Defining Vulnerable Populations

Individuals with Disabilities

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Percentages and numbers• Not just “with a disability”• Hearing difficulty• Vision difficulty | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cognitive difficulty• Ambulatory difficulty• Self-care difficulty• Independent living difficulty |
|---|---|

Historically Marginalized and Underserved Populations

Groups who, due to systemic inequities and exclusion, have historically faced barriers to resources, services, and opportunities which increases their vulnerability in emergencies.

- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Low-income households
- Immigrants and refugees
- People with disabilities
- Elderly individuals
- Rural or geographically isolated communities

Additional vulnerabilities or indicators to consider:

- No vehicle households
- No working adult
- SNAP or TANF recipient household
- Limited English proficiency, do not speak English well
- Below poverty level
- Access to internet



Building Maps from Meaningful Data




The 2024 ACS 1-year estimates are now available. View guidance about comparing the estimates to prior years [here](#).

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Tables Maps Charts Profiles Pages Apps


Explore Census Data

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 **find**



Building Maps from Meaningful Data

HHS emPOWER Program Platform

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Home About emPOWER in Action Data & Tools Training Resources FAQs News

The **HHS emPOWER Program** is a mission-critical partnership between the **Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR)** and the **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**. The HHS emPOWER Program provides federal data, mapping, and artificial intelligence tools, as well as training and resources, to help communities nationwide **protect the health of at-risk Medicare beneficiaries, including over 4.6 million** individuals who live independently and rely on electricity-dependent durable medical and assistive equipment and devices, and/or certain essential health care services.

Public health authorities and their partners in all **50 states, 5 territories, and the District of Columbia** use **HHS emPOWER Program data and tools** to strengthen emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation and take action to protect at-risk populations prior to, during, and after incidents, emergencies, and disasters.

Select [About](#) for more information about the program.



Mapping Vulnerability, Empowering Response

Population Vulnerability Data Map

Find address or place

INSTRUCTIONS

**** VIDEO TUTORIAL ****

To use this map, simply click around on areas of interest. Data will pop up and be displayed by Census Tract.

Alternately, you may select data using either the **SELECT TRACTS** or the **FILTER** widgets.

SELECT TRACTS

- Click
- Follow instructions on the map where your mouse located is to use the tool
- To Export your selection, click on the 3 dots to the right of the layer and select 'Export to CSV file'.*
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FILTER:

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- Select County and/or Town from dropdown menus and be sure the button to the right is

Sanford, Rochester, Dover, Portsmouth, Concord, Manchester, Keene, Brattleboro, Nashua, Lowell, Gloucester, Gardner, Worcester, Springfield, Brockton, Plymouth, Boston, MA, Pittsfield, Oneonta, Albany, Saratoga Springs, Utica, Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Hartford, Windham, Norwich, Providence, Rhode Island, Fall River, New Bedford, Falmouth, Waterbury, Danbury, New Haven, New London, Middletown, Newburgh, Bridgeport, Stamford

30mi

-73.742 43.466 Degrees

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Mapping Vulnerability, Empowering Response

Population Vulnerability Data Map

Find address or place

Utica

Saratoga Springs

Albany

Oneonta

Kingston

Poughkeepsie

Newburgh

Middletown

Danbury

New Haven

Bridgeport

Stamford

Brattleboro

Keene

Concord

Manchester

Nashua

Lowell

Gloucester

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Worcester

Springfield

Brockton

Plymouth

Providence

Fall River

New Bedford

Falmouth

RHODE ISLAND

Sanford

Rochester

Dover

Portsmouth

30mi

-75.412 41.805 Degrees

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About

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- To download in Attribute Table, click "Options" and then "Export"

Want to add your own data, or data from another source? No problem!

- Click the **ADD DATA** widget
- In the **Search** box, type in the data you are interested in and click the magnifying glass to search.
- Click **Add**


** To view a full table of the data, click the little arrow at the bottom center of the map screen. You can export this table by clicking Options > Export to CSV. Alternately, click [HERE](#) to download a copy of an Excel spreadsheet of the data.*




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Census Tract 3201.02

Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	5384
Population with Disability	274
% Population with a Disability	5.1
% Population under 5 yrs of age with a disability	0
Population ages 5-17 yrs with a Disability	0
% Population 65-74 yrs with a disability	6.5
Population 75 yrs+ with a disability	120
% Population 75 yrs+ with a disability	56.3
Population with a hearing difficulty	84
% Population with a hearing difficulty	1.6

[Zoom to](#)

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Find address or place

disability

Population 75 yrs+ with a disability 77

% Population 75 yrs+ with a disability 39.3

Population with a hearing difficulty 166

% Population with a hearing difficulty 4.9

[Zoom to](#) ...

2020 American Community Survey (ACS) Data

Options Filter by map extent Zoom to Clear selection Refresh

Census Tract	Acres	County	Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	Total population with a disability	% Population with a Disability	% Population under 5 yrs old with a disability	Population ages 5-17 yrs with a Disability	% Population with a disability 65-74 yrs of age	Population with a disability age 75 yrs+	% Population with a disability 75 yrs+
Census Tract 101	6,327.41	Barnstable County	2973	388	13.1	0	24	1.7	63	22.7
Census Tract 102.06	12,989.78	Barnstable County	3617	351	9.7	0	13	6.1	168	30.1
Census Tract 102.08	13,843.33	Barnstable County	1122	134	11.9	0	0	13	73	62.9
Census Tract 103.04	4,742.90	Barnstable County	2394	441	18.4	0	8	16	177	36.4
Census Tract 103.05	4,428.31	Barnstable	2507	276	11	0	0	9.1	164	43

1472 features 0 selected


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Filter

COUNTY FILTER

County is
- empty -

TOWN FILTER

Select Town

- empty -

Search

- empty -

ABINGTON

ACTON

ACUSHNET

ADAMS

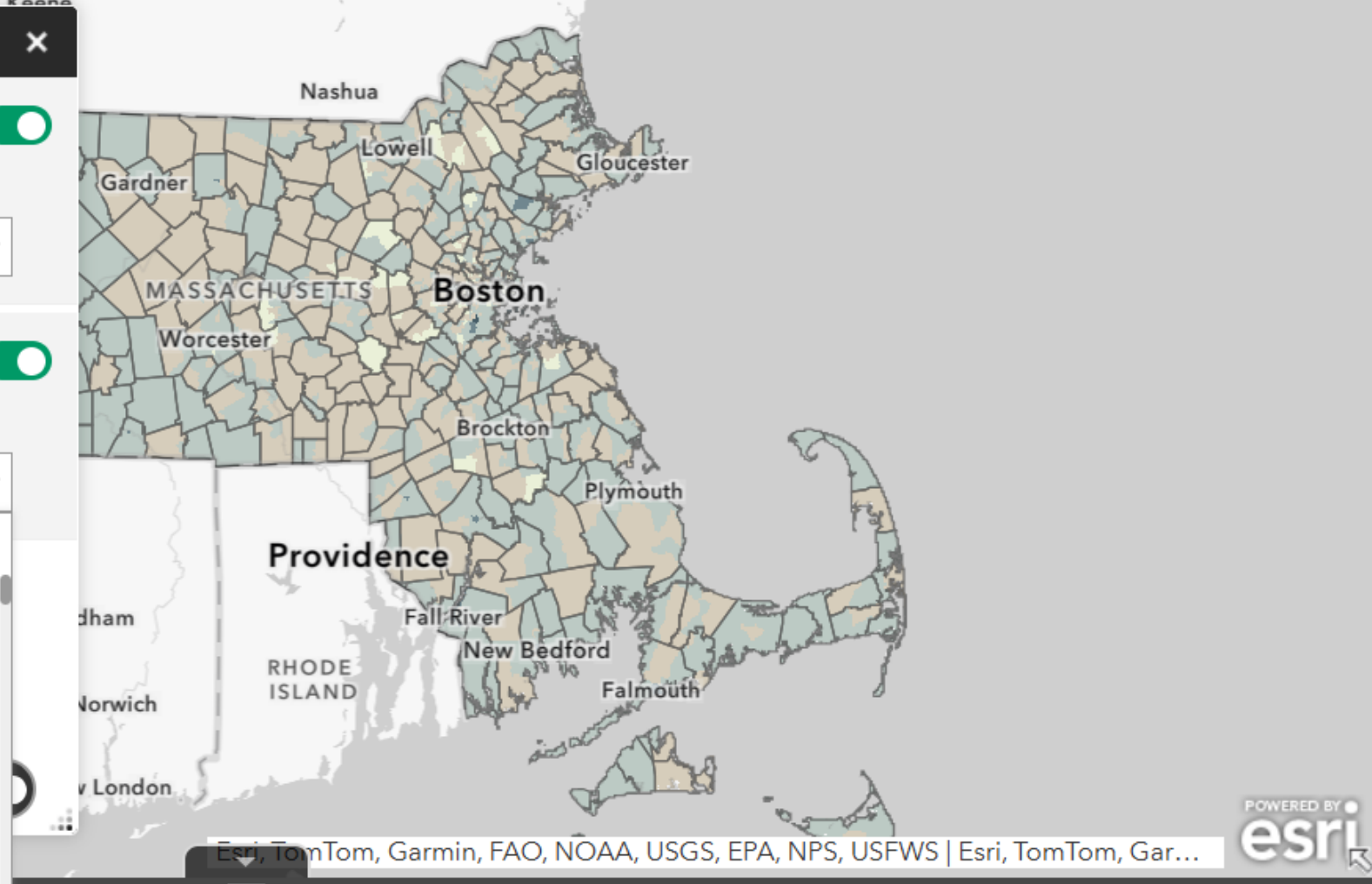
AGAWAM

ALFORD

AMESBURY


AMHERST

ANDOVER



1472 features 0 selected

Population with a disability	% Population with a Disability	% Population under 5 yrs old with a disability	Population ages 5-17 yrs with a Disability	% Population with a disability 65-74 yrs of age	Population with a disability age 75 yrs+	% Population with a disability 75 yrs+
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Population Vulnerability Data Map


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Map interface showing a map of Vermont with a blue selection polygon over several tracts. A search bar at the top left contains "Find address or place". A "Select Tracts" panel on the right has a "Select" button and a "Clear" button. A data table at the bottom displays 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) Data for the selected area.

Map coordinates: -71.996 42.223 Degrees

Map data sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS

1472 features 0 selected

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Census Tract	Acres	County	Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	Total population with a disability	% Population with a Disability	% Population under 5 yrs old with a disability	Population ages 5-17 yrs with a Disability	% Population with a disability 65-74 yrs of age	Population with a disability age 75 yrs+	% Population with a disability 75 yrs+



Population Vulnerability Data Map

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Select Tracts

Layer

- 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) Data 7

2020 American Community Survey (ACS) Data

Options Filter by map extent Zoom to Clear selection Refresh

Census Tract	Acres	County	Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	Total population with a disability	% Population with a Disability	% Population under 5 yrs old with a disability	Population ages 5-17 yrs with a Disability	% Population with a disability 65-74 yrs of age	Population with a disability age 75 yrs+	% Population with a disability 75 yrs+
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1472 features 7 selected

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“Knowledge is a tool, and like all tools, its impact is in the hands of the user.”
- Dan Brown



**MEMA Population
Vulnerability Map**



Turning Data Into Action



Turning Data Into Action

Individual Characteristics	Response & Recovery (CMIST)	Preparedness (CMIST)
Hearing Difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASL interpreters• Captioned videos• Assistive technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage advocacy groups and Disability Service Agencies (DSAs)• Contracted services• Communications Kits
Vision Difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assistive technology• Certified readers• Wayfinding and orientation• Clear pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage advocacy groups and Disability Service Agencies (DSAs)• Contracted services• Prepared Braille and large print signs and documents
Cognitive Difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neurodivergent tools and supports in shelter• Public information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neurodivergence Kits for mass care• Review of EPI grade-level
Ambulatory Difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paratransit• Accessible facilities• DME	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adequate transportation contracts• Evacuation timing estimates



Turning Data Into Action

Household/Community Characteristics	Response & Recovery (CMIST)	Planning (CMIST)
Households with No Vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation (evacuation, during sheltering, to recovery center)• Housing close to work/school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation modeling• Mass care plan• Disaster housing plan
Households with No/One Worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unemployment programs• Higher financial asst needs• Existing challenges exacerbated• Childcare for work becomes more critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shelter/mass care plan• Assistance program partnership/relationships• Housing planning for unemployed
High Percentage of XXX Language Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interpreters• Translation• Community Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language line contracts• Translation contracts• Public information plan• WEA process



Questions?