

Meeting Minute - Access and Functional Needs Coalition Meeting

June 1, 2022 - 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

Welcome & Introductions - Joey DeAngelo, AFN Advocate SWUPHD

Please contact Joey if you would like to present at these meetings. We would love to share experience and information among each other.

CMIST - Communication, Maintaining Health, Independence, Support/Safety/Self-Determination, Transportation

Communication - Micro vs Macro

Micro - people with communication needs (language can be a big one, for those that don't have english proficiency)

Macro - bigger picture, organization to organization

There are many different types of communication needs - language proficiency skills, deaf, blind, mute, hard of hearing, impaired vision, and others. It is important to be aware that communication needs can vary greatly and be ready to help each in its own way.

Special Needs Registry - This is a voluntary tool that people can register themselves with that will give access to county and city emergency managers to use in case of emergency. This will help them know who in the community has access and functional needs. Both individuals and facilities can be registered. You can register at specialneedsutah.org. Please help spread the word and encourage the community to utilize this resource.

Ken Kraudy is the state contact for the special needs registry. kkraudy@utah.gov

COVID-19 Southwest Region Update - David Heaton, PIO, SWUPHD

Most people now with covid are likely picking up a subvariant of Omnicron. It is quite contagious but not as severe. All five counties are still in the lowest category for covid. Case numbers right now are not very accurate because testing is inconsistent but the good news is that hospital levels are still low. We still encourage community members to get the vaccine and then boosters for the vaccine and also to self isolate if sick. Utah is currently #1 state in the nation in regard to recovery.

Hearing from the Community: Amateur Radio in Disasters - Brett Pruitt

Called amateur radio because they are not allowed to earn money from it, not related to their skill level. 1914 was when the Amateur Radio Relay League was formed. This is still the organizing committee for amateur radio operators in the US.

Now messages can be sent using morse code, voice, or digital modes. Difference between these and cell phones is that the cell phone needs cell towers and service to work and in a disaster there is no guarantee this will work

ARES is the emergency response portion of ARRL.

31,000 ARES operators in the US as of 2019. ARES specializes in getting information to and from the center of the disaster where communication is likely the worst of anywhere.

You must have a license to be a HAM operator. Need to take a test to get it but anyone can be a HAM operator. It may seem confusing and hard to grasp but it is fairly simple and accessible to anyone. \$15 fee to take the test and then a \$35 fee to get your license the first time.

“What do amateur radio operators do? Talk on the radio to other radio operators about radios.” - Brett Pruitt

ham.k7bdp@gmail.com, 435-922-1114

Healthcare Coalition - Austin Smith, HCC Coordinator, SWUPHD

Austin is the new Healthcare Coalition Coordinator. He has experience as a special forces combat medic with three deployments overseas. The Coalition focuses on identifying and filling gaps in the community's preparedness efforts.

Please contact him to know more about the healthcare coalition asmith@swuhealth.org

Upcoming Events: Next AFN Coalition Meeting - 9/7/22



Online Attendees: George Colson, Jason Bradley, Maria Veater, Fabulous Family?,

Rich Foster, Karissa Jones, Kent Stemmons, Norine Castro, Heidi Rugg, Megan Chepkwurai, Tina Juergens, Kristen Clark, Maleny Heiner, Dave Heaton, Kelly Bunting, Iron County Home Health and Hospice, Ariele P, Suz Roam, Marcie Gray, Melissa, Brenda McKee, Nicole w/ppd