



MARYLAND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NETWORK

Helping Maryland's Most Vulnerable

MD EPN NETWORK QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



USING TECHNOLOGY TO ADVANCE HOMECARE SERVICES

Advances in technology, websites, social media, and apps give us numerous opportunities to better respond to emergencies that occur, whether it's responding to a natural disaster or a personal health crisis.

Smartphones and tablets are powerful mobile tools that can assist with Emergency Preparedness. Advances in technology can not only help streamline care plans for clients and loved ones, but they can also encourage independent action among individuals and empower them to play a more significant role in their overall health outcomes, improve care (decreasing hospital readmissions), encourage effective medication management, and support the autonomy of those in need of specialized care.

There is a myriad of websites you can access to obtain Emergency Preparedness information. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has both an [app](#) and a [website](#). Both items are chock-full of emergency prep content. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) also has a dedicated Emergency Preparedness Response [page](#). This page has numerous training, resources, up-to-date information surrounding the Coronavirus, all other diseases, and information on how to sign up for the [Health Alert Network](#). A plethora of information is at your fingertips. Start by googling Emergency Preparedness and enjoy.

Newsletter Highlights

**Using Technology to
Enhance Homecare
Services**

**Emergency
Preparedness Apps**

**A Message from the
Associate Director**

What's New

EPN Resources



Helping Maryland's Most Vulnerable



MARYLAND
Department of Health
Office of Preparedness and Response

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS APPS

There are many great ways to take advantage of available technology in order to better prepare for the safety and wellbeing of yourself, loved ones, and clients. Here are three helpful apps you may want to utilize.



ICE Medical Standard displays important information concerning your health (medical conditions, medication information, allergies, emergency contacts, etc.) on your phone background so first responders can easily access your information in an emergency situation. Get the App: [iPhone/iPad](#) / [Android](#)

First Aid: American Red Cross has multiple apps you can take advantage of to assist with emergency preparedness. The First Aid app provides users with step-by-step instructions and educational videos for dealing with specific kinds of injuries. The app also provides the ability to call 911 directly from the app. Get the App: [iPhone/iPad](#) / [Android](#)

Medisafe serves as a medication reminder and also educates people about their condition and the medicines they are taking. Medisafe can help to remind, track progress, and will even find coupons and other incentives. Get the app: [iPhone/iPad](#) / [Android](#)

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MD EPN



The [Maryland Emergency Preparedness Network](#) (MD EPN) is part of the [Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association](#) (MNCHA). MNCHA and the [Maryland Department of Health Office of Preparedness and Response](#) (MDH OP&R) partner and provide the MD EPN to enable better home care providers and their patients with information and tools to prepare for emergencies. Through MD EPN, members receive up-to-date resources and ongoing training alerts for home healthcare agencies in Maryland on all things emergency preparedness.

The [MDH OP&R](#) website provides state and local resources for both individuals and homecare professionals. Each of the featured websites also has social media applications (apps). These websites provide tools to help you organize yourself and your clients in advance. MD EPN's motto has been *The Time to Prepare is Now*. Do you have a favorite app or emergency preparedness website? Reach out to us. We would love to hear your feedback. Please send us an email at info@mdemergencyprepnetwork.org.

Thank you,

Char McCready

Through a partnership between the Maryland-National Capital Home Association (MNCHA) and the Maryland Department of Health Office of Preparedness and Response (MDH OP&R), the Maryland Emergency Preparedness Network (EPN) was created to disseminate free, important, and timely information before, during and after an emergency. The EPN's goal is to build health resilience among one of Maryland's most vulnerable populations, the homebound.

WHAT'S NEW

TOOL: 7 STEPS TO BUILDING VACCINE CONFIDENCE

Check out our animated video, by Dr. Charlene Brown which provides 7 *Steps to Building Vaccine Confidence* as outlined in the *How to Increase Caregiver Vaccine Uptake* workshop series. These steps include getting leadership buy-in to prioritize vaccine hesitancy, understanding caregiver concerns, selecting trusted messengers, building the capacity of trusted messengers, outreach to the workforce, making it easier to get the vaccine by removing constraints, and compensating vaccine champions.



You can access this video through the [COVID Webinar Recordings](#) on the EPN Website or through our [EPN YouTube Link](#)

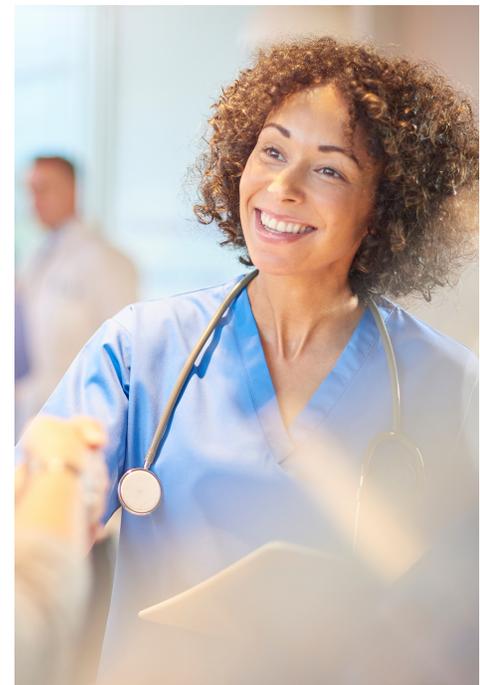
MD EPN RESOURCES

MD EPN RESOURCES: LANGUAGE ACCESS

Many of our Patient-Provider Guides are now available in Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. You can find them on the MD EPN website under [Patient & Provider Guides and Resources](#).

COVID CORNER

- MD EPN's COVID Webinars and Resources: [COVID-19 EPN Resource Page](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccinations in Maryland [Page](#)
- Maryland COVID-19 [Testing Sites](#)
- CDC Guide to Masks: [Link Here](#)
- CMS OMH COVID-19 Vaccine Resources for Vulnerable Populations: [Webpage here.](#)



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