



**Title III Assurances for
Disaster/Pandemic Planning, Implementation and Recovery
Project Year: 01.01.2015 – 12.31.2015**

The Title III-B Counseling Services Provider shall:

1. Participate with county disaster/emergency planners in developing emergency responses that accommodate the special needs of older and disabled persons, including (as appropriate):
 - a. Notification, warning and ongoing communication methods such as: (1) ability to telecommute from alternative sites (e.g., a staff's home); (2) community methods for alerting citizens providing information in other formats as needed; and (3) alternative technologies such as satellite phones in case of loss of towers or phone lines.
 - b. Back-up plan for individual advocacy and assistance for frail/vulnerable persons, delivered from staff's home or remote sites.
 - c. Locating people who are functionally in need of assistance in evacuation.
 - d. High-profile (easily accessible) information clearinghouse for individuals to access emergency information and to report critical problems.
 - e. Training for emergency personnel regarding special needs of older and disabled persons, including prosthetic devices, other needed durable medical equipment, oxygen supplies and prescription drugs.
 - f. Shelter standards and protocols that ensure assessment of "at risk individuals" and accommodate their functional needs while preserving independence.
 - g. Evacuation and shelter protocols regarding (1) maintaining connections between caregivers and care receivers to minimize separation or emotional trauma, and (2) companion animals.
2. Coordinate work with regional Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs), Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs), Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov), hospice, and other community-based organizations in developing and implementing emergency response plans.
3. Include older persons in the planning of, implementation of and drilling for emergency preparations.
4. Develop a service continuity/restoration plan that includes the provision of counseling services to aid in recovery from an emergency, both natural and man-made.
5. Allow the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging[®], Inc. (MnRAAA) complete access to the continuity/restoration plan for inspection. Submission of the plan to MnRAAA is requested, but not required.
6. Promote *personal* disaster plan preparedness by providing information and resources on such preparations to older individuals.
7. Use and disseminate AoA Emergency Preparedness Materials developed for AAAs <http://www.aoa.gov/PRESS/preparedness/preparedness.asp#guide>

Authorized Signature/Title

Date

Grantee/Contractor Agency/Organization