



If Disaster Strikes, Will Your Organization Be Ready?

In recent years, Georgia has been hit by severe storms, extreme heat, a crippling freeze, deadly hurricanes, and more. Unfortunately, there are still many Georgians who are not prepared for the next disaster.

Preparation can start now in your house of worship or faith-based organization. Praise and Preparedness – an initiative launched by the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, in partnership with your local emergency management agency, faith-based organizations and houses of worship statewide are encouraging their members and communities to prepare before disaster strikes.

In addition, people often play an integral role in local readiness and recovery, providing shelter and supplies before and after disasters. The Praise & Preparedness initiative offers three ways to build upon these traditional roles.

- **Facility Safety:** Conduct a facility safety assessment and complete or update the emergency plan for all the congregational buildings.
- **Congregant Safety:** Encourage members to develop family emergency plans.
- **Community Involvement:** Explore new opportunities for the members to become involved in community emergency disaster relief efforts, feeding and sheltering programs.

We know that the next emergency is coming. We just don't know when or what kind it will be, so take simple steps now to protect yourself and your loved ones. For more preparedness tools, tips and resources, visit GEMA/HS' *Ready Georgia* campaign at gema.georgia.gov/ready-georgia. For more information on specific risks in your community, contact your local emergency management agency.