

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CONFERENCE HELD



More than 250 people attended the first ever conference on Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities. The day-long event was held at the Fresno Convention Center on Wednesday, October 12th. The conference was sponsored by the Americans with Disabilities Act Council, Fresno Medical Reserve Corps ((MRC), Fresno Police and Fire Departments, Fresno City and County Offices of Emergency Services, Community Emergency Response Team, Fresno Area Express, City Public Works, American Red Cross, Trauma Intervention Program, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center and private-sector sponsors. Citizen Corps, MRC, CERT and AmeriCorps volunteers provided significant support in planning the event and during the conference.

Conference topics included personal preparedness for people with disabilities; as well as briefings on the roles of governmental agencies, first responders and voluntary organizations. Speakers included Mayor Alan Autry, Councilmember Mike Dages, Supervisor Bob Waterston, Police Chief Jerry Dyer, Fire Chief Randy Bruegman and other emergency services professionals. The event also included a live demonstration of the recently acquired rescue chairs.

Pictures at right feature from top to bottom: (1) A rescue chair demonstration, (2) Mayor Autry with emergency services manager, Rainer Streib and Fire Chief, Randy Bruegman, (3) Attendees and their service animals speaking with Mayor Autry, (4) Emergency services leaders from the County, Clovis and Fresno Fire, and (5) AmeriCorps volunteers who assisted with conference planning and management.

CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS

