

**Working Conference on Emergency Management and
Individuals with Disabilities and the Elderly
June 28-30, 2006**

Session Summary Form

Send Completed *Session Summary Forms* to Glenda Harden at glenda.harden@acf.hhs.gov by COB July 7, 2006.

Session: State Working Group Regional Working Group

Date of Session: Wednesday, June 28 Thursday, June 29 Friday, June 30

State: North Dakota

Region: 8

Facilitator Name:

Submitted by (your name): Kiersten Beigel

Agency/Institution: ACF, ACYF

Email: Kbeigel@acf.hhs.gov

Phone: 202-260-4869

- 1. List and describe in narrative at least the three most important issues that were addressed during the session.**

1. Preparedness: Need to assess and coordinate web info accessible to NGO's and Government Agencies (Utah)

2. Education, Training and Awareness: Would like to see a coordinated, multi-agency effort to ensure that there is uniform knowledge of needs of people with disabilities. (North Dakota)

3. Better coordination with feds and local police of aging and individuals with disabilities who are not served or known by agency's records. (South Dakota)

More discussion on the above:

1) Need to make local information available to local responders and ensure that state info is available to local responders.

2) South Dakota thought that they could hold a State Conference on the subject or involve the State Steering Committee on this issue.

3) North Dakota is very rural with nine Native American reservations therefore, they need to address how to better coordinate with the feds and sovereign nations.

2. List and describe in narrative at least the three biggest challenges or barriers discussed.

[In select cases may mean that you repeat something you reported under #1]

- 1. Lack of Knowledge of the needs of people with disabilities during emergencies**
- 2. Inconsistent State and local communication on how to serve people with disabilities.**
- 3. Disability is not discussed Regionally (across the States)**

3. List and describe in narrative at least three “next step” action items identified during the session.

- 1. South Dakota outlined ways to bring human services more into the emergency planning fold**
- 2. North Dakota is revising their emergency operations plans. The individuals at the meeting do not make the major decisions so they are developing a plan for how to involve stakeholders who can help to incorporate disability issues into emergency plans. They will look at ways to train and to better connect grassroots with state planning.**
- 3. For Utah, DHS, human services, emergency management and medical work hand in hand for continuation of operations. But there is a gap, and they discussed ways to improve the way developmental disabilities are understood and approached, particularly with needs associated with sheltering and ILC's. Improved web information and GIS mapping were two ways they discussed making improvements.**

4. Report on other important issues that were discussed during Working Group.

North Dakota discussed the need to collaborate with State agencies. For example, if the states were to develop a list of resources in communities locals could be better positioned to task private agencies.

