



Iowa's information and referral service on disability services, assistive technology (AT), AT funding resources, and AT legal advocacy.

Disability Information & Referral
Connecting People to Programs

A PROGRAM OF THE CENTER FOR DISABILITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

Iowa COMPASS News

Flood 2008

The FEMA registration deadline for Iowa is **September 27, 2008**. To register, please visit www.fema.gov/assistance, or call 800-621-FEMA. Following registration, applicants may wish to visit a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC). Do not assume you are ineligible—APPLY if you were affected by the floods of 2008.

You may need a FEMA number to receive services or benefits from other agencies.

Iowa COMPASS collaborates with Iowa Disability Program Navigators in response to the Flood 2008

Iowa COMASS is the state's disability information and referral service. Information Specialists work with individuals with disabilities, their families, and the community to provide information on a wide range of disability-related topics. The Flood of 2008 was no exception. Information Specialists fielded calls from individuals and service providers on disability-related FEMA assistance, how to replace medical equipment, and how to get emergency accessible housing.

With Iowa COMPASS' expert knowledge on disability and assistive technology services in Iowa, it was a natural collaboration to work with the Disability Program Navigators (DPNs). Iowa COMPASS and the DPNs communicated about the various issues and ways to meet an individual's unique needs. The Iowa COMPASS staff was able to clarify rules regarding equipment replacement. This assisted the DPNs in helping individuals get their equipment replaced. The Navigators focused on three state regions affected by the Flood of 2008: Cedar Falls, Waterloo and neighboring counties; Cedar Rapids, Iowa City and neighboring counties; and Southeast Iowa counties.

Elizabeth Cox, one of Iowa's Disability Program Navigators, said "Working on the flood relief efforts in rural Iowa can create a challenge in meeting the urgent needs of individuals with disabilities. Navigators do not duplicate existing services. Instead, they connect people with disabilities to the services they need. Being unfamiliar with the area creates an additional challenge. Iowa Compass provided a crucial link in the Flood Relief efforts. One family had multiple issues and needed help making connections. Iowa Compass assisted this family in finding the right services and talked them through the process. Iowa Compass was able to assist with finding information quickly, creating a direct avenue to obtain resources, and make connections for persons affected by the flood."



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We're on the web!
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Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council

Iowa COMPASS

800-779-2001 (toll-free)
877-686-0032 (toll-free, TTY)
319-353-8777 (local)

Flood Relief for Iowans with Disabilities Donate Now to Help Flood Victims

In response to Iowa's recent flooding, three organizations have joined together to provide grants to individuals with disabilities with limited resources. The Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council, the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology, and the Iowa Able Foundation are working together to raise funds for distribution to individuals with disabilities in designated disaster areas who are low income and unable to replace basic assistive technology lost in the floods. For qualified applicants, grants will cover items such as Medicare required co-pays, assistive technology essential to daily living, ramps and any other assistive devices or equipment that support an individual's needs.

All funds raised will go to flood victims. Donate today! Go to <https://co.clickandpledge.com/sp/d1/default.aspx?wid=21902>

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, any contribution made to Flood Relief for Iowans with Disabilities is tax deductible and will be followed with a receipt for IRS purposes.

For more information or to submit a donation by mail please contact:

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