

Connecticut Department of Public Health

Preparedness Video for People Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Treatment and Script

“Prepared for Anything”

Overview:

The video captures the interaction between a preparedness expert from DPH and a family with members who are deaf. In this scenario, the expert makes a visit to the family’s home to sit down with them and go over the most important steps and information about preparedness. The family consists of a middle-aged Mom and her teenage son who are deaf and speak only with American Sign Language (ASL). The expert, likewise, uses ASL to communicate with both of them.

Prepared for Anything

VIDEO

Open on a family room in a modest Connecticut home. A mother and her young teen son sit on the couch. The son is reading a book and the mother is using her cell phone..

Lights flash on a visual doorbell.

Mom notices lights, gets up and goes to the door. She opens the door and greets a professional looking woman with a smile, but no words.

The professional responds in sign language.

Mom responds in sign language.

Mom shows Jill into the living room and introduces her to her son.

Marcus looks confused.

He signs his question. Jill approaches Marcus, smiling.

Cut to titles:

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF THERE

WAS A... HURRICANE?

BLIZZARD?

FLASH FLOOD?

TORNADO?

EARTHQUAKE?

BIOLOGICAL/CHEMICAL EMERGENCY?

NUCLEAR/RADIATION EMERGENCY?

PANDEMIC FLU?

LEARN TO LIVE PREPARED

The Connecticut Guide to Emergency Preparedness

Fade out of titles back into home.

Now we're in the family's dining room. Mom, Marcus and Jill sit around the table.

ASL/AUDIO/CAPTION

JILL (ASL): Hi. I'm Jill from the Department of Public Health. I'm here to talk to your family about emergency preparedness.

MOM (ASL): Hi... How do you know sign language?

JILL (ASL): I have a relative who is deaf.

MOM (ASL): Come on in out of the rain.

MOM (ASL): Oh... Marcus, this is Jill. She's going to help make sure we're prepared.

MARCUS (ASL): Hi Jill. Prepared for what?

JILL (ASL): Well... prepared for anything.

MUSIC: Simple, positive.

CAPTION: If there's an emergency in your area, local, state and federal public health agencies will help you stay safe and tell you what to do. But there are many things you can and should do yourself to be prepared.

JILL (ASL): The most important thing is to have a plan.

MARCUS (ASL): We don't have a plan, Mom.

MOM (ASL): Well, not yet, honey.

Title: MAKE A PLAN

Cut to still of the home's basement.

Title: PICK A SAFE PLACE IN THE HOME

Cut to stills of the front door, then a back door.

Title: PICK 2 WAYS OUT

Cut to a map of the neighborhood with circles and labels noting the family's house and Marcus' grandma's house.

Title: PICK A PLACE TO MEET UP

Cut back to the group.

Cut to a map with labels noting the family's general location Marcus' aunt's general location.

Cut back to Mom.

Cut to still of a pad of note paper stuck to the side of the refrigerator with two names on it, with addresses and phone numbers.

Title: CHOOSE FAMILY CONTACTS

Cut to stills of water shutoff, gas valve and main electric switch.

Title: KNOW HOW TO TURN OFF UTILITIES

Cut back to Marcus.

Fade to black and then to

Title: MAKING AN EMERGENCY KIT

Cut back to the family, now standing in the kitchen.

Several supplies are laid out in front of them, along with a large plastic, airtight tote.

CAPTION: It's important to always follow the same plan when there's an emergency.

First, pick a safe place in your home, away from windows and doors. For a lot of homes, this may be a bathroom or a basement.

You should also know at least two different ways to get out of your home in case of emergency.

Choose a friend or family's home to go to if you have to leave your home or if you are separated.

MARCUS (ASL): We could go to grandma's house, Mom.

JILL (ASL): Good, but also choose a place outside of your neighborhood.

MARCUS (ASL): Aunt Rose isn't too far away.

MOM (ASL): Yes, good idea.

CAPTION: You also want to write down the addresses and phone numbers of family or close friends you can call in an emergency. Pick somebody who lives nearby and another person who lives in a different state.

And know how to turn off your electricity, gas and water in case you're asked to do so.

MARCUS (ASL): I got that. I'll show you how, Mom.

CAPTION: If there's an emergency, you might not be able to get food, water or other important supplies. So you have to make an emergency supply kit.

MARCUS (ASL): This is a lot of stuff.

JILL (ASL): Yes, but it's all important. You'll need this kit if you have to stay home during an emergency or you can take it with you if you have to evacuate. Your emergency kit should be enough to last you for a few days. So remember to have enough food and water for everybody in your family. We usually recommend that people have enough in their kit for at least three days, but if you can be prepared for longer than that, you should. So let's fill it up!

Fade to black and Titles:
WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

Cut back to the three, now back at the dining room table.

Subtitle
WWW.CTALERT.GOV

Titles:
GET HELP FOR ANYONE WHO'S SERIOUSLY INJURED

CALL YOUR FAMILY CONTACT.

CHECK ON NEIGHBORS.

CAPTION: Now that you've got a plan and an emergency kit, let's go over what to do if there is a real emergency.

MARCUS (ASL): I bet I know the first thing to do.

MOM (ASL): You do? What it is?

MARCUS (ASL): Stay calm, right?

JILL (ASL): Very good. And also be patient. In an emergency, it might take a while for officials to tell you what you should do or to get you help

It's very important to stay informed in an emergency. Always keep checking your local TV stations and the internet for official news and information. You also might want to sign up for the CT Alert system to get emergency messages emailed or sent by text message to your cell phone. Your town may have an emergency notification system that you can sign up for, too. And when emergency officials tell you what to do...

MARCUS (ASL): Do it!

JILL (ASL): Right. Here are some other things to do right away.

CAPTION: Check to see if anyone around you is hurt. Only if somebody's seriously hurt or sick should you call 9-1-1 or go to the hospital. Other people may need help much more than you.

Then, call your family contact. Don't use the phone again unless there's a life-threatening emergency. Sometimes in an emergency, phone calls may not go through. If you have a cell phone, you should try sending a text message instead. A lot of times, if a phone call won't go through, a text message will.

And, if it's safe to do so, check on your neighbors, especially those who are elderly or disabled.

Return to the three around the dining room table.

FULL SCREEN TITLES:
IF YOU'RE TOLD TO SHELTER IN PLACE:

GET EVERYONE INSIDE
LOCK ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS
CLOSE ALL OUTSIDE VENTS AND DAMPERS
GET YOUR EMERGENCY KIT
GO TO YOUR SAFE PLACE

FULL SCREEN TITLES:
IF YOU'RE TOLD TO EVACUATE
LEAVE RIGHT AWAY
TAKE YOUR EMERGENCY KIT
LISTEN FOR INSTRUCTIONS

Cut back to Marcus.

TITLES:
STAY SAFE DURING POWER OUTAGES

Return to the three around the dining room table.

MOM (ASL): Like Mr. Simms, next door, Marcus.
MARCUS (ASL): Yeah, of course.

CAPTION: If you're told to shelter in place, get everyone, including pets, inside right away. Close and lock all doors and windows, and close any vents to the outside like fireplace dampers, fans or air conditioners.

Now's the time you'll need your emergency kit, so get it and get everyone to your safe room.

Then, stay where you are until officials tell you it's safe.

JILL (ASL): Now, if you're told to evacuate, leave right away and take your emergency kit with you. If you're told to evacuate and don't, the police or other emergency responders may not be able to help you if you need help.

MARCUS (ASL): Where do we go?

JILL (ASL): Depending on the situation, you will be told by officials where to go and the best routes to get there. If they're in an area you know is safe, you should go to the homes of people you know.

MOM (ASL): My mom's.

MARCUS (ASL): Grandma's.

JILL (ASL): That's right. But only if you know she's in a safe area. If not, you might have to go to your aunt's or someplace even farther away.

Always keep an eye on your TV or internet for updates from emergency officials, like police or firemen.

CAPTION: One kind of emergency that can happen anytime is a power outage.

MOM (ASL): They happen all the time.

MARCUS (ASL): Yeah, they're such a pain in the neck.

JILL (ASL): Yes, but they can also be very dangerous if you're not careful.

TITLES:

PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Cut to stills of generators, grills, stoves and heaters.

Cut back to Mom.

Cut to still of CO detector with caption:

**CHOOSE A CO DETECTOR WITH STROBE LIGHTS –
FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING.**

FULL SCREEN TITLES

KNOW THE SIGNS:

HEADACHE, TIREDNESS, DIZZINESS

NAUSEA, VOMITING, LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Cut back to the group.

Cut to still of refrigerator door, open with food inside.

TITLES:

BE SURE YOUR FOOD IS SAFE TO EAT

Cut back to Mom.

MARCUS (ASL): Oh yeah, carbon monoxide poisoning, right?

JILL (ASL): Yes, it's a very serious health risk. But there are some simple steps you can take to avoid it.

CAPTION: First, NEVER use portable generators, charcoal or gas grills, camping stoves or propane or kerosene heaters inside your house. You should also never use your oven or stove to keep warm.

MOM (ASL): Is it okay if we open windows and use fans?

MARCUS (ASL): I don't think so...

JILL (ASL): Right Marcus... Absolutely not! All of these things should only be used outside. And keep any generator at least 20 feet away from your home.

Remember, carbon monoxide can kill you. And you can't see or smell it.

MARCUS (ASL): Then how do we know if we're in danger?

CAPTION: The best thing you can do is get a carbon monoxide detector in your home. Make sure it has a battery back-up so even if your power goes out, it still works.

You also need to know the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning. They're a lot like the flu.

If you think someone has signs of carbon monoxide poisoning, get out of the house right away and call 9-1-1 from a cell phone or a neighbor's phone. You should also call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

JILL (ASL): Another danger during a power outage is eating spoiled food.

MARCUS (ASL): Yuck!

CAPTION: Remember, if the power is out for more than 4 hours, or if your refrigerator temperature goes above 45 degrees, the food inside may be unsafe to eat. Frozen food is unsafe to eat after 48 hours if your freezer is full. If it's only half full, it's only safe to eat for about 24 hours.

Especially foods like raw or cooked meat, poultry and fish, dairy products like cheese, milk and cream, baby formula and just about every packaged food labeled, "refrigerate."

MOM (ASL): What can we do to protect this food?

JILL (ASL): It helps to keep the refrigerator door closed to keep the cold in. But after four hours, your best move is to eat only non-perishable foods. Like the canned food we put in your emergency kit.

*Cut to TITLES:
GET THE GUIDE!*

Cut back to the three around the table.

JILL (ASL): I know this is a lot of information to take in.

MARCUS (ASL): Sure is.

MOM (ASL): Yes, but it's so important to know this stuff.

JILL (ASL): And there's a lot more to learn. There are many more specific steps you need to take in specific emergencies. Like natural disasters, chemical emergencies, nuclear emergencies and pandemic flu outbreaks.

MARCUS (ASL): There's more?

Jill hands Mom and Marcus a guide.

Mom and Marcus look through the guide together.

Cut to closeup of the guide pages.

Cut back to the three talking.

CAPTION: There is. And everything you need to know is in this guide. It's important to read this and then keep it in a safe place so you always know where to find it.

There are even pages inside to write down the important contact information we talked about earlier.

MARCUS (ASL): Cool.

JILL (ASL): So, Marcus, did you learn anything today?

MARCUS (ASL): Yeah, I learned a lot! Thank you.

MOM (ASL): Thank you so much for sharing all of this. I know I feel a lot better knowing there are things we can do to stay safe.

MARCUS (ASL): We have a plan now!

JILL (ASL): Feel like you two are prepared for an emergency?

MOM (ASL): Yeah.

MARCUS (ASL): I feel like we're prepared for anything!

**TITLES:
LEARN TO LIVE PREPARED**

**TO GET THE CONNECTICUT GUIDE TO EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS VISIT
www.ct.gov/dph/prepare**

CT SEAL AND DPH LOGO.