

Office of Disability Integration and Coordination History and Milestones

February 2015 marks the fifth anniversary of the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) at FEMA. Since the office's creation in 2010, FEMA has placed greater focus on integrating individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs into all aspects of whole community emergency management. The following is a list of ODIC milestones and the history of disability integration at FEMA.

- '04 – [Executive Order 13347](#) establishes [Interagency Coordinating Council](#) on Emergency Preparedness & Individuals with Disabilities (ICC)
- '06 – [Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act](#) (PKEMRA) establishes requirement for a FEMA Disability Coordinator and new requirements for disability inclusion
- '07 – First FEMA Disability Coordinator hired
- '09 – Senior Advisor for Disability Issues presidentially appointed to FEMA
- '10 – FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) established
 - First Regional Disability Integration Specialists (RDISs) hired
 - FEMA signs Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with National Council on Independent Living
 - [Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters](#) published
 - FEMA hosts *Getting Real*, a national training summit on inclusive emergency management
- '11 – Inclusion of RDISs in FEMA [Regional Incident Management Assistance Teams](#) (IMATs)
 - FEMA signs MOA with National Disability Rights Network
 - Guidance released about including people with disabilities in FEMA grant-funded activities
 - FEMA hosts *Getting Real II* national training summit
 - ODIC staff and RDISs deploy to approximately 35 disasters
- '12 – FEMA Administrator appointed ICC Chair
- Disability Integration Advisor (DIA) and Lead DIA positions created
- ODIC develops and implements Disaster Recovery Center kits to provide [accessible communication technology](#) for disaster survivors
- ODIC staff and RDISs deploy to approximately 32 disasters
- '13 – DIA Cadre added as 23rd FEMA Cadre
 - DIA position added to National IMATs
 - ODIC hires Senior Advisor and Field Operations Chief to FEMA Headquarters
 - FEMA signs MOA with AARP
 - ODIC recruits reservists as DIAs, Lead DIAs and specialists in American Sign Language
 - First DIA reservists deployed to disaster
 - The Emergency Management Institute releases ODIC training courses: E/L197 – Integrating Access & Functional Needs into Emergency Planning; E692 – FEMA Disability Integration Specialist Advisors Course; and IS-368 – Including People with Disabilities in Disaster Operations
 - 39 DIAs deploy a total of 58 times to 21 different incidents
- '14 – Third DIA added to National IMATs
 - Certified Deaf Interpreter positions created
 - Promising Practices in Inclusive Emergency Management webinar series launched
 - 37 DIAs deploy a total of 88 times to 33 incidents
- '15 – ODIC's fifth anniversary
 - 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act



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