

# Peace of Mind When Prepared



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**\$49**



Each day you give peace of mind to your residents and their families. Now, how about some peace of mind for you and your staff?

ALFA's Emergency Management Executive Tool Kit offers tips, templates and the information you need to prepare for issues of all types. It is great on its own or use it to enhance your existing plans.

**Purchase now**, prepare today and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with having an emergency plan to turn to when it is needed most.

**Don't pass up on this valuable opportunity! This is a 50% savings available until July 31 on this and other ALFA Executive Tool Kits.**

Visit [www.alfa.org/ToolKits](http://www.alfa.org/ToolKits) to purchase this and other Executive Tool Kits today.

ALFA is the largest national association exclusively dedicated to professionally-managed senior living communities and the seniors and families they serve. For 20 years, ALFA has worked to educate policymakers and consumers by advocating for informed choice, quality care, and accessibility for all Americans. ALFA's member-driven programs promote business and operational excellence through education, research, publications, professional networking and online tools designed to foster collaboration and innovation in the field of senior living. [www.alfa.org](http://www.alfa.org)

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## ALFA: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TOOL KIT

# Executive Summary: Preparedness Pays Off

Responding to a disaster, whether sheltering-in-place or evacuating, involves myriad challenges for the nation's senior living communities because of their unique resident populations. With that in mind, the Assisted Living Federation of America has developed this disaster planning guide as a resource to help members prepare and test their own disaster plans and ensure community needs are met and residents receive the best possible protection in any situation.

Disaster planning is not new to the senior living industry. State regulations require assisted living communities to develop disaster plans and have policies and procedures in place to implement these plans. However, the disasters in recent years have increased the awareness and importance of disaster planning, and a recognition that the best disaster responses start with the best disaster planning.

As the guide will show, significant advance work is required to develop and design the most appropriate plan for your particular community or system. The more you can prepare before a potential disaster situation, the more successful your response will be should you need to implement that plan.

One of the major decisions that will need to be made is whether to evacuate the community or shelter-in-place. This decision will be based on many factors, such as the type and severity of the disaster. However, in many cases evacuation policies and procedures are regulated under state and local laws. It is therefore critical that every senior living community understand these requirements.

One of the most significant considerations is the need to plan and prepare for a communication blackout. As a society, we have become accustomed to the ability to communicate any place and any time through cell phones and other communication devices. Unfortunately, as some people have learned the hard way, even the most sophisticated communication device can fail just when you need it the most. Therefore, to be truly prepared in an emergency, it is necessary to plan and anticipate for a total loss of communication.

This guide is an important tool that will help prepare your community, residents and families, staff and families, volunteers and suppliers for a potential disaster situation. Remember, the most successful disaster responses are a result of comprehensive planning and testing. This will build the confidence of residents and staff who will know their roles ahead of time and understand what needs to be accomplished. Families and vendors will also know their roles in advance and be prepared to take whatever action is necessary for everyone's best interest