



**REACHING THE
WHOLE COMMUNITY
ALERTS + NOTIFICATIONS
IN EMERGENCIES**



WHO WE ARE + WHAT WE DO

We prepare for and respond to emergencies:

- We create plans to help our region be ready and stay safe during disasters.
- During disasters, we coordinate emergency services, including sending alerts and notifications about emergency situations.
- We are committed to serving the whole community.

OUTCOMES FROM A WILDFIRE

- In recent years, eastern WA has had terrible wildfires.
- Evacuation orders for Spanish speakers were poorly translated and not issued quickly enough.
- Community activists worked with legislators to ensure emergency information reaches everyone.





2017 NEW STATE LAW – RCW 38.52.070

- **Emergency Management** jurisdiction must provide emergency notifications to significant portions of the community in a manner they can understand
- Anyone in harm's way should be informed
- Everyone should be informed of actions they can take to protect themselves

WHAT **EMERGENCY MANAGERS** MUST DO

- Identify language groups that make up 5% of the population or 1,000 residents, whichever is less.
- Develop plans to send emergency alerts to these language groups with information about actions people can take to protect their safety.

HADDII AADAN KORONTO QABIN

ISKA ILAALI SUNTA KAARBOON MOONO-OGSAYDH-KA (CARBON MONOXIDE)

- Dabdhaliye dibedda oo KALIYA u isticmaal meel ka fog dabeysaha iyo daaqadaha furan
- MARNA gudaha garaashka gawaarida la dhigto ha ku isticmaalin dabdhaliye
- MARNA aqalka gudahiisa dhuxul ama foornada gaaska cuntada ha ku karin



Public Health
Seattle & King County 
www.kingcounty.gov/health



LANGUAGE GROUPS IN KING COUNTY THAT MEET THE STATE DEFINITION

- American Sign Language
- Amharic
- Arabic
- Burmese
- Cambodian
- Chinese-Cantonese
- Chinese-Mandarin
- Farsi
- French
- Hebrew-Modern
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Korean
- Lao
- Marshallese
- Nepali
- Oromo
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Rumanian
- Russian
- Samoan
- Somali
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Tagalog
- Tamil
- Telugu
- Tigrinya
- Turkish
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

YOU ARE THE EXPERTS.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD WE KNOW?

- How do people in your community get information?
- Who are trusted sources of information?
- What media and social media does your community use?
- What networks exist that could help spread emergency information in your community?
- Other thoughts?





WE NEED **YOUR** HELP.

- Help spread emergency information through your networks
- Let us know about the impacts on your community
- Sign up for alerting systems:
 - ALERT King County: www.kingcounty.gov/alert
 - AlertSeattle: alert.seattle.gov/
 - Community Communications Network (CCN): www.kingcounty.gov/ccn



THANK YOU!

...e I shared what I know with them?

