



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Mono County Health Department

[www.monohealth.com/Coronavirus](http://www.monohealth.com/Coronavirus)

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## MONO COUNTY ACCESS & FUNCTIONAL NEEDS (AFN) REGISTRY

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**October 20, 2020** - The **Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Registry** allows Mono County residents the ability to provide important information that emergency responders and agencies may use to better serve them in a disaster or other emergency situations. It is a way for County residents to let law enforcement, paramedics, or firefighters know that they might need additional assistance in a community crisis.

Access and functional needs include, but are not limited to, lack of transportation; chronic or temporary health conditions; limited English language proficiency; mobility, sensory, physical, intellectual, or cognitive limitations; and reliance upon electrically-dependent medical equipment.

Information provided on the [AFN Registry website](https://monocounty.ca.gov/prepared) (<https://monocounty.ca.gov/prepared>) is only shared with emergency response agencies in order to improve their ability to serve those in need. When completing their profile, registrants are encouraged to be as complete as possible in their responses. Registrants may be contacted occasionally by the Mono County Public Health Department to ensure the information is correct and to make any necessary changes.

*“No two disasters are ever the same, however, all incidents can disproportionately affect individuals with access and functional needs. Major incidents such as the ongoing Creek Fire and the unprecedented COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic remind us that disasters happen and it is important to plan ahead,”* stated Dr. Tom Boo, Mono County Health Officer. *“We strongly encourage residents with access and functional needs to register for early access to incident notification or evacuation.”*

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The AFN Registry is not a substitute for personal preparation. In a disaster, government and other agencies may not be able to meet your needs. It is important for all residents to make individual plans and preparations for their care and safety in an emergency. Visit [www.ready.gov/plan](http://www.ready.gov/plan) for information and resources on emergency planning.

For additional information about the Mono County AFN Registry please visit <https://www.monocounty.ca.gov/> or contact Debbie Diaz, Mono County Health Department Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at (760) 924-1829, who is always happy to provide assistance with registration upon request.

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