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Drivers

Non-discrimination Principles of the Law

Federal civil rights laws require equal access for, and prohibit discrimination against, people with disabilities.
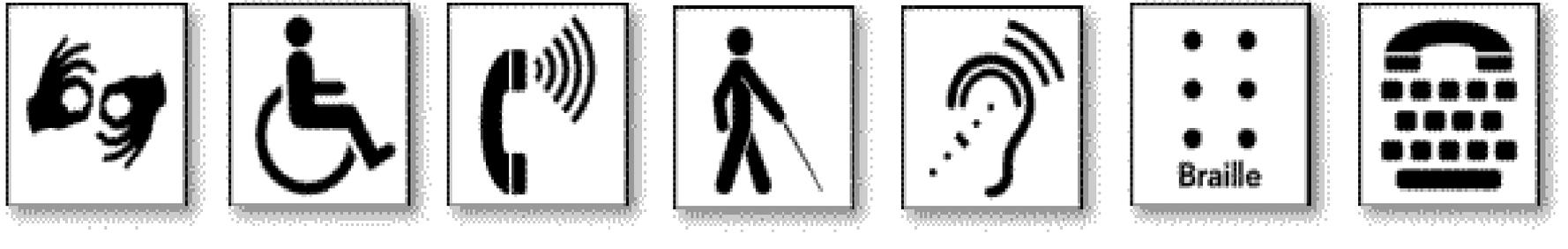
Underlying ADA Values

- **Equal Opportunity**
- **Integration**
- **Full Participation**

ADA Compliance

- **DOJ Tool Kit – State & Local Government**

- **FEMA Guidance - Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters**

ADA Enforcement

- **To get to**
- **Enter**
- **Use**
- **Communicate with**

Department of Justice Guidance to State & Local Governments

Americans with Disabilities Act and other laws apply in:

- **Preparation**
- **Notification**
- **Evacuation and transportation**
- **Sheltering**
- **Recovery**

"Inclusion is not just an option: It is a fundamental civil and human right."

-Administration on Developmental Disability, Commissioner Sharon Lewis

"Planners cannot foresee every outcome, and incident managers cannot anticipate every scenario. While disasters have a language of their own and no plan guarantees success, inadequate plans are proven contributors to failure." - *NRF 2006*

Special Needs Population

Special Needs Population	Total	% of U.S. total population (281,421,906)
Children, age 15 & under	64,272,779	**22.84**
Elderly, age 65 & over	34,991,753	**12.43**
Speak English "not well", age 18-64	5,703,904	**2.03**
Speak English "not at all", age 18-64	2,575,154	**0.92**
Non-institutionalized population with a disability, age 16-64	33,153,211	**11.78**
Total Special Needs Population	140,696,801	**49.99**

51.44%
if added to entire institutionalized population

Many people have limitations which affect:

- **Walking**
- **Seeing**
- **Speaking**
- **Hearing**
- **Breathing**
- **Understanding**

- **Remembering**
- **Strength**
- **Endurance**
- **Coordination**
- **Manipulation**
- **Bowel & bladder control**

Some disabilities are visible, others are hidden due to:

- **Arthritis**

- **Cancer**

- **Learning**

- **Hearing**

- **Vision**

- **Diabetes**

- **Heart disease**

- **Emotional or psychiatric conditions**

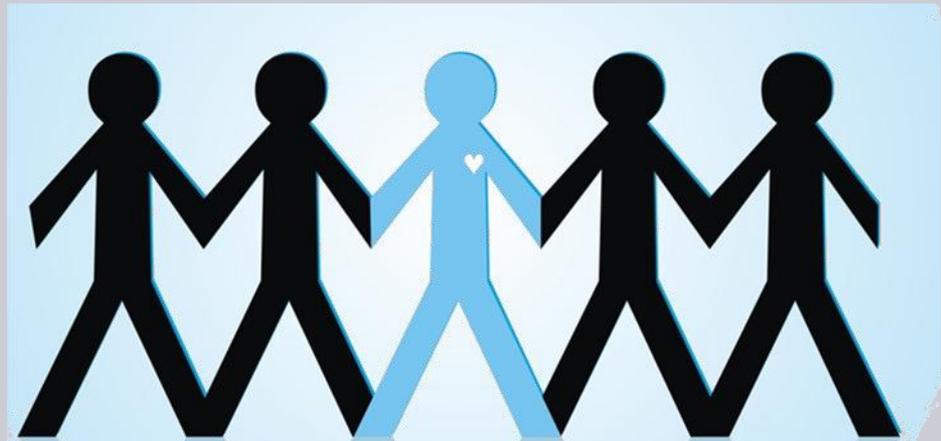- **Significant allergies or chemical sensitivities**

Special Needs

Doesn't work because it doesn't provide guidance to operationalize the tasks needed.

"You can't be special & equal at the same time."

- Becky Ogle

We must identify the <u>Access and Functional Needs</u> of children and adults with disabilities before, during and after a disaster, and <u>integrate disability elements and resources</u> into all aspects of emergency management systems.

Essential Concerns

- Identify Need

- Integrate Resources

- Accessibility of Vehicles

- Accessibility of Facilities

- Adaptive Equipment

- Pets/Service Animals

- Forced Transportation

FUNCTIONAL NEEDS
C-THIS

- **C**ommunication
- **T**ransportation & evacuation
- **H**ealth
- **I**ndependence (maintaining)
- **S**upport & safety

Identifying People

- Common belief in "Volunteer Registries"
  - ➢Perceived promise or guarantee that the registrants will be provided with evacuation services
  - ➢Planning is based on an individual always being at home
  - ➢Tendency to view those on the registry as the only ones who need assistance
  - ➢Focus on registrants first, rather than looking at the population more broadly
 - ➢Unrealistic expectations of first-responders

Utilizing Service Systems

- In-Home Supportive Services/Personal Assistance Services
- Home Health
- Meals-on-Wheels
- Community Based Organizations

- Transportation Service Providers
- Centers for Independent Living
- Regional Centers for People with Developmental Disabilities

Who in addition to traditional stakeholders are at the planning table?

- **Centers for Independent Living**
- **Service centers for people with developmental disabilities**
- **Deaf/hard of hearing**
- **Blind/low vision**
- **Mental health**

- **Multiple Sclerosis Society**
- **In Home Supportive Services/home health**
- **Alzheimer's Association**
- **Area Agencies on Aging**

Accessible Communications
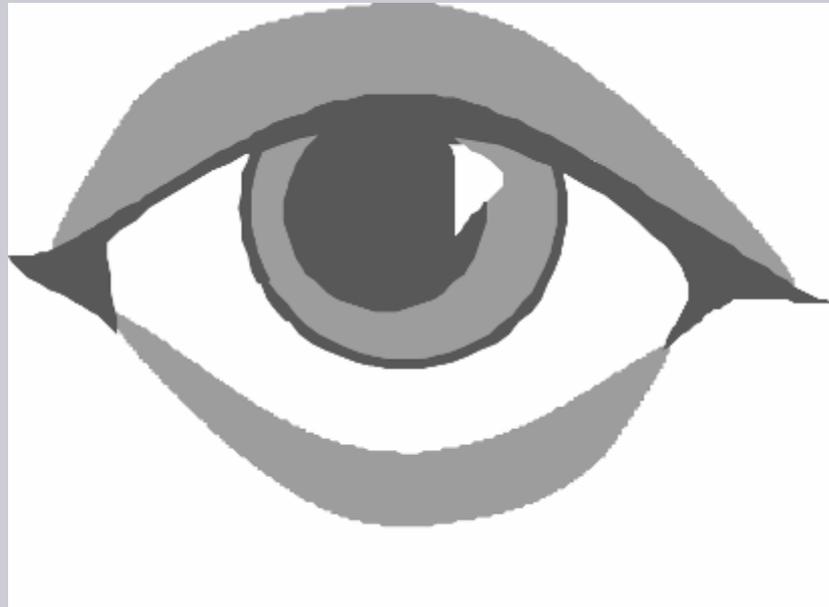
Early-Warning Notification Systems

- Ability to send text messages to wireless devices (in multiple languages).

- Ability to send messages to TTY's, Pagers, Video Relays, etc.

- System which is frequently tested

Emergency Alert Systems

- Accessible Messaging

➤Captioned?

➤Reading of scrolled messages?

➤Is the information provided, easy to understand (not higher than 3rd Grade Reading Level)?

➤Messages are tested with end users (children, cognitive disabilities, LEP)

Press Conferences

- Sign-language interpreting provided?

- Television broadcasts include interpreter on the screen?

- Real-time captioning provided?

Evacuation Transportation

Del Mar Shelter

34

Transportation Resources

- ADA-mandated Paratransit Systems
- Dial-a-Ride
- Non-Profits
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Center Vendors Serving People with Developmental Disabilities
- Taxi systems
- Non-medical emergency services

- School district transportation systems
- Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)
- Airport shuttle buses
- Airport car rental shuttle buses
- Aging center vendors
- Health care center vendors

- **Targeting Community Care Facilities:** All community living, assisted living & residential facilities must be identified in advance & plans for evacuation of persons with disabilities & older adults must be in place. This includes, but is not limited to: evacuation of facilities housing people with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities & older adults.

Technology

- **Is so woven into our daily routine that it is almost invisible & taken for granted.**

- **But without it, PAS needs may increase, when technology is left behind, lost or damaged.**

- **Transport Agreements:** Develop local agreements between transit, Paratransit & private services to provide assistance with personnel & vehicles during an emergency. Agreements should include the provision for cost recovery for services given during a federally declared event. The agreement should also outline method(s) for communication between service providers & the evacuees.

Sheltering

This we know to be true….

- People with access & functional needs have the right to be at general population shelters

- Government has responsibility for sheltering

- Local government is the first level of response

- CA Dept. of Social Services has the lead for sheltering at the state level

FAST Concept

Concept of a trained team that will support people in shelters:

Functional

Assessment

Service

Team

Key Concepts about the Sheltering of People with Access & Functional Needs

▪Can be accommodated in general population shelters with support.

▪Planning and coordination is needed to meet Access & Functional Needs

▪Support for sheltering People with Access and Functional Needs: Government, Non – Government Organizations (NGOs) and private sources.

FAST Description & Duties

- Government and non- government employees can be volunteers.

- Deployed by the Care and Shelter Branch Coordinator - ICS/NIMS resource.

- Can be moved between shelters and/or Local Assistance Centers (LACs).

- Knowledge of local service networks – helpful in obtaining resources.
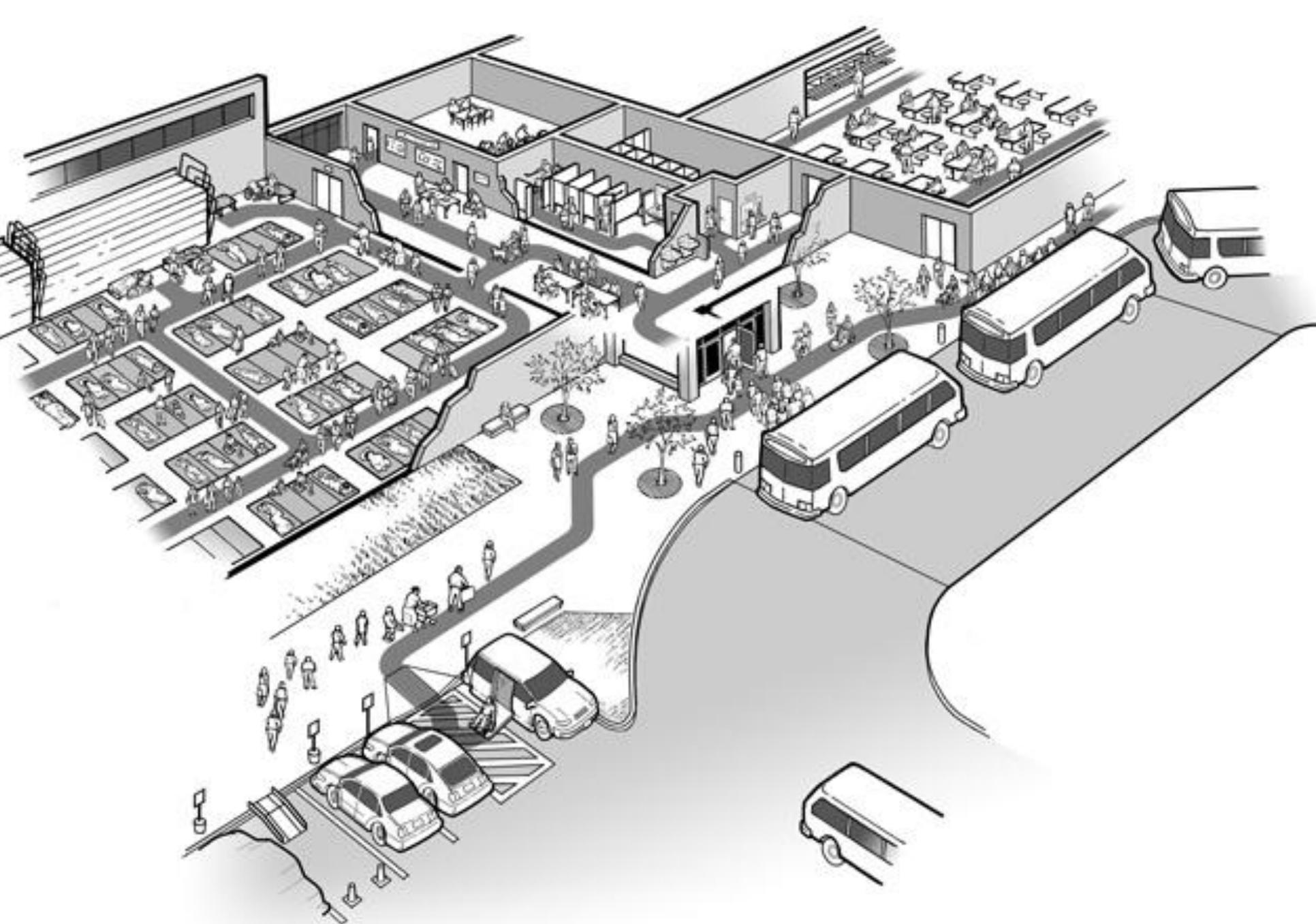
FAST Qualifications

- 2 years experience working with populations

- Completion of FAST training & certification

- Availability for quick deployment

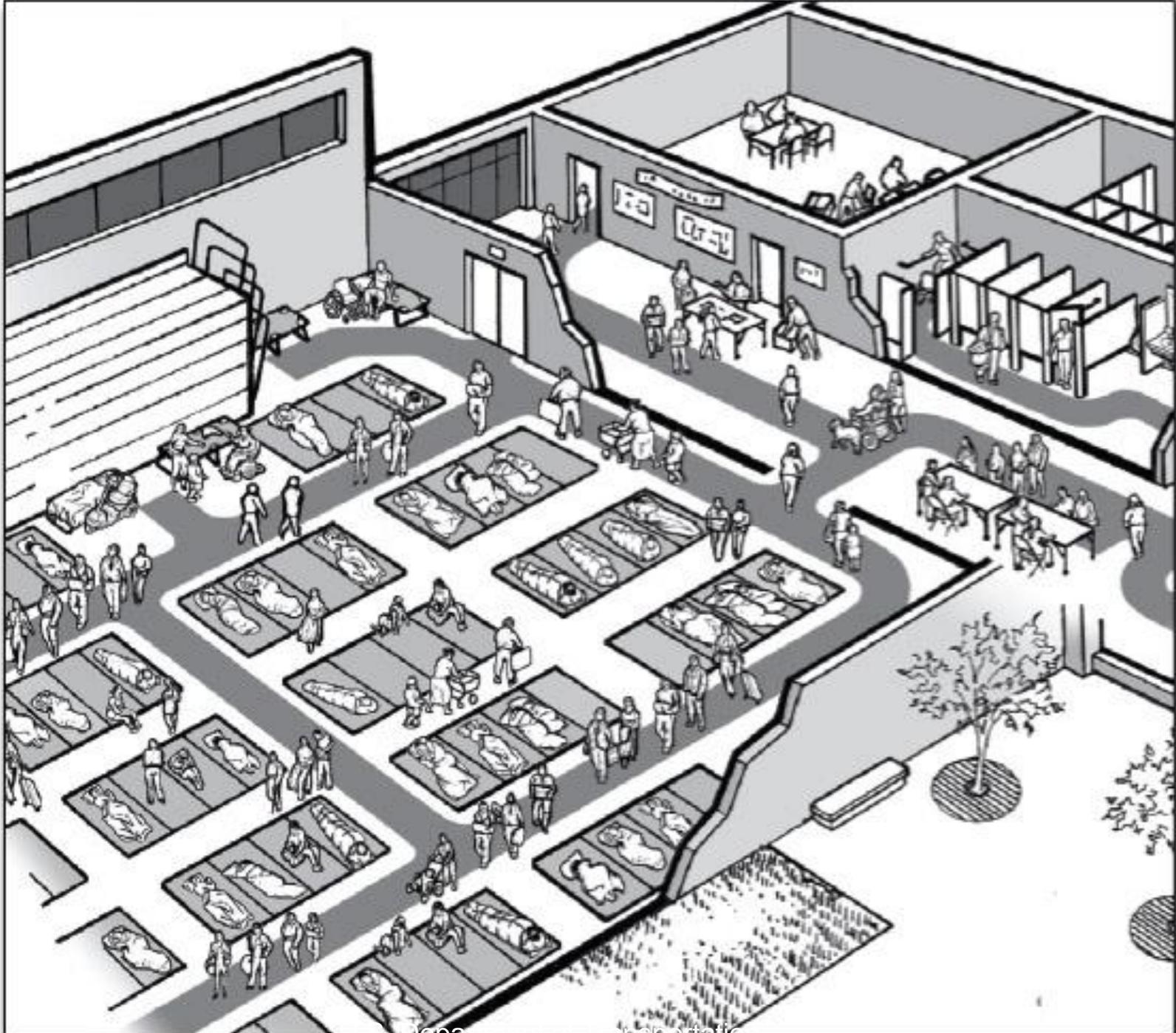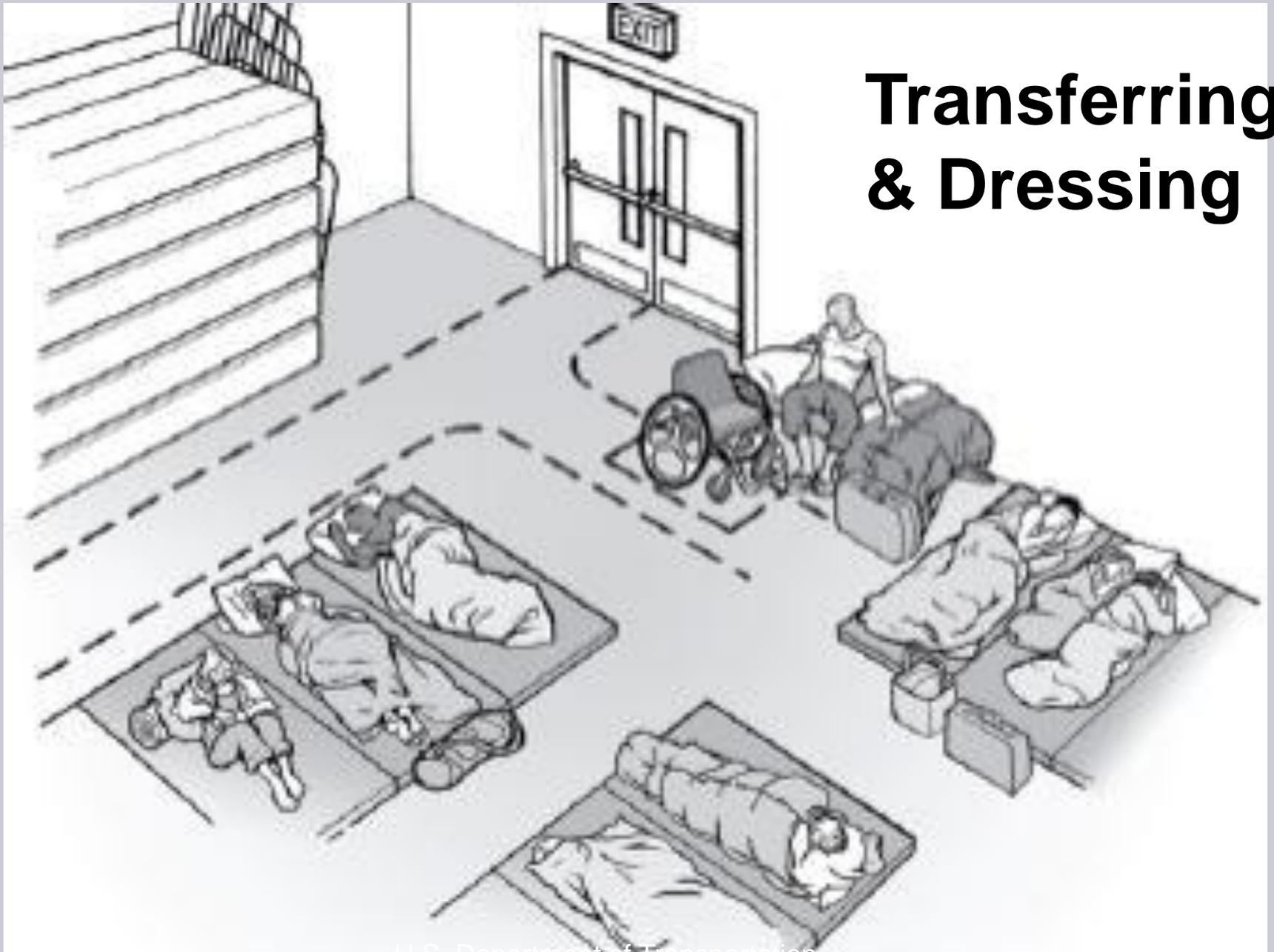- Ability to work under difficult & stressful situations

Physical Access

Transferring & Dressing

51

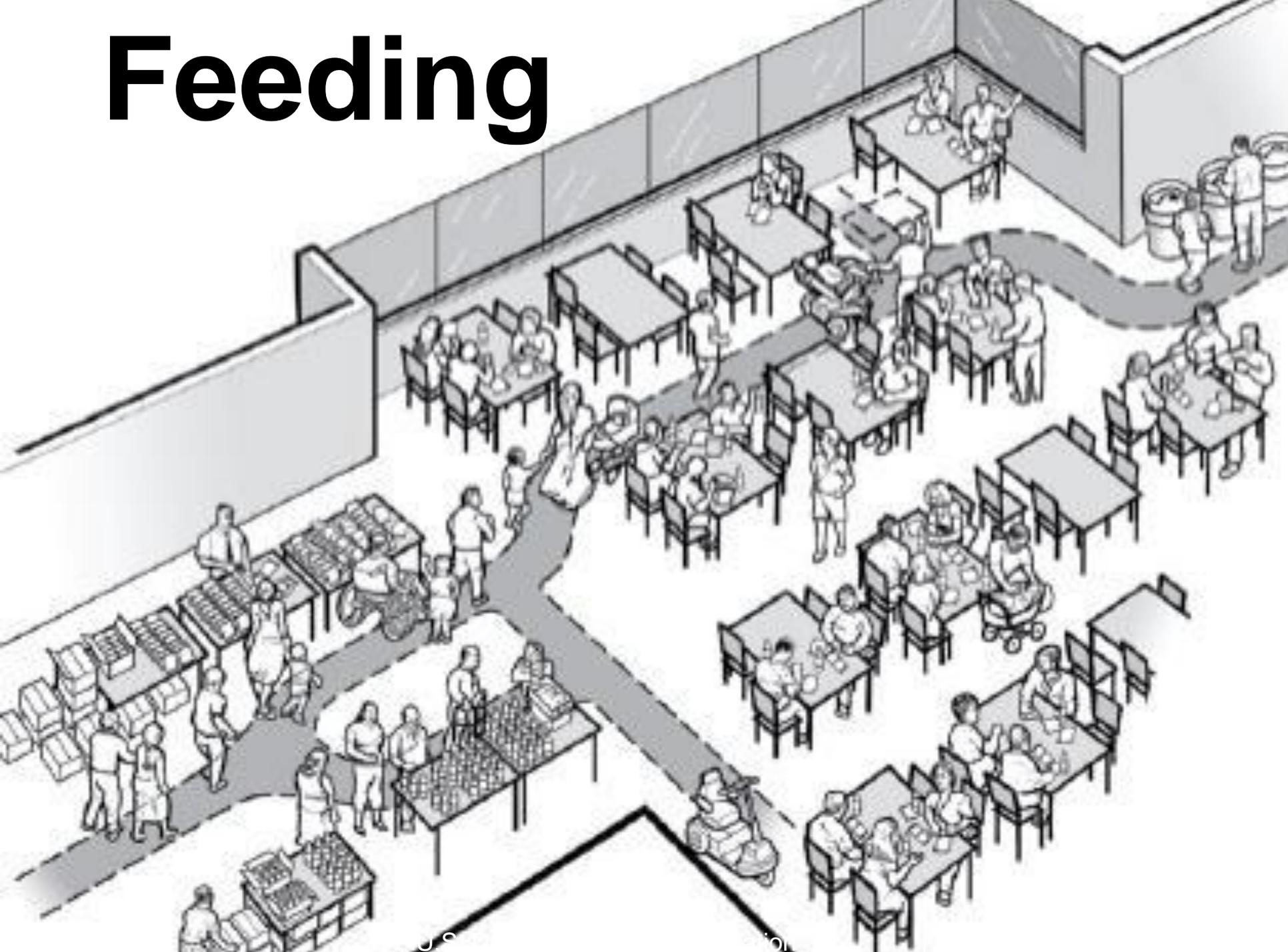**Quick privacy solution from NH accessible voting booth**
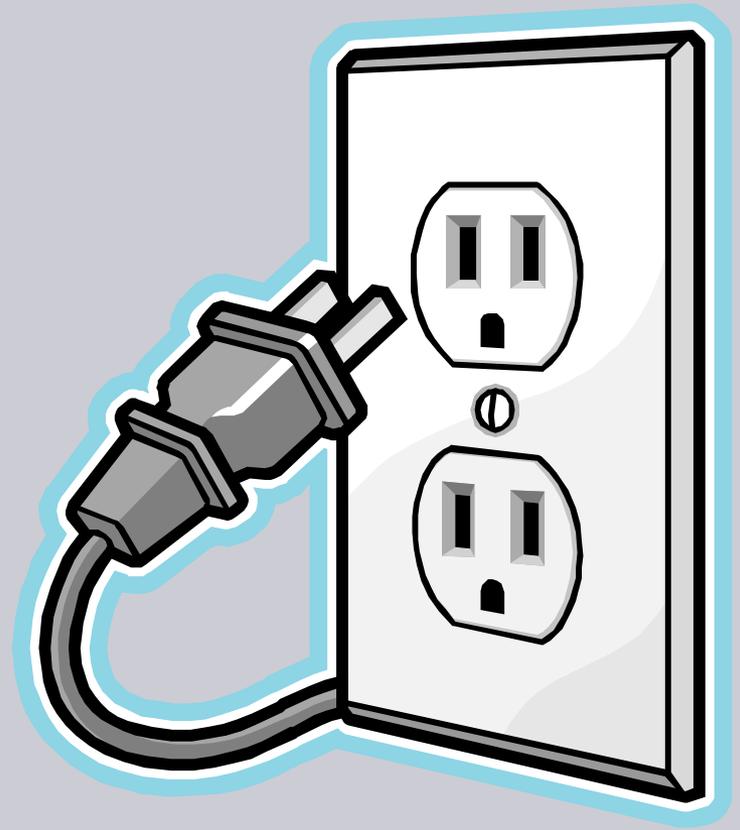
Feeding

DME

CMS

SUPPLIES

Examples of Durable Medical Equipment

- **Regular & quad canes, walkers, crutches**

- **Folding white canes**

- **Manual wheelchairs**

- **Portable ramps**

- **Shower chairs**

Examples of Consumable Medical Supplies

- **Diapers**

- **Catheters**

- **Diabetic Testing Supplies**

- **Portable Oxygen**

- **Ostomy Supplies**
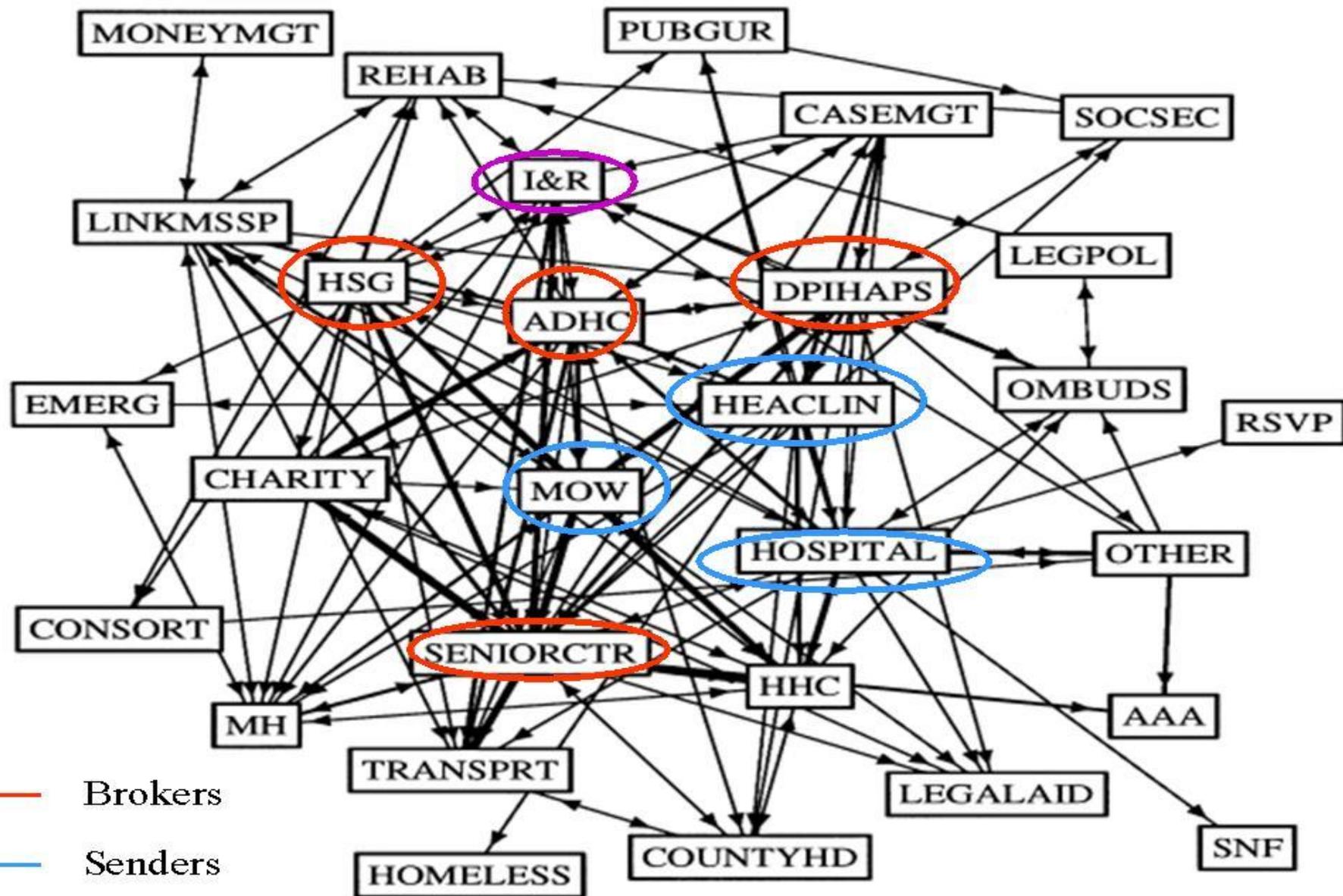
- **Syringes**

Power Issues

Recovery

Transitioning Back to the Community

Client Referral Patterns

© Judy Yip, Ph.D. - 2004 California Center for Long Term Care Integration

Access & Functional Needs or other positions with the authority, responsibility & resources to:

- **Lead in coordinating recovery workgroup consisting of government, business & nonprofit organizations.**

- **Service coordination & case management**
- **Transportation**
- **Housing (temporary & permanent)**
- **Acquiring necessities, i.e. clothing & household supplies**
- **Health & Mental Health services**

- Descriptions of services should be disseminated using multiple communication arteries (radio, TV, internet, fact sheets, posters, etc.) -- It is required that all materials and forms be available in alternate formats that should include:
- Large print (no less than 14-point)
- Braille
- CD
- Electronic
- Audio

- There should be consideration to making recovery services mobile by going to places of residents and community-based organizations.
- When applications need to be completed on-site, procedures should be in place to provide assistance to individuals with Access and Functional Needs. The type of assistance could include the reading of materials and the filling out forms.

- **Re-establish or access public benefits & services.**
- **Replacing DME and technology.**
- **Indentifying temporary & permanent independent living options.**
- **Repairing or rebuilding damaged access housing elements such as ramps, accessible bathroom elements, etc.**

Housing

82

FEMA Individual Assistance

- Non-traditional, but allowable uses:
  - Automatic door openers
  - Equipment
    - Wheelchairs, scooters, battery chargers
    - Hearing aids
    - Computers
  - Modifications
    - Kitchen/bathroom access alterations
    - Widening doorways
    - Ramps