

# FEMA & RCI Talk Disaster Preparedness for Caregivers: Event Transcript

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This document provides a transcript of the *FEMA and the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers Talk Disaster Preparedness for Caregivers* event as captured by a Realtime Captioner. The event occurred on January 24, 2024, from 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET. This transcript may not be a verbatim record; it is intended to provide an overview of the event to attendees.

## Event Panelists

- **Jo Ann Bachand**, Caregiver, 4Kinds Network
- **Marcus T. Coleman, Jr.**, Director, DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
- **Moranda Guy**, Administrative Officer, Macon-Bibb County Emergency Management Agency
- **Justin Ángel Knighten**, Director, FEMA Office of External Affairs
- **Dr. Jennifer Olsen**, CEO, Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers
- **Nigel Poole**, Emergency Management Director, Sumter County, GA

## Event Transcript

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Hello, everyone. Good afternoon. I hope everyone is doing well and you can hear us. We have had a couple of technical challenges, but as we say at FEMA, we aim to keep flexible and acknowledge all of the potential challenges that may arise.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for joining us today for this event, and for celebrating the joint collaborative work on accomplishments we do together. We have great conversations set up today to talk about the reality of caregiving and emergency management.

I have been at FEMA for a couple of years now, and I don't remember ever seeing this type of collaboration. We are all very excited at FEMA to talk about the power, opportunities, and potential within emergency management and how we can join that with caregiving.



# FEMA

Most of you are in emergency management or are caregivers—each one plays a critical role in our community.

The reality is that there are over 350 million caregivers in the U.S. and with the onset of more intense disasters, the time is right for us to come together and talk about how to come together and make sure people are safe and protected.

Before we joined all of you today, we spent time meeting at the President Jimmy Carter library to be surrounded by the iconic truth and the history of the Carters. If you didn't know, Jimmy Carter actually created FEMA through an executive order in 1979. We looked very different than we do now, and are very fond of our founder and wanted to get grounded in that space before we joined you all in this conversation.

In that experience, I saw a quote in the exhibit that I wanted to read to you all today because it speaks to what emergency managers do to help people before, during, and after a disaster. And it also speaks to what caregivers do to show up for loved ones every single day and work in some very challenging situations.

In his January 12, 1971, inaugural address as Governor of Georgia, Jimmy Carter stated, "The test of a government is not how popular it is with the powerful and privileged few, but how honestly and fairly it deals with the many who must depend on it."

We all do this work, and as someone who has seen what caregivers do firsthand in my family and thinking about the experiences that my mother had with my grandmother before she passed, I know the role that caregivers play. To prepare the nation for all hazards and how to meet communities in places where they are in new, profound ways, we need to think about caregivers being such force multiplier. We have not really built a relationship or connection with caregivers like we need to. There are opportunities to make sure caregiving and the love people are providing are part of the service.

With that, I would like to pass it over to Dr. Olsen to share remarks.

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** Thank you, and thank you for engaging with Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers and supporting caregivers who are ill and disabled, and includes friends, family members, and neighbors taking on care—everything from picking up the mail and shoveling snow to coordination for complex patient needs.

We're excited to think about all of the ways caregivers can actually be partners in preparedness, response, and recovery, but also all of the things emergency management can learn from caregivers and how many caregivers every day do scenario planning. They are continually thinking about, what is this, what's that? And incorporate new technologies, changes to doctor appointments or medications, and handling the unexpected. Is the transportation going to work that they normally use? Or food delivery, is it going to happen?

And both for leaders and supporters in this partnership, as Mrs. Carter said, there are only four people in this world: those who have caregivers, those who support caregivers, those who are caregivers, and those who will be caregivers.

And with the intent of supporting those on the invisible front line, or should I say the invisible group of first responders.

Today, we have a few caregivers and emergency managers to engage with. I want to recognize and suspect some of you are working both as an emergency manager and as a caregiver. We see you working that role, working a double in every way, and want to find more and important ways to strengthen such an important part in our nation and communities.

While we can't get to everything today, I look forward to continuing our discussion with FEMA as we move forward.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you very much, Dr. Olsen, for your passion and commitment to helping partners like us in FEMA to be more helpful.

We have taken the time to really listen to caregivers and really understand the challenges our caregivers are experiencing while providing service. We are making sure that when we think about our priorities and how we deliver on these priorities, we are boosting awareness and motivating people to take the steps necessary to be prepared for all hazards.

How do we think about different communities in a way that helps us translate information for them? Translate information that reaches them, take their circumstances and realities into account, and put it through the lens of them first and us second. What do I mean by that?

We talked for years about being culturally competent. That means understanding the people you are trying to reach, including their experiences, histories, and cultures, and reflecting those back in messaging and programs.

And we have done that in other communities, and today, we focus on caregivers. At the end of last year, we focused on older adults, and for the first time, FEMA really focused on a particular population that's vulnerable to hazards and said, "Let's design content with them for older adults and empower them to take steps to prepare."

Now we are working with the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers, developing messages and resources for you—caregivers. This conversation is a bit of a teaser of a new guide coming out soon, "Disaster Preparedness for Caregivers." We'll say more on that soon. Today we are having a conversation about caregiving and emergency management preparedness and a call to action for all of you here today. You are here because you care, because it is a topic that either speaks to your mind or an experience you had, or a truth that you know as being an untapped possibility as emergency management and caregiving in the same breath.

I will ask you to stay engaged on this topic moving forward. And when the guide comes out—and we'll have more information soon for caregivers—we ask that you help us get the word out, help us be a multiplier, and help us spread the word to get this life-saving information into the right hands.

Thank you for being here, and I hope today's conversation is empowering instead of homework. And please keep that engagement in the back of your mind when asking for help.

With that, I will start the conversation. Dr. Olsen, the first question for you: From a caregiver's perspective, what are key disaster preparedness actions that caregivers can prioritize? How can organizations like RCI address those effectively, and are there ways we can learn more or get involved with persons like yourself?

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** First, go to [rosalynncarter.org](https://rosalynncarter.org) and view our initiatives for caregivers: former, current, and future caregivers across the board.

As I think about the challenges I will encounter, I think about what a few more things or ways to plan so I can be prepared, whether for a natural disaster or another event, like a pandemic. I think there's an opportunity to say, I am thinking about food, batteries, or things because the person I am caring for needs certain devices or dietary restrictions. Can I get a little bit more of that? And as I said, many caregivers are looking at the challenges.

Second, look out for people, friends, family, and neighbors, and make sure they know where they are when a disaster is coming and how to check in with them and reach out to them.

And third, most importantly, to make sure, if possible, you check into your local emergency management and ask questions like where are the shelters, what are they like, can I bring someone into those shelters, and what can I do to prepare as much as possible?

And if you are not a caregiver right now, you might have caregivers in your life. Bring them a gift for Valentine's or whatever comes next. Think about what you can do and how you can be helpful. There are opportunities for caregivers, former caregivers, and neighbors.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** I will go through a series of other questions here and going virtually, and as I call on you, I'll be using your first names, keeping it casual and conversational.

Jo Ann, please give context about who you are and how you are showing up to the conversation today. Drawing on experiences with hurricanes in Florida, what challenges did you face as a caregiver, and what advice do you give to fellow caregivers in similar situations?

**JO ANN BACHAND:** Hello. It's nice to be here this morning. My name is Jo Ann, and I am in Hunter Beach, Florida. I care for my husband, who is a disabled veteran.

Living in Florida, we lose power a lot. My husband uses a power wheelchair, and we live on the second floor of our condo building, which means if the power goes out, the elevator doesn't work. Then, I am met with the challenge of finding ways to help me get him up and down the steps.

One thing we did to prepare was to buy backup batteries for all of his power items. Like the wheelchair and other medical devices he used, if we lose power and one battery dies out, we have a backup battery to use until power is restored.

Another thing, I never wait to evacuate, if the storms like it will be bad. I made that decision well in advance because I needed to make sure that we could go to a facility that could accommodate him and the wheelchair. If we wait too long, those facilities might be booked up already.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you very much, Jo Ann, for that overview. I will come back to you with another question, but for now, I will turn it over to my friend, Nigel. As a longtime emergency management director, how can caregivers proactively engage with their local emergency management offices? What can help to facilitate this?

**NIGEL POOLE:** Hi. I am from a small town in southeast Georgia, and for us, it is as simple as reaching out, whether that be to your emergency management agency, EMTs, or your police and fire departments, to get involved and to get connected. It is really that easy. Just reaching out and being proactive.

One thing we noticed about caregivers is that they are not a braggy bunch. They don't stand out there and say, "Hey, we're caregivers," and they do this politely and behind the scenes to make your loved ones more protected. And they will not jump out at you, you need to reach out to us and us out to you. That is something we're working very diligently to get that conversation started in a better and more efficient way.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** I have a quick follow-up. How can people contact their local emergency management?

**NIGEL POOLE:** You can reach out to your county or parish, and I can speak to the state of Georgia, we have that in every county. You can Google your county or city website and get to emergency personnel that you can connect and engage with. That's usually the easiest way.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Fantastic. Moranda, coming to you next. Remember to introduce yourself before you answer the question. So, Moranda, in your experience in emergency management, how do you work with the government and focus on getting caregivers more prepared, focused on communities, and focused on caregivers? Why is preparing so important in that context?

**MORANDA GUY:** Many of my team are currently in the process of seeing our current local government here, and we try to work with some of our community-based organizations that can pledge, like the break, we have loaves and fish, we have Salvation Army, and we have another facility for it. We have resources and some other partners here in our county, and we try to work with them to create plans.

One of the things we realized after reviewing some of our plans, is that we didn't have inclusive information from the vulnerable populations such as our older adults. So, what we're trying to do is get together a program where first, we want to get with our local caregivers. One of the things I have recently found out is that working with some of your local social workers who have contact with a lot of our older citizens in our county is the first step.

We want to know where we need to be and where we need to go. We have a ministry here and the preparedness here, and with that, we get a lot of information from partners that come in and provide information that our older citizens can have. Just recently, one of our initiatives made sure to distribute weather radios to make sure caregivers have these devices and are informed about the weather and hazardous information in our county.

For preparedness, we want to get feedback from our personal care home and social workers who work in nursing homes, including our hospital case managers who have people being discharged and going home. We make sure to provide resources and support for them as well.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you very much, Moranda. Dr. Olsen, I wonder if you can talk to us about how to build stronger caregiver support networks. I think that many of us who have been in or connected to or aware of the caregiver role know what it means. And in some cases, may feel very lonely, or you don't have the connections of those who are living a very similar experience.

In emergency management, preparing for disaster and responding to and recovering requires support from the community. It is so vitally important so you cannot only thrive and survive in those moments.

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** I think the caregivers and partners are great emergency managers.

If you are like me and have been a caregiver, and experience planning in the community, no offense to Nigel, but there may be a different conversation. And there may be a different opportunity if you are in the space of a former caregiver; you can do some of that work.

The other thing, as individuals, oftentimes people say to you or tell you they are on a caregiver journey and may not use those words but might say, my mom was just diagnosed with cancer or had an accident, whatever that is. And you, as an individual hearing that, you can think, I will go and get bread, milk, toilet paper, and everything I am supposed to get, and I can get double as a caregiver. What are the opportunities to support caregivers, and think about what the ways are that we're making it not necessarily easier to be a caregiver but less hard?

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you for that. And continuing that theme, Jo Ann, bringing it back to you.

Can you give the audience tips on how caregivers can include care recipients as part of their disaster preparedness activities?

**JO ANN BACHAND:** My husband is a valued and included partner while preparing for a storm. While I am moving the patio furniture into the garage, packing up the car, and evacuating, he gets all of his medications together, charges up all of the batteries and extra batteries, and sends messages to our children sharing what our plan is, where we're going and leaving, and so our adult children living in other parts of the country know where we're going and what our plan is.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you for sharing your real-world experience. Thank you very much. Nigel, over to you. Based on your experience, what is something you would like emergency management professionals to know about caregivers and their recipients?

**NIGEL POOLE:** It is not that big of a lift, and we're dealing with people like this whether you realize it or not. Like the frequency of balance they have to go to, they have knowledge and, more importantly, they have knowledge of that caregiver, and they are the ones with the information form.

It is a real acceptance of the +1 strategy, and you have your care recipient and their caregiver as their +1. Including that caregiver in the conversation with their care recipient is very important and is not that hard of a lift. It is something you are already doing as emergency managers, and it is a population we missed in the past. Moving forward, we can start collecting the data and getting them the items they need before, during, and after a disaster.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** This is where I let the audience know I have a couple of questions for the panelists and then let you know you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

I see the three that popped up in the chat here, and I'll start with these. If you have questions other than topics we have discussed, please, send them over to us, and we will get them answered. I see Marcus Coleman has popped his hand up. I will have you introduce yourself and talk to us about partnerships and what partnerships

mean in more effective emergency management. But also as it relates to tapping into caregiver networks and helping them make sure that care recipients are getting what they need to stay safe in a disaster.

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** Absolutely. Partnerships and having a plan are critically important, as many have shared. My name is Marcus Coleman. I serve as the director of the DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. We work alongside FEMA and our friends, having the formal agreement and continuing engagement with the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers and the opportunity to focus on partnership.

Three things. Picking up on things you have already talked about. I have followed the conversation, and finding the local emergency manager and organizations that might be connected to the communities is key to aligning interests.

One of our panelists found a way for everyone to be included and help people be prepared and notified.

We think of it as faith-based partnerships and empowering those network organizations, and here, thinking about the Baptists, Methodists, and Catholics, and some of the faith-based groups who are already providers and giving services for opportunities for support, and from the disaster preparedness perspective.

And some of that means practicing together, and practice makes perfect. Maybe the first time you are sending out notifications to the family, it may not be natural, but taking that time to exercise and plan is a key thing to encourage, not just organizationally, but at a personal level and a way to encourage collaboration and partnerships, again, with the emergency managers, like the ones on the line bringing the opportunities to connect with caregivers and also the opportunities for our loved ones when they need help.

Those are initial ideas for the partnership, and I will be joining those in the room very soon as we continue this conversation.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Marcus, I will put you on the spot quickly with a follow-up question. Many of you may be tracking that FEMA is pushing a theme of resilience in 2024. To bring home that we are doing everything in our power this year through our Administrator and bringing resilience into response and recovery into the context. So much of the attention is in the moments of high pressure, high stakes, and high response, and will ultimately make us stronger and safer, and better as a nation, building that disaster resilience and resilience in communities.

How do we advance conversations like today, talk to places like the Rosalynn Carter Institute, and focus on caregivers as we think about that context?

And Marcus, you are tracking many of FEMA's guides and resources and all of the ways FEMA has to help both emergency managers and organizations like networks and caregivers. Can you talk about resources that are already available or coming out shortly?

I already gave a preview of the caregiver guide. But anything else you think they should look at, on the FEMA website?

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** Stay tuned. That Caregiver guide will be so useful.

And recently, I found help with conversations in my family about how caregivers come in many different contexts—caring for young ones and loved ones, and increasingly for adults, too. It's already on [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov).

In addition, the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers has an active partnership for natural disasters and is also thinking about this.

It is important to see the expanding circle of engagement, looking to work with the Alzheimer's Association which supports people with dementia.

Our friends at the Surgeon General have raised issues of isolation and social connectedness. When talking about resilience, and if you are looking to make the case to the emergency managers on the line, why is it important to build these relationships and connections? We are more than happy to show you the research and information about resilience and connectedness and inform you how we best help one another in times of disruption. It might be a power outage or a power outage from a hurricane.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Fantastic. I am coming to you next, Moranda. What strategies and programs have you found most effective for collaborating with caregivers and ensuring you meet their needs in emergency planning and response?

**MORANDA GUY:** One of the things we have been looking at is how we can meet the people in our community who have these needs. And how can we help them to help their loved one, neighbor, or whoever they gave care to?

One of the things I mentioned earlier is emergency preparedness and helping people create emergency plans. One thing we do is have kits or give information and resources from community partners. And another thing we're trying to implement—still in the working phase—is working with houses of worship. We think that's a great way for us, as emergency managers in our community, as Marcus mentioned, to build those relationships. We need to build relationships in our community.

How are we going to do that? We need to get out there. I can't make a plan if I am not invited to it. We need to make ourselves more like, hey, we're here, and we want to help you and support you. On a personal note, I can honestly say that being a caregiver myself—my mother has dementia and recently passed in September—but being a caregiver, I truly understand the partnership that, as a professional in emergency management and as a caregiver and a daughter, it takes a village. We want to be sure that as I look at myself and my sisters and this situation, What if this happens? What if this happens? I put on my emergency management hat; we need to make sure of this; what about location? What about if other resources go out? Jo Ann mentioned her husband and the power going out and his wheelchair.

These are things we as a team think about and EOC plans and figure out where to include the people and partners and the caregivers and making these plans so when things do happen, we have a plan in place to help their loved ones and/or friends.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** That was fantastic. Thank you very much. I picked out three or four different strategies just from your comment alone. I loved the idea that again, we're thinking about who the navigator organizations are. The faith community is a great one, they know how to reach people. And making sure we're not making plans for people without them, get them to the table. Thank you for raising that.



Looking at my phone, I saw a lot of questions coming in from the audience. One is about caregivers who maybe – there's a potential language barrier, or English is not a first language. I am seeing references to resources available in a variety of languages, and I am thinking Spanish.

If any panel members want to jump in and share resources available to help caregivers in this work, whether English is not their first language or they have other language barriers and need different delivery of language to help them get started or continue in their preparedness journey, don't be shy. Anyone can jump in.

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** I will jump in and say, Justin, I think for a lot of what I have been able to learn from faith-based communities and other faith organizations, and it is important to lean in and learn with the community to co-create things for the community. One organization I know that does that well is Church World Service. They do a lot of things and focus on maybe speaking a language other than their native language and maybe even speaking their language.

If you are struggling with whom to connect with and you are an Emergency Management agency, and you may have already talked to your public official, but again, talking about faith partners, generally, some organizations like your local Catholic charities may have insight. But also going into the community themselves and putting out a lot of messages.

And a direct plug for [listos.gov](https://listos.gov), for Spanish-speaking individuals in particular. I can tell that FEMA puts us on this journey and constantly makes sure that the messages we're providing are co-created with people who live in the subject matter expertise and put that in for emergency preparedness.

I heard about an awesome thing you did for Veteran communities recently. And maybe that's not translations of Spanish, English, or French, but definitely in terms of language for the military. Do you have any information to share?

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** That's a good one. We recently worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs for both veterans and active-duty service members to talk about and create the disaster toolkit for those individuals. I think a lot of that work will inform some of the work we're doing with FEMA in the coming weeks and months ahead. And we work directly with caregivers in that experience.

We publish research about caregiver experiences and what was learned from it, disaster preparedness, and where it is. There were gaps and things we needed to know, and that's instructive because I thought one of the areas or ideas or challenges was understood. The idea that some caregivers felt they didn't know what would be available in the shelters, so they figured the best choice was to stay where they were during the incident.

And that's something we can do: create more information in a variety of different formats, and we can know what is available during times of disaster.

And it comes from creating these and other tools and looking at what they did after the disaster and incorporating feedback: That set of questions did not help me, but you know what would have been useful?

Our team is continuing to write that down, and with that and our experience with FEMA, whether it is older adults, those with different disabilities, and so forth, learn and engage in those conversations. And like Moranda said, the critical information and critical partners.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** Thank you. We really appreciate that tip and the context about the Rosalynn Carter Institute and the VA. Where do they find that? On the website [rosalynncarter.org](https://rosalynncarter.org) and the FEMA website. We'll share that with you all.

One more question coming in: if you are a family member or caregiver, but your care recipient is across town, in another county, or across the state, are you still responsible and the point of contact, what do you do in a disaster to make sure that you are thinking ahead of time of all of the scenarios that can play out?

And I will open it up to the whole panel who want to jump in, who have navigated this before, and/or have recommendations to the audience.

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** I will start. The first thing I say to distance caregivers is that this will sound a little bit challenging with all of the notifications we get on our phones and emails, and when you sign up for your emergency alerts for your zip code, also sign up for the person you are caring for. Sign up for the power outages for the power company of that person as well. Continue to get more information and push information and get those contacts.

And I would say to make connections with a neighbor or someone else who lives as close as possible to the person you are caring for. Can they do a periodic check in, or they say, I see a tornado warning, what's going on? That person can maybe get in touch with you when the person can't respond in that way.

Information overload is real, but this is an important and proactive step you can take.

**NIGEL POOLE:** I agree with that one hundred percent. And most of you have the 9-1-1 communication system and you are able to get that information and sign up for your phone number to have that text message for that caregiver and where they are at. It is really important and usually provided by your county and emergency management department. This is the easiest way to keep a watchful eye as a distance caregiver.

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** Next thing I would reach out to if the person you are caring from is in a facility or in an assistive living facility, memory facility, things like that. Ask for preparedness plans in emergency, ask what happens? And you can ask those things in advance. The best time to ask the questions is not in the disaster moments but before, and continue to define and continuing to talk to caregivers and give them some of these idea to work with.

**JUSTIN KNIGHTEN:** There are a series of questions coming in, and it is getting close to time, I will make sure we're looking for all of these questions and coming up with responses for all of you. A lot of the responses will actually come in the form of the upcoming guide for caregivers. It is really new and novel in emergency management, and in my experience in emergency management, all of the emergency managers here, they like to communicate all of the things about all of the hazards all of the time, and sometimes feels overwhelming and leaves you with more questions and how to get started.

It actually becomes a barrier in taking the steps to prepare, and especially when you are a member of the community; it can feel like a luxury just getting through today; right? Making today successful can feel like a luxury. Much less thinking about hazard coming tomorrow.

We have simplified the process, making it more tangible and direct. We did this by leveraging our partnership and listening to caregivers and their experiences of caregiving for their caregiver recipient. Think about what do you need to get you and your care recipient through that process. I think a lot of the questions we weren't able to get to today will be addressed in the guide.

I will go round robin of our final questions to our panelists and have Marcus Coleman close us out.

My final question for Moranda, Jo Ann, Nigel, and Dr. Olsen is a call to action. I want to ask if there's one thing you want to be sure the audience takes away from today: something to do, to learn, take an action, please, offer that to this space.

We'll start with you, Jo Ann.

**JO ANN BACHAND:** I would say to go home and have some kind of plan in place. Just write it out, and have it ready so you are not scrambling at the last minute.

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** Jo Ann that was awesome and I appreciate the tip. Moving over to Moranda.

**MORANDA GUY:** I encourage you if they have something to sign up with, do it. And your kids, those are the things I would like to say we at emergency management, want to make sure everybody is informed. And get involved. And we want to make sure that the information we're focusing on in your community, and our state, that when we have the emergency preparedness events or fairs or anything, come out. You know, come out, so you can get this information.

And of course, we, as local emergency managers are here to support you. We are here to help you and help to assist. Get with your emergency management team and talk about the issues that you want to do to be prepared, and they can help you write your emergency preparedness plan.

Nigel, teamwork.

**NIGEL POOLE:** Start now to identify the caregivers and be creative in the ways you do it. Whether working with your local hospital and providing information they can give out to the residents. Whether it is going out to the home health companies and having flyers there; be creative about the ways you get into touch with these people because they are not going to beat it past your door. They have to be able to help themselves and be creative sending your messaging.

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** And Dr. Olsen, you continue to do a lot of work in partnership. What's one call to action?

**DR. JENNIFER OLSEN:** I think it is that we can all do better to see one north in work. Nigel talked about community and caregivers, and we do have people who do want to work with you and support you and finding those ways. Whether that's going to the fair, making phone calls, or showing up to a disaster drill, those are all ways to let you know we want to find more ways to support caregivers because they are the first, first responders.

**MARCUS COLEMAN:** I appreciate that sentiment, and it speaks to all of us on the call who may have experienced this at different times in our lives. We're often by ourselves, but we don't have to be alone. It is so great seeing emergency management coming alongside the caregiving community. Thank you and continue to be champions and models to your emergency management community. For everyone who joined us today, thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedules to come to this.

Thank you to our ASL interpreters, closed captioners, and folks who help make conversations like these to be as accessible. My call to action is to continue to think about how we can take care of each other and use the tools shared on this call this afternoon.

As mentioned, we'll have a follow-up note with a bunch of great resources and you can stay connected, get involved, and potentially take a step or two to help prepare yourself and your loved ones as well. I want to thank you all so much for joining us for this webinar. This will not be the last time we talk about the topic and it will not be the last event.

Hopefully, next time we do it at the Rosalynn Carter Institute. Thank you, everyone, have a wonderful Wednesday, and we'll talk soon.

Thank you.