



## Hurricane Resource links for getting prepared before and Recovery after the storm.

It's been an active storm month for our families in Florida. We have collected resources to help all families plan, provide and recover from the storms. If you need additional help please let us know.

## Hurricane social stories for people with autism and other sensory and communication issues.

It's getting real out there. Be prepared for Irma. To help your child with ASD understand, review our social story, available in two versions on our website: [www.ucf-card.org](http://www.ucf-card.org).

Note: the link is below the story, and on some browsers it is difficult to see. It works best in chrome, safari, in termed explorer, edge--not sure about others.

[#specialneedshttp://cfl.ucf-card.org/media/59adf1245ccbc.pdf](http://specialneedshttp://cfl.ucf-card.org/media/59adf1245ccbc.pdf)

## Helping to reduce anxiety in children during and after the storm

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/1111096332281293/?multi\\_permaLinks=1558998620824393&notif\\_t=like&notif\\_id=1505138809843834](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1111096332281293/?multi_permaLinks=1558998620824393&notif_t=like&notif_id=1505138809843834)

**Helping Young Children Cope After Exposure to a Traumatic Event** | Tragedies are especially distressing to families with young children. This resource from Zero to three.

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/1094-helping-young-children-cope-after-exposure-to-a-traumatic-event>

**Disaster safety for People with Disabilities**

<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/disaster-safety-for-people-with-disabilities#Plan->

**Weathering the Storm: Hurricane Prep Tips for Families of Babies and Toddlers**

Here are some tips for parents of babies and young children in the path of the storm.

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/2017-weathering-the-storm-hurricane-prep-tips-for-families-of-babies-and-toddlers>

**Ideas for gathering important papers and information Before the storm.**

<http://preparednessmama.com/gather-important-papers-evacuation-box/>

**Two great communication boards for those that might need help communicating in a crisis**

<https://www.tobiidynavox.com/.../communication-board-hurricane>  
<https://www.tobiidynavox.com/en-US/hurricane-harvey/>

Book to print helps with explaining what a hurricane is

<https://www.tobiidynavox.com/.../staying-safe-in-a-hurricane-...>

Disaster Planning for people with Special needs.

<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/disaster-safety-for-people-with-disabilities#Plan-Ahead>

Be Ready Escambia is a great place to start

<https://myescambia.com/our-services/public-safety/beready>

List of Florida Shelters

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/shelters/summary.aspx>

Local Panhandle News resource link for our area

<http://weartv.com/news/local/hurricane-irma-essential-info-for-evacuees-in-northwest-florida>

Link Provides real traffic information through Florida. Site shows open and closed roads through the State of Florida

<https://fl511.com/>

Link shows gas stations through the state and prices. <http://gasbuddy.com/>

Florida Highway Patrol Information

<https://www.facebook.com/FLHSMV/>

## FEMA may help with recovery costs

FEMA Emergency Lodging Assistance Program will pay for hotels. Please contact FEMA ELA program 1-866-545-9865 or email [femahousing@clclodging.com](mailto:femahousing@clclodging.com) (This may be available after the storm. Save all receipts and information to file a claim after.)

## FEMA Rumor control website.

Great way to inform on Facts and benefits for FEMA.  
<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4332/updates/rumor-control>

## Disability Rights resources

Are you prepared for an Emergency? Disability Rights of Florida may help before and after the storm

[www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org](http://www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org)

[www.FLGetAPlan.com](http://www.FLGetAPlan.com)

[www.disabilityrightsflorida.org/.../DRF\\_Emergency\\_Pre...](http://www.disabilityrightsflorida.org/.../DRF_Emergency_Pre...)

Request for Assistance: 800-342-0823 TTY: 800-346-4127

[www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org/intake](http://www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org/intake)

Please contact us at [eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org](mailto:eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org)



**Empowerment  
Parent Resource  
Center**

***We are growing everyday.***  
Contact us, Empowerment Parent  
Resource Center located in  
Marcus Pointe Baptist Church, 6205 N.  
W St, Pensacola, FL. 32505  
Email:

[eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org](mailto:eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org)

**850-444-8554**

## ***Empowerment PRC Membership now open***



Membership is now open to join our Empowerment Parent Resource Center. We need parents, people and professionals to join our growing community. Please complete our community needs assessment so we can know how to help you and your family with special needs. Members receive first hand information, events, resources and direct links to our local and statewide resources.

### **Enrollment Link**

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3673784/EPRC-Enrollment-Form>

### **Needs Assessment Link**

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3493892/Empowerment-Parent-Resource-Center-Needs-Assessment-V2>

“Our mission is to support parents, caregivers and persons with disabilities from ages birth to 26.” We provide community resources and training to underserved communities in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties in Florida. We have links to resources and agencies on the local, state and federal levels.

*The Empowerment Parent Resource Center is a division of Project Empower Coalition of NW Florida. EPRC is funded in part by grant #H328C160032 by the Federal Department of Education as a Community Parent Resource Center.*

### ***Our hope is to:***

Empower Parents,  
One person, One family,  
One community at a time.  
We help families find answers.

**You are NOT alone.**



## Facebook resources

The Empowerment Parent Resources Center has a Facebook page with local events that are of interest to our community. We are focusing on local organizations that offer services to our families in the panhandle of Florida.

We are continuously searching for community resources and information that empowers our families with special needs. We are searching for postings that recognize people who are making a difference for our families in our local community. Please find our page and request membership to receive the most up-to-date community information. Please like and share this local resource page with others in the community.

## Important dates



The P.U.R.E. Empowerment Center (a ministry of P.U.R.E. Friendship) hosts a free coffee social for the community every Friday in The HUB coffee shop located at Marcus Pointe Baptist Church, Building B door 1. Come share a cup, 10 am to 11:30. No strings attached, 11:30 - 12:30 is P.U.R.E. exercise class, 12:30 - 1:30 is Art "Therapy". We participate in an art project while socializing and talking

about what is on our hearts or listen to others. Pure Friendship also offers a Wednesday night bible study. Please contact Destry LeBrun at [Dlebrun@me.com](mailto:Dlebrun@me.com)

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## Respite Opportunities for Families



Encircle Life at Community Life United Methodist Church in Gulf Breeze. They offer respite every Thursday from 9:30am to 1:30pm. If you go to the church's website and click on Encircle Life you will see

the programs for special needs adults. The respite program has been running since April of last year, along with the quarterly caregiver night out dances. Their website gives you information on that and other events. Community Life opened up their doors to start the respite program along with volunteers from local churches, parents, and grandparents of special needs adults in Navarre and Gulf Breeze. [www.clc.life/ministries/encircle](http://www.clc.life/ministries/encircle)



Access Ministry at Living Truth Church provides a free respite, typically the second Saturday of every month. Registration is required and can be found by clicking on the respite button at [www.livingtruthchurch.com](http://www.livingtruthchurch.com). They

serve families from 1pm to 5pm at our church at 8897 Byrom Campbell Road in Pace. We welcome both the special needs child and their siblings. They are currently accepting only ten families each month to ensure they can provide a safe and fun environment. If they are full, they place families first on the list for the following month. Please call Jared Owens at 850-685-7547 for more information.



PURE Friendship Ministries offers respite to families with children with special needs every third Saturday. There are limited slots available each month. In order to increase safety we follow a 1 teacher to 4 student ratio. Please text / call Destry at 850-375-4790 to make your reservation. Deadline for reservations is noon the day before the event. Call early and

reserve a place for your child. Also see [www.purefriendship.org](http://www.purefriendship.org) on our Facebook page.

Please contact us at [eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org](mailto:eprc.nwfl@projectempowernwfl.org)



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