



PLANNING FOR EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN COLD AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

Thursday, January 28, 2021
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

ACCESS THE MEETING RECORDING

Link:

<https://mwcog.webex.com/mwcog/jdr.php?RCID=7a7259991efe4f40aae34e4552e9ba57>

Content starts at minute 2:13

Password (if needed): Planning4Food21

ADDITIONAL TAKEAWAYS AND RESOURCES FROM THE AGENDA

Local and Regional Resources for Weather and Public Safety Notices

Scott Boggs at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments talked about the **regional severe weather calls** involving local public safety, transportation, and other key officials. If you would like to be added to these calls, please send a request to Lindsay Smith at lsmith@mwcog.org

Panel and Open Discussion

In addition to the ideas shared by the panelists and participants related to planning and communications, several additional comments were shared via chat. These are captured here.

- Panelist Ann Patterson at ALIVE! in Alexandria further noted that something else they try to do in addition to other communications - when possible - if they've had to change a distribution, is to have someone go to the originally scheduled distribution to let people know it's been rescheduled or moved - if it's safe to do so.
- Adileh Sharieff at the Islamic Center of Maryland in Montgomery County shared that providing handwarmers plus disposable "working gloves" from places like Home Depot are an effective, low cost combination to make available to volunteers who may not have gloves with them.
- Pamela Montesinos at Western Fairfax Christian Ministries in Fairfax County shared that many of their clients don't follow social media. Her organization uses a system of text reminders for important, time sensitive announcements: <https://www.doctorconnect.net>

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
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- Dr William M Campbell Jr at Union Bethel A.M.E. Church in Prince George’s County shared that WhatsApp is good for international texting and GroupMe is a good option locally.
- Liz Scott at the [Mid-Atlantic Food Access and Resilience Coalition \(MAFRAC\)](#) indicated that the coalition can help with excess food by sending notifications to their stakeholders on a last-minute basis, however, she’s not sure how well this will work during inclement weather situations. However, if there are organizations in the area, it may be helpful.