

# Special Populations Skill Development Guide

## Reflection / Discussion Questions

### Instructions

Follow these steps to review the module content:

1. **Read and reflect.** Read the Review information in the Skill Development Guide and answer the reflection/discussion questions.
2. **Discuss.** Discuss your answers with colleagues and/or members of your workgroup.

## REDUCING BARRIERS

### Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. ***Defining special populations and their needs.*** Think about various special populations in the area you serve.
  - What types of challenges do they face (e.g., language, mobility, developmental)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - What factors might influence how these special populations react during an emergency situation (e.g., ethnicity, religion, income, age, immigration status)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. ***Understanding vulnerabilities and barriers.*** Think about the ways that special populations in your service area tend to be vulnerable in emergency situations.
  - What existing vulnerabilities for these populations might have an even greater effect on their ability to respond and follow procedures during an emergency (e.g., their dependence on support services, residence in high-risk areas, limited resources or support)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - What barriers for these special populations must you be prepared to address (e.g., communication, transportation, access, unfamiliarity)?

## COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL RESOURCES

### Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. **Identifying team members.** Addressing the needs of special populations requires ongoing teamwork and collaboration. In your community, what representatives from key agencies and organizations should participate in the planning process for special populations?
  - County government emergency personnel
  - Health care providers
  - Human services departments and providers
  - Cultural and ethnic groups
  - Faith-based groups
  - Other
2. **Training team members.** What resources are available in your community or region to train team members to implement your plan for meeting the needs of special populations in emergency situations?

