

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
DATE: June 17, 2019

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Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri partners with Ozark Independent Living to provide Vulnerable Population with Critical Life Saving Disaster Preparedness Course, “Plan.Prepare.Protect.”

On July 31, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. thru 4:00 p.m., Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri will present its disaster preparedness curriculum, “Plan.Prepare.Protect.” Participants must sign up for the course through Ozark Independent Living, **417.256.8714**, or at thampton@ozarkcil.com, to receive Level 1 training. The program’s multi-level disaster program is free of charge. At the conclusion of this training each family will receive a family disaster kit. This event is scheduled at the West Plains Public Library, 750 West Broadway Street, West Plains, Mo., 65775.

Some of the components of the disaster kit are: an integrated flashlight and AC/DC powered radio with weather service capabilities; portable first aid “To-Go” kit; integrated hygiene kit; composite waterproof compass; whistle and container; Mylar blanket; work gloves; adhesive wrap; N95 mask; illumination stick; waterproof matches; and more. There are additional high-quality products designed to work together as a cohesive system for thousands of possible situations.



BACKGROUND: This personal and/or family disaster kit methodology is taught in part by Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri’s, “Plan.Prepare.Protect.” curriculum, rolled out January 2019 as part of a four state (Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas) disaster preparedness collaborative. “Plan.Prepare.Protect.” provides high quality disaster training for community groups; vulnerable populations (with access and functional needs; and/or limited English proficiency); and houses of worship, to name only a few audiences, at no cost. Presentations have been conducted monthly in 2019 and will continue throughout the year as requested.

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri works closely with city and county emergency management programs and centers for independent living in 39 counties across Southern Missouri to provide this disaster preparedness training. To request or inquire about “Plan.Prepare.Protect.” training contact Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri’s Director of Disaster Preparedness and Response, Shea Lane, at the primary office number at 417.720.4213, or at 417.414.5154. Route email requests to: slane@ccsomo.org.

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