

**Bulletin Title: National Preparedness Month is Here! “Start a Conversation”**

**Subtitle: Start the conversation today! Prepare for You and Your family!**



### **September National Preparedness Month | Week 1: “Start a Conversation”**

The month of September is observed as [National Preparedness Month](#) to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

The Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) promotes social well-being and encourages all—staff and community—to **“Start a Conversation”**

Discussing potential disasters or emergencies can be difficult, however it’s not a matter of if—it's a matter of when. Start the conversation to protect, prepare, and keep you and your loved ones safe.

#### **How to start!**

Take simple steps to build preparedness at your own pace:

- Set time aside when everyone is calm and relaxed.
- Build a timeline – allow time to make decisions. Discuss at your own pace, don’t rush the process so everyone feels comfortable talking about the topic.
- Prepare and encourage others to ask questions about preparedness actions that might work for them. Everyone should be part of the process.

**Questions to start the conversation:**

- Do you know what kinds of hazards are common where we live, work, and travel?
- Do you have a way to stay connected and stay informed?
- Do we all know where we and our pets will go if we are ordered to evacuate in an emergency or disaster? We should identify a safe location where we will all meet.

For more information visit the [SSA Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Website](#).

Take care and stay safe!

[Government and Community Relations \(GCR\)](#)

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