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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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City of El Paso Celebrates National Preparedness Month

Residents Reminded to be Prepared for Disasters

El Paso, Texas – The City of El Paso Department of Public Health’s Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEP) and the El Paso City-County Office of Emergency Management are celebrating National Preparedness Month by encouraging residents to ready themselves and their loved ones for a variety of emergencies.

“We may not be able to predict every disaster or emergency we experience, but we have the opportunity to be proactive before, during, and after an emergency strikes. Preparedness allows us to reduce the impacts of a disaster to us as individuals but as a whole community as well,” said Chief Jorge Rodriguez, Emergency Management Coordinator for the El Paso Office Emergency Management

As part of the monthlong celebration, the community is invited to visit the DPH Emergency Preparedness Carnival taking place at the upcoming events:

- **September 13 | 10 AM - 12 PM**
South El Paso Senior Center, 600 S. Ochoa St.
- **September 15 | 6 PM - 9:30 PM**
Eastwood Park, 3110 Parkwood St.
In collaboration with the City’s Sesquicentennial Celebration
- **September 29 | 6 PM - 9:30 PM**
The Beast Urban Park, 13501 Jason Crandall Dr.
In collaboration with the City’s Sesquicentennial Celebration

“National Preparedness Month reminds us that we are all prone to face emergencies. It is important for us to know our local hazards and how to prepare for them whether it is flooding, extreme weather, disease outbreaks, or man-made disasters,” said Ruth Castillo, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Manager. “It is crucial for every household to have a plan of action in place and practice it with all the members of the family.”

Guests will have the opportunity to ask questions, learn what is needed to build an emergency kit, how to prepare a family emergency plan, get tips to stay safe in case of an emergency, play games and win prizes in a carnival theme celebration!

National Preparedness Month is recognized nationwide every September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year.

This year’s theme, “Preparing for Older Adults” focuses on preparing older adults for disaster, specifically older adults who are living alone, are low-income, have a disability, or live in rural areas. Residents are strongly encouraged to integrate your elderly family members and neighbors into your emergency planning and to have an emergency kit and an emergency plan for your family and pets!

For more information on National Preparedness Month, including tips and resources visit EPHealth.com under the Emergency Preparedness [National Preparedness Month](#) tab.

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Promoting Transparent & Consistent Communication
Among All Members of the Community

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