

For Immediate Release
#65-18

**NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOSTS FAMILY PREPAREDNESS DAY AT
STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN’S MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTING NATIONAL
PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

October 1, 2018 – September was National Preparedness Month, and the New York City Emergency Management Department hosted Family Preparedness Day, which highlighted the importance of emergency preparedness, at the Staten Island Children’s Museum on Saturday, September 29. Visitors created emergency plans with their families and received emergency preparedness tips and materials. During the event, all visitors were admitted free of charge to the museum.

The free event featured emergency preparedness superhero Ready Girl, and was filled with games and activities for children, including the NYPD rock-climbing wall and the Parks Department Play Mobile. There were also a host of emergency vehicles on site that children explored, including the NYPD Mounted Unit, the NYPD Emergency Services Unit (ESU) and K-9 Unit, and the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) Fire Safety Education Unit. Local Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Medical Reserve Corps, and the Metropolitan Fire Department were also in attendance.

“I would like to thank the Staten Island Children’s Museum for partnering with us for this great event, said **NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Joseph Esposito**. “National Preparedness Month may have come to a close, but it’s important that families understand the importance of creating an emergency plan together and take the time to be prepared.”

“We are proud to partner with the Staten Island Children’s Museum and fellow city agencies to spread the important message of safety and preparedness,” said **Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro**. “Being prepared by having a working smoke alarm and an escape plan are simple but essential tips to keep you and your family safe.”

The Family Preparedness Day event featured a kids’ presentation by emergency preparedness superhero, Ready Girl, where children learned how to create an emergency plan, prepare a stay-at-home kit, and pack a Go Bag. Guests received preparedness materials and participated in interactive exercises that teach best practices on how to prevent and prepare for a host of emergencies ranging from fires to coastal storms.

NYC Emergency Management’s Preparedness Tips

- Make an [emergency plan](#) with your family to prepare for what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate in an emergency.

- o Ask at least two people to be in your emergency support network — family members, friends, neighbors, caregivers, coworkers, or members of community groups. Pick an out-of-area friend or relative who family or friends can call during a disaster.
- o Decide where your household members will reunite after a disaster. Identify two places to meet: one near your home and another outside your immediate neighborhood. Practice using all possible exit routes from your home and neighborhood.
- Everyone in your household should have a Go Bag — a collection of things you would want if you have to leave in a hurry. Your Go Bag should include:
 - o Bottled water and nonperishable food, such as granola bars.
 - o Copies of your important documents in a waterproof and portable container.
 - o Cash (in small bills).
 - o Flashlight, hand-crank or battery-operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries.
 - o A list of the medications each member of your household takes, why they take them, and their dosages.
 - o Back-up medical equipment (e.g., glasses, batteries) and chargers.
 - o Supplies for your service animal or pet (e.g., food, extra water, bowl, leash, cleaning items, vaccination records and medications).
 - o Contact information for your household and members of your support network.
- Stay informed about emergency events by signing up for Notify NYC, the City’s free emergency communications program. Download the [free mobile application](#), visit NYC.gov/NotifyNYC, call 311, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

About National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month reminds individuals to prepare themselves and families now and throughout the year. The month focused on planning, with an overarching theme: *Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.* It was divided into four weekly themes: *Make and Practice a Plan, Learn Life Saving Skills, Check Your Insurance Coverage, and Save for an Emergency.* During the month, NYC Emergency Management teamed up with City agencies and community partners to organize and promote a number of events for the entire family, including children, older adults, and pets, as well as steps New Yorkers and their communities can take to be ready. For more information and resources about National Preparedness Month, including a calendar of events, visit NYC.gov/emergencymanagement and www.ready.gov/september.

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New York City Emergency Management staff hands out emergency preparedness materials to parents and children during Family Preparedness Day at the Staten Island Children's Museum on Saturday, September 29, 2018 in Staten Island, NY.



New York City Emergency Management superhero, Ready Girl, discusses which supplies should be in a Go-bag during Family Preparedness Day at the Staten Island Children's Museum on Saturday, September 29, 2018 in Staten Island, NY.