

For Immediate Release**#74-19****NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HOSTS FAMILY EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS DAY AT STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

September 30, 2019 — Emergencies happen. Are you prepared? That was the theme of New York City Emergency Management's family preparedness fair held at the Staten Island Children's Museum on Saturday, September 28. The event, hosted in collaboration with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York and the Staten Island Children's Museum, focused on teaching children the basics of emergency preparedness.

"It is important to engage kids in preparedness so that it becomes a part of their lives as they grow up. When we connect with them, we can prepare the entire family," **New York City Emergency Management Commissioner Deanne Criswell** said. "It is our mission to encourage every New Yorker to make a plan and know what to do before an emergency."

"We were once again thrilled to host this community event," **Staten Island Children's Museum Executive Director Dina Rosenthal** said. "It is important that children learn about emergency preparedness in a way that makes them feel safe and reassured. The Children's Museum is a familiar venue for them to meet first responders and to learn age-appropriate safety tips. It also helps parents and caregivers to see how they can involve children in their own family preparedness plans."

Family Preparedness Day featured a variety of activities including an emergency preparedness-themed photo booth, DJ, and balloon artist. The free event engaged children through board games and arts and crafts, and kids toured the Parks Department Play Mobile, climbed the NYPD's Rock Wall, and explored the FDNY's Smokehouse where they learned critical fire-safety techniques during a simulated fire.

New York City Emergency Management's superhero, Ready Girl, used her superpowers to help kids create an emergency plan, prepare a stay-at-home kit, and pack a Go Bag. Representatives from local Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Medical Reserve Corps, FDNY, and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York also distributed informational flyers and booklets. The event capped National Preparedness Month's schedule of events that informed New Yorkers about preparing for emergencies.

About Ready Girl

Ready Girl is a superhero and emergency manager who teaches kids about emergency preparedness. She is part of the Ready New York for Kids' program, a joint initiative between NYC Emergency Management and the Department of Education that is dedicated to helping educate young students about the importance of emergency preparedness. Since she burst onto the superhero scene in October 2015, Ready Girl has taken her message all over New York City,

visiting hundreds of schools, community centers and youth organizations, and dropping in on local fairs. She has trained thousands of kids throughout the five boroughs, getting every New York City kid ready for any emergency. To keep up-to-date on Ready Girl's every move, visit her [blog](#), and visit NYC.gov/ReadyNY to learn more about the Ready New York program.

About National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month reminds individuals to prepare themselves and families now and throughout the year. 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 ~~on~~ about preparing for emergencies, visit NYC.gov/emergencymanagement.

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