

Salt Lake Emigration Stake Preparedness Plan

We simply must recognize that the foundation of the Welfare Services program of the Church rests on the degree of preparedness of the individual and family to take care of themselves. If our people could but understand that these teachings come because the Lord loves them and in his infinite wisdom desires that his people be blessed particularly in troublesome times.

--Bishop Victor L. Brown, Presiding Bishop, Welfare Session, Saturday, April 3, 1976

Objective:

To increase the level of preparedness in the stake, with an emphasis on individual and family preparedness, but also including ward and stake preparedness.

Methods:

- Leaders draw from the teachings of the Savior to convey to individuals and families the need to be prepared temporally as well as spiritually, according to their abilities.
 - *The Stake President and His Counselors (22.9.1), the Bishop and His Counselors (22.6.1) teach the principles and blessings related to . . . building self-reliance. This includes personal and family preparedness.*
 - *Relief Society and Elders Quorum Presidencies teach ward members to . . . increase personal and family preparedness. (22.6.2).*
 - *Ward Councils plan ways to teach ward members how to apply principles of self-reliance, including personal and family preparedness. (22.7)*
- Ward Welfare and Self-Reliance Specialist(s) with preparedness given as their assigned area of focus (22.6.4) are called in each ward to assist ward leadership and individuals and families living within their ward boundaries.
 - *The specialist serves as a resource to the ward council as they prepare a simple written plan for the ward to respond to emergencies. (22.7)*
 - *The specialist serves as a resource to ward leadership and those living within ward boundaries in relation to personal and family preparedness.*
 - *The specialist meets with stake leadership quarterly to share information and receive support in their calling.*
- Members prayerfully seek to know what contingencies they might need to prepare for (such as employment contingencies, retirement, disaster readiness, and other forms of readiness) so they can be better prepared to provide the necessities of life for themselves and their families—they then act in faith on their promptings.

Adopted Indicators:

- Fifth Sunday lessons and other specific instruction time dedicated to preparedness.
- Wards have callings filled for Ward Welfare and Self-Reliance Specialist(s) with preparedness given as their assigned area of focus.
- With assistance from the Ward Welfare and Self-Reliance Specialist(s) Ward Councils create and implement a simple emergency plan.

Ideas / Potential Indicators

- Wards periodically print their membership roster and store it in an accessible place (and distribute PDFs of the roster to ward leaders).
- Wards have a schedule for keeping membership records up to date, including photo, contact info, and move outs. (Goals may be set in relation to missing data or unknown persons).