

Bureau of Emergency Communications

9-1-1 Press Release

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New 9-1-1 Program Aids Severely Disabled Individuals

The Bureau of Emergency Communications (BOEC) is proud to present a new program named Rescue Autumn's People (R.A.P.). This program will assist police, fire and medical personnel when responding to calls for help at a specific address. R.A.P. is a notification flag in the 9-1-1 system, which identifies individuals whose disabilities may completely hinder them from safely exiting a dangerous situation without assistance.

To participate in the R.A.P. program, any individual with disabilities may voluntarily submit information to an agency case manager or a teacher. The case manager or teacher then submits the proper information to BOEC, who will flag the designated address. BOEC will not accept information provided by anyone other than case management.

Disability information is considered private and will not be provided to any outside agencies. However, in the event of an emergency, client information will be provided to responders via the police, fire or ambulance radio system. All information is entered into the 9-1-1 computer system and must be renewed annually. At this time, R.A.P. is only offered to the residents of Portland and Multnomah County.

Sally Lucero, mother of Autumn, for whom the program is named, has dedicated her life to advocating for the disabled. She brought R.A.P. to the attention of Portland City Commissioner, Dan Saltzman, who in turn introduced Lucero to BOEC Director, Carl Simpson. Simpson saw the immediate need for the program and proceeded to introduce R.A.P. into the 9-1-1 system. Sally has since contacted the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners and received the County's support of this program.

Case managers interested in learning more about this program, should have their agency Program Director contact Lucero. She will provide information on the specific criteria necessary to enroll in this program. For more information on R.A.P., please contact Sally Lucero, Program Coordinator, at 503-774-7444.