

# Local, County, Regional, and National Resources that Serve Functional Needs Populations

**Purpose:** This list includes examples of local, county, regional, and national resources, such as government, quasi-government, nongovernmental, and private sector agencies and organizations that may represent or serve functional needs populations in your community.

**Directions:** When building your network, start with a few organizations that represent each functional need and expand as your work continues. Choose the organizations with the largest reach first. Refer to online lists of agencies and organizations for names of local chapters.

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**Functional  
Need:  
Communication**

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Agencies serving people who are deaf or hard of hearing

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Agencies serving people who are blind or have low vision

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Agencies that work with individuals with disabilities, immigrants and children, and other human service agencies

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Assistive communication technology programs and services

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Business resources (e.g., ethnic grocers, translation services)

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Centers for refugees and immigrants

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Colleges and universities

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Culture-specific faith organizations

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English as a second language programs

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Ethnic media

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Literacy programs

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Local affiliations of national advocacy organizations (e.g., organizations serving people who are blind and visually impaired)

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Local ham radio operator network / Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

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Minority Health Offices

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Multicultural community centers and chambers of commerce

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National Council of La Raza and its Affiliate Network

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# Local, County, Regional, and National Resources that Serve Functional Needs Populations

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**Functional  
Need: Medical  
Care**

First responders

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Health departments

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Hospice and home health services

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Medical clinics and programs

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Hospitals and other health care facilities

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Nursing homes

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Rural health initiatives

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Substance abuse centers and programs

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Suppliers of durable medical equipment

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Veterans' hospitals

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Veterans' organizations

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Visiting Nurse Associations

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# Local, County, Regional, and National Resources that Serve Functional Needs Populations

## **Functional Need: Maintaining Independence**

Agencies that provide home-delivered meals (e.g., Meals on Wheels)

American Red Cross

Area Agencies on Aging/aging services

Catholic Charities

Disability organizations and agencies that work with individuals with disabilities

Faith organizations

Farm bureaus

Food banks, homeless shelters

Hotels, tourism, and visitors organizations

Independent Living Centers

Nonprofit organizations — state and local

Retirement communities

Salvation Army

Tribal agencies

Urban and rural ministries

Utility services (e.g., water, electric)

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

Welfare and income assistance programs (e.g., Women, Infants, and Children [WIC] Program)



# Local, County, Regional, and National Resources that Serve Functional Needs Populations

## **Functional Need: Supervision**

After school programs and volunteer programs (e.g., Big Brothers Big Sisters, YMCA)

American Association of Retired Persons —local chapter

Area Agencies on Aging/aging services

Assisted living facilities

Behavioral and mental health agencies

Centers for developmental disabilities

Child and adult day care centers (contact the state agency responsible for licensing child care providers)

Child and family services

Early childhood development centers and learning programs

Pre-schools

Schools (public and private, charter, and magnet schools)

Senior centers

Social service agencies



# Local, County, Regional, and National Resources that Serve Functional Needs Populations

**Functional  
Need:  
Transportation**

Air services, if applicable

Amtrak

Commuter rail

Emergency medical transport services

Ferries

Human service providers

Metropolitan planning organizations or regional planning council

Non-emergency medical transportation services (e.g., dialysis)

Private coach companies

Public and private transportation providers

Rural transportation agencies

Schools

State departments of transportation

Transit and paratransit agencies

Transportation Coordinating Councils

Transportation planning departments

Transportation service providers (e.g., cab and taxi services)

United We Ride initiatives

University transportation centers

