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**Federal Transit  
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**REGION 10 BULLETIN NO: 07-27**

SUBJECT: New Field Guide Available for First Responders

PROGRAM AREAS: Civil Rights

DATE: June 22, 2007

The Center for Development and Disability (CDD) has published the second edition of **Tips for First Responders**. Two new disabilities - autism and multiple chemical sensitivities - have been added and the existing tips have been updated. Whether you are responding to an emergency caused by natural forces such as a fire, flood or tornado, or one caused by a terrorist attack, you will likely encounter persons with some type of disability who will require special assistance. Some disabilities will be obvious. Other disabilities, including some cognitive disabilities, mental illness or multiple chemical sensitivities, are difficult or impossible to detect.

Over 15,000 copies of the first edition have been distributed across the country. The CDD has kept what first responders have told them they like - the tips contain quick, easy-to-use procedures for assisting persons with disabilities they can use during emergencies as well as during routine encounters. They are not meant to be comprehensive, but contain specific information that can be read quickly either before or while they are responding to an incident.

Tips for First Responders, [http://cdd.unm.edu/products/tips\\_web020205.pdf](http://cdd.unm.edu/products/tips_web020205.pdf), is an 11-page, color-coded, laminated 4.5 x 5.5-inch field guide that offers information on how to assist persons with a wide range of disabilities. These tip sheets provide information about many types of disabilities you can use during emergencies as well as routine encounters.

If you would like more information about how to best assist persons with disabilities, please contact Monica McCallum at 206-220-4462 or email [monica.mccallum@dot.gov](mailto:monica.mccallum@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

R.F. Krochalis  
Regional Administrator