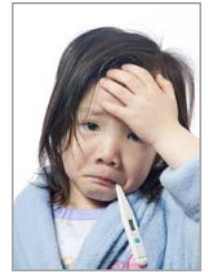


Join the Dakota County Community Agency Alert Network (CAAN)

Influenza pandemics, tornadoes, floods – when events and disasters threaten the health of Dakota County residents, community organizations are critical to getting life-saving information to people. The Dakota County Community Services Division has organized the Community Agency Alert Network (CAAN) to extend our ability to notify and alert the public in a health emergency.



What is the Dakota County Community Agency Alert Network (CAAN)?

The CAAN is a one-way alert and notification system from the Dakota County Community Services Division to community-based organizations. The goals of the CAAN are to:

- Ensure that agencies in Dakota County receive accurate and timely information on the emergency and the response to the incident.
- Provide instructions that community agencies can in turn distribute to individuals in the community so that they can take appropriate action to protect their health and safety.

Who should sign up to become a CAAN Member?



Organizations that provide services or have access to community members who might need emergency safety instructions are encouraged to participate in the CAAN. It is especially important that organizations that serve people with special needs, such as people who are blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, or people with limited English proficiencies join the CAAN.

What are the responsibilities of CAAN member agencies?

- If notified of an emergency, community agencies will be expected to promptly pass the information on to clients, using whatever methods that are appropriate, such as e-mail, phone calls, or mailings.
- Agencies will be asked to provide the information in alternative formats to clients with special needs.
- CAAN members will occasionally be contacted to participate in a test of the system.

How do I sign up for the CAAN?

Sign up for the CAAN at: www.co.dakota.mn.us/Pages/CAANSignUp.aspx. Simply enter your name and e-mail address. We recommend that more than one person sign up from each agency. You may also wish to sign up a second time with your home e-mail address.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the CAAN?

Contact Laura Weise, Dakota County Public Health, by e-mail (Laura.Weise@co.dakota.mn.us) or phone (952-891-7528).