



## Office of Emergency Services

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Community Preparedness Month Kicks Off in San Joaquin County**

*The Board of Supervisors proclaim September as Community Preparedness Month*

**Stockton, CA** – On August 27, 2024, the County of San Joaquin Board of Supervisors proclaimed September as Community Preparedness Month. Community Preparedness Month encourages community members to participate in the emergency planning process by being prepared for emergencies and disasters. In partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Preparedness Month Campaign, this year's theme will focus on empowering Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities to act today to prepare for future risks and disasters. National Preparedness Month is observed each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies.

"The County's Office of Emergency Services (OES) has taken a proactive leadership role to ensure that San Joaquin County is prepared for emergencies and disaster," said Miguel Villapudua, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. "Public safety is a top priority of our Board, and we appreciate the dedication of the men and women of OES who do this work throughout the year to make sure that our organization and our residents have the information and tools they need to be ready for an emergency."

Community members are encouraged to participate in Community Preparedness Month by being Ready in 3 steps:

1. **Sign up for SJReady Alerts** by going to [www.sjready.org](http://www.sjready.org). SJReady Alerts is the County's official emergency alert and warning system. This is an opt-in service.
2. **Make a plan** with their family by mapping out several evacuation routes and in opposite directions, mark meetup points and emergency resources along the way, and have a family communications plan.
3. **Build an emergency supply kit**. Pack a Go Bag in case an evacuation is required and build a Stay Kit in case of a shelter in place is required.

"We are committed to safeguarding all who live, work, and play in San Joaquin County. The safety and well-being of our community members are paramount in everything we do at the Office of Emergency Services," said Sierra Brucia, Director. "Our continued collaboration with local, state, and federal partners ensures that resources and services are available to our county during times of crisis. Our team stands steadfast, ready to respond to emergencies or disasters."

The Community Preparedness Month Campaign will shine a light on partners who are integral to the AANHPI community. Little Manila Rising, a community-based organization, is working alongside the Office of Emergency Services to provide vital emergency resources to vulnerable populations in San Joaquin County.

"Every day, Little Manila Rising is driven by the goal of bringing equity to our community, whether through social services, economic opportunities, or justice," said Irene Calimlim, Community Development Director. "In times of emergencies and disasters, our vulnerable populations face increased risks due to language barriers or fear of seeking help. Through the Cal OES Community Resilience Center Grant and our partnership with the Office of Emergency Services and the County, we are able to continue our work, stand as their voice, ensuring that no one is left behind."

Community members are encouraged to go to [www.sjready.org](http://www.sjready.org) to learn more about how they can prepare for emergencies and disasters.

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### **About the Office of Emergency Services**

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) is at the forefront of ensuring the safety and resilience of San Joaquin County. At OES, our unwavering commitment is to protect lives, property, and the environment across all phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. We understand the dynamic nature of emergencies and disasters and strive to create a safer and more resilient community for all.

OES Website: [www.sjready.org](http://www.sjready.org)

Facebook: [@sjcoes](https://www.facebook.com/sjcoes)

Instagram: [@sjc\\_oes](https://www.instagram.com/sjc_oes)

X: [@SJC\\_OES](https://twitter.com/SJC_OES)

Nextdoor: [San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services](https://www.nextdoor.com/neighborhoods/san-joaquin-county-office-of-emergency-services)