



# Disaster Preparedness!



Did you know that September is disaster preparedness month? This month provides a good opportunity for everyone to review their work and home disaster preparedness plans.

The following is a message from Dr. Stevens, one of our Pediatric Hospitalists who also sits on multiple disaster prevention committees at a state and regional level:

*September is disaster preparedness month and a great reminder to review your emergency plans for both work and home. Familiarize yourself with your role and be sure to locate your “go kits” and exits. Details of St. Luke’s Hospital Emergency plans can be found at “Inside St. Luke’s” under the Safety, Disaster tab. Did you know that St. Luke’s uses Ever bridge to communicate with employees during critical events with updates and information on emergent situations? The Hospital also provides education, training and drills to improve staff knowledge and preparedness.*

*Also since school is just getting started, make sure you have information on your children’s child care or school emergency plan. Update your contact information and family and friend contacts. Review your home plan and “go kit” with the children and let them take an active part. A few resources that may be useful are [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov), [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov), [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), and [www.idahoap.org](http://www.idahoap.org).*

*“Responsibility...Realizing that it cannot be shifted to others, for it belongs to each of us; we must answer for what we do or fail to do.”*

*- NASA Mission Operations*

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Marisa! Some great information for everyone to think about...I know that I can and will now be better prepared at home and work. The links above are great resources, and here is the a flier that gives a great step-by-step of what to include in a home kit. <http://www.idahoap.org/pdfs/EPbrochure.pdf>



# POP QUIZ:



- Does your unit have a “Go Kit?”
  - If so, where is it located?

Our work environments constantly change...new construction, new faces, new equipment. It's hard to keep track of everything, but knowing the location of your unit's Go Kit is so valuable in the event of a natural disaster. With September being Disaster Preparedness month, this is an excellent opportunity to find the Go Kit on your unit and take a look inside! There are some really useful items that you would want in the event you had to evacuate or relocate patients to another area of the hospital. Take a buddy with you when you go to see it...share the knowledge! This is also a good time to start to think about those patients that might present a challenge when trying to move or relocate. Preparation for these stressful situations is the key to our success!