



# NEWS *from* Clatsop County

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Communities Active in Disaster (COAD) Kick-Off Event: Get Involved in Emergency Preparedness

(Astoria, OR) — Clatsop County residents are invited to take part in an important new effort to strengthen community resilience and preparedness. The first meeting of **Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)** will be held on **Sunday, March 23, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Peace Lutheran Church, 725 33rd Street, Astoria.**

### What is COAD?

COAD is a collaborative effort to unite local organizations, businesses, and individuals to improve disaster response and recovery efforts. This initiative is being launched because Clatsop County does not currently have a COAD and having one will enhance the community's ability to respond effectively to disasters.

“Prepared communities are resilient communities,” said Jen Munson, Clatsop County Community Engagement Coordinator. “And the most resilient communities have long-standing COADs, which play an essential role in ensuring effective disaster response, supporting vulnerable populations, and addressing critical needs quickly and efficiently.”

### The kick-off meeting will provide an opportunity for community members to:

- Learn about emergency preparedness at the neighborhood level
- Understand local community needs and recovery resources
- Discover ways to contribute to a coordinated disaster response

This event is open to anyone in the community who is interested in playing a role in emergency preparedness and response. Whether you're looking to get involved, are part of an organization that serves the community, or simply want to learn more, your participation is welcome and encouraged. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

**Let's get prepared—together!**

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