

HHS emPOWER Data

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Virginia Public Health Preparedness Summit
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What is the HHS emPOWER Program?

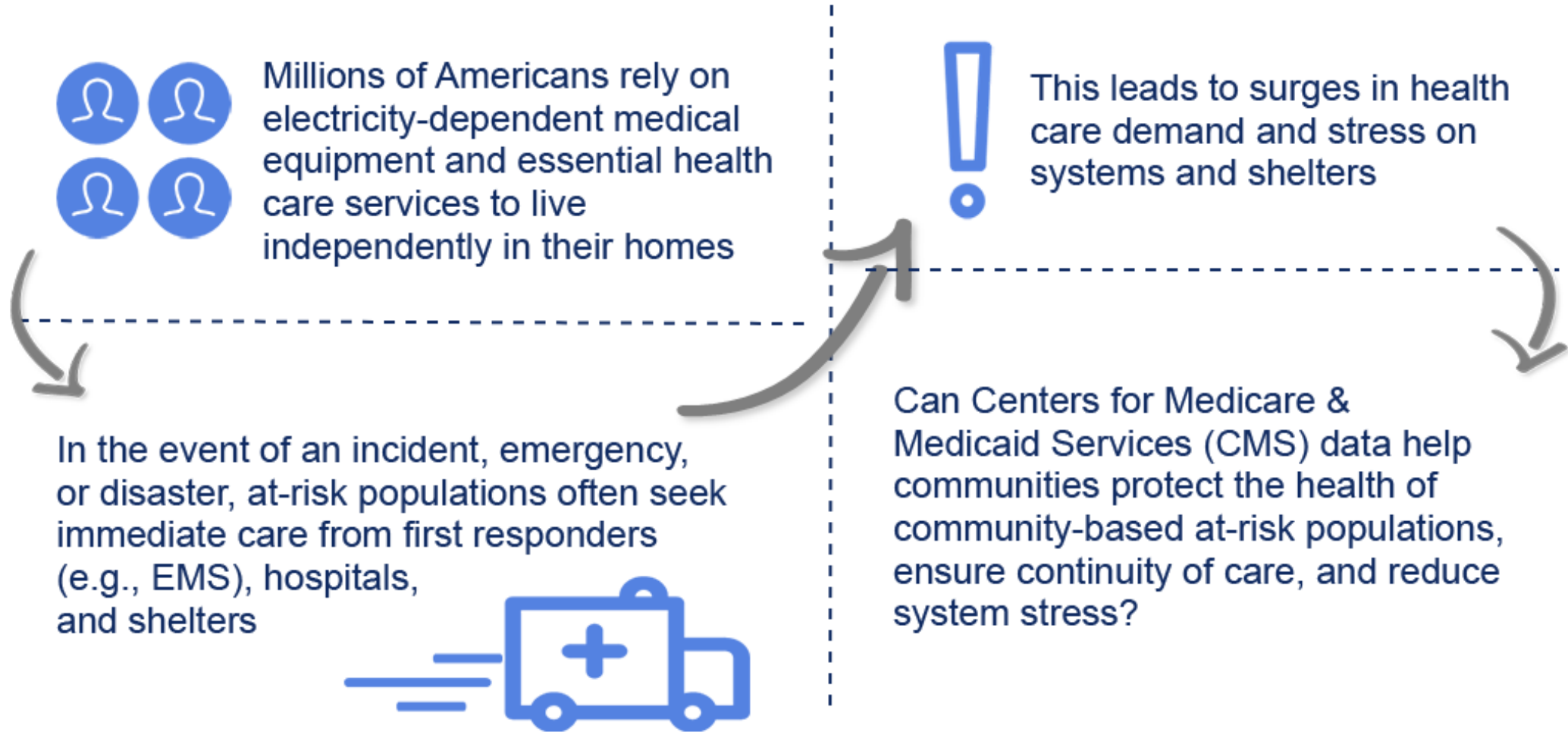
A tool to identify at-risk populations

Data on Medicare beneficiaries using certain DME and home health services

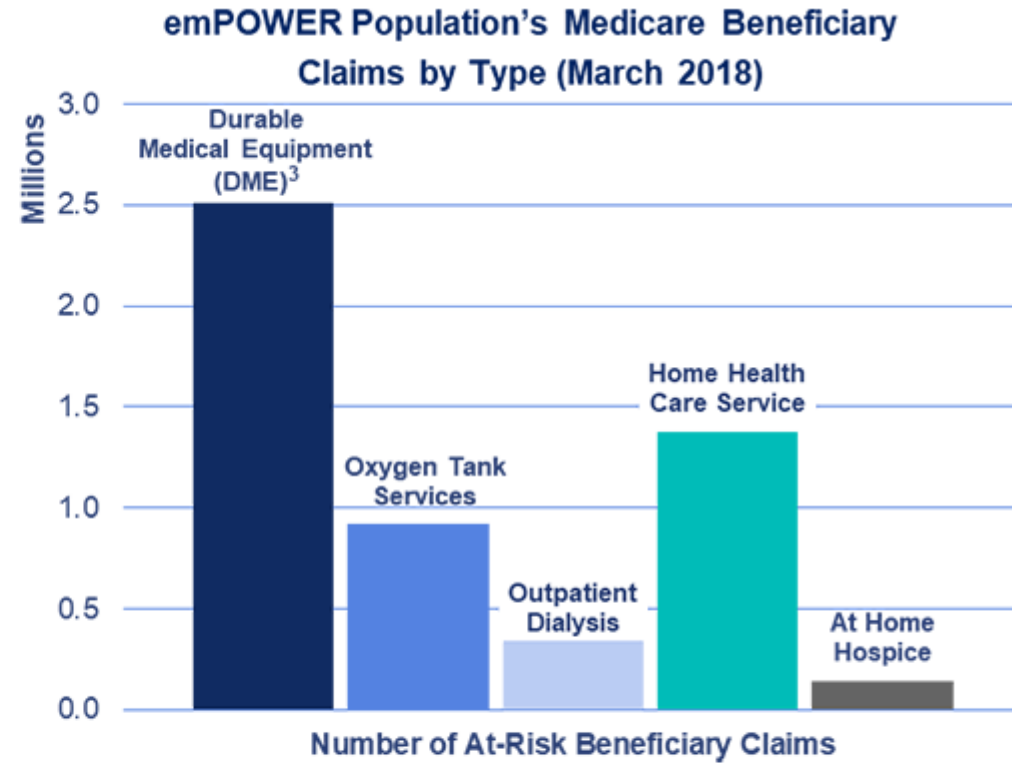
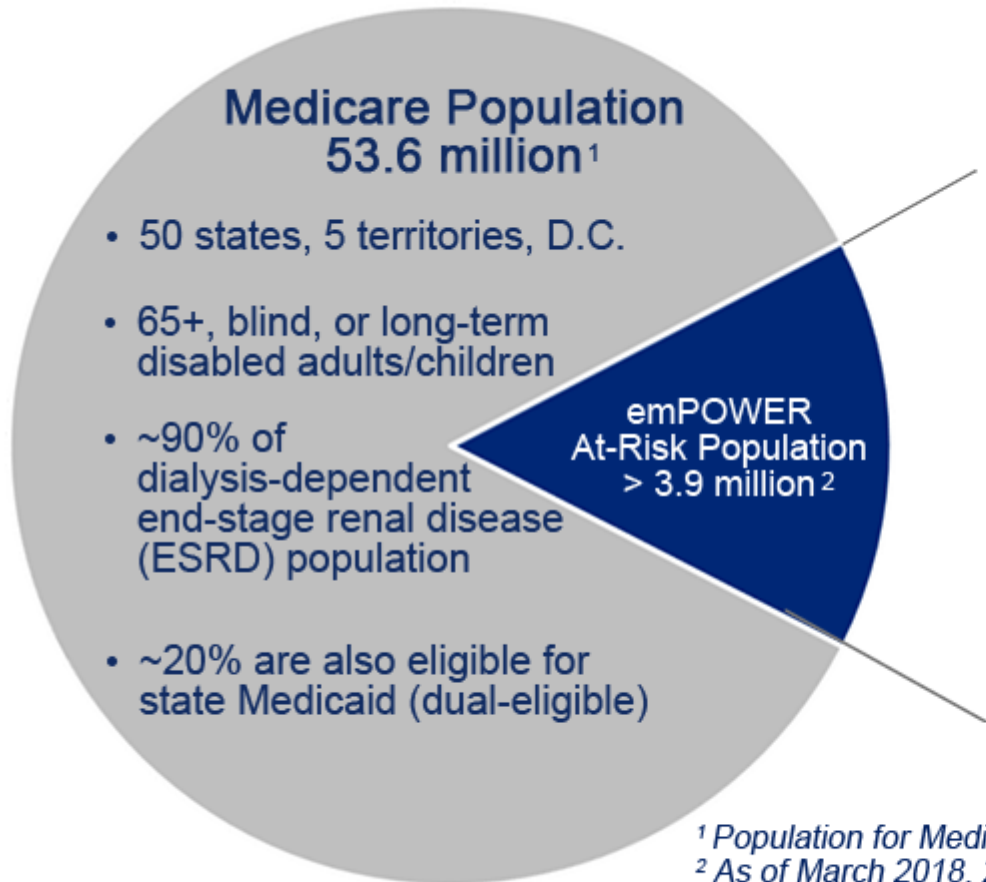
Different datasets available to the public, public health, and emergency responders

A partnership between HHS ASPR, CMS, and STLT Public Health

Why was the HHS emPOWER Program created?



Who is included in HHS emPOWER data?



¹ Population for Medicare (Parts A/B) and Medicare Advantage (Part C) as of March 2018.
² As of March 2018, 20% of the emPOWER population is dual-eligible (beneficiary is enrolled in both a Medicare and Medicaid program) as compared to the national average of 17.1%.
³ The total counts Medicare beneficiaries only once, even if they have more than one piece of electricity-dependent DME.

2025:

- 62.8 million Medicare beneficiaries
- ~4.6 million emPOWER

More Specifically...

Healthcare Services

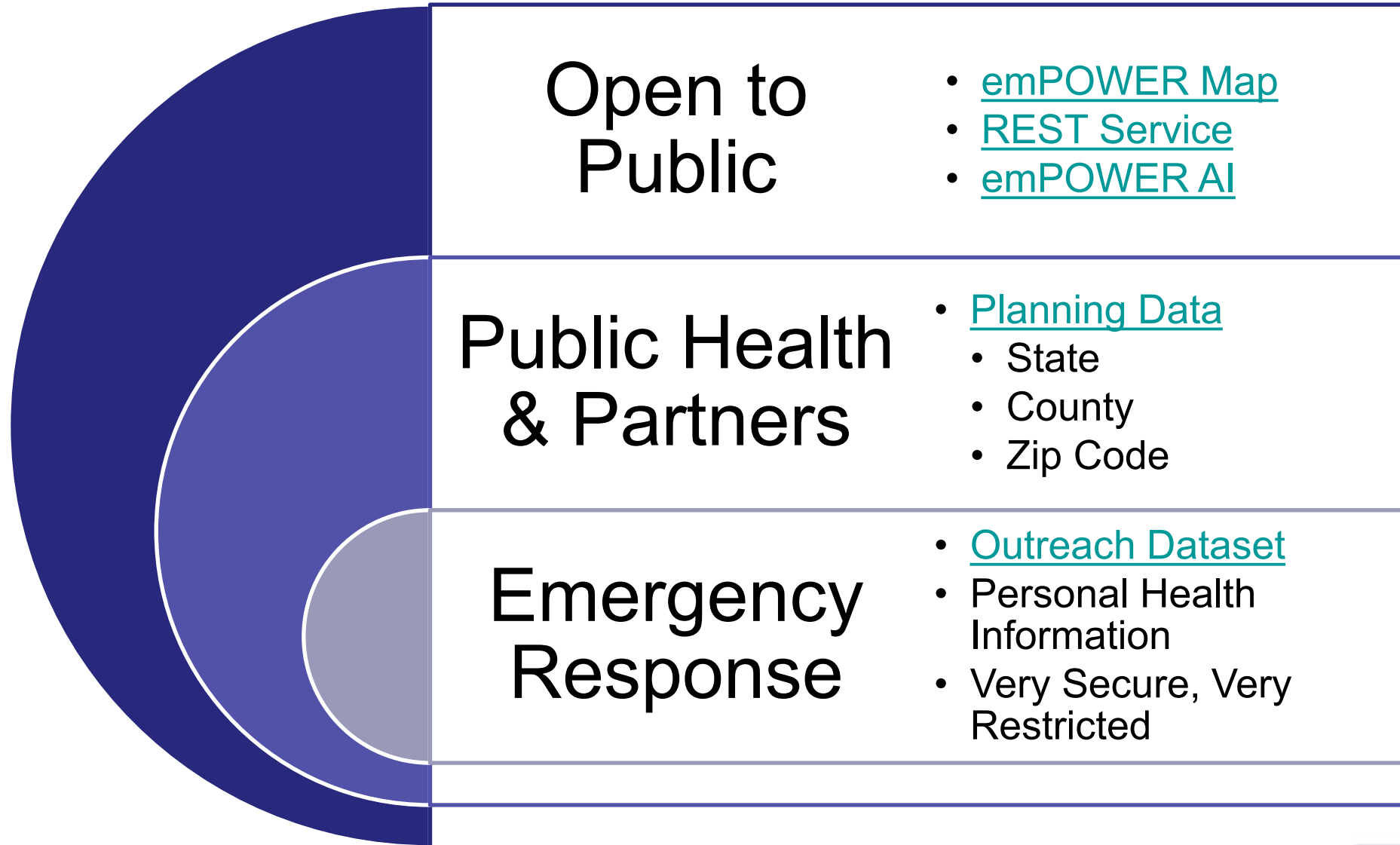
Oxygen tank rentals
Home healthcare
Home hospice
Outpatient dialysis

- Only Medicare beneficiaries
- Only private residences
- Only those with recent claims
 - Look-back period varies by claim type

Electric Powered Devices

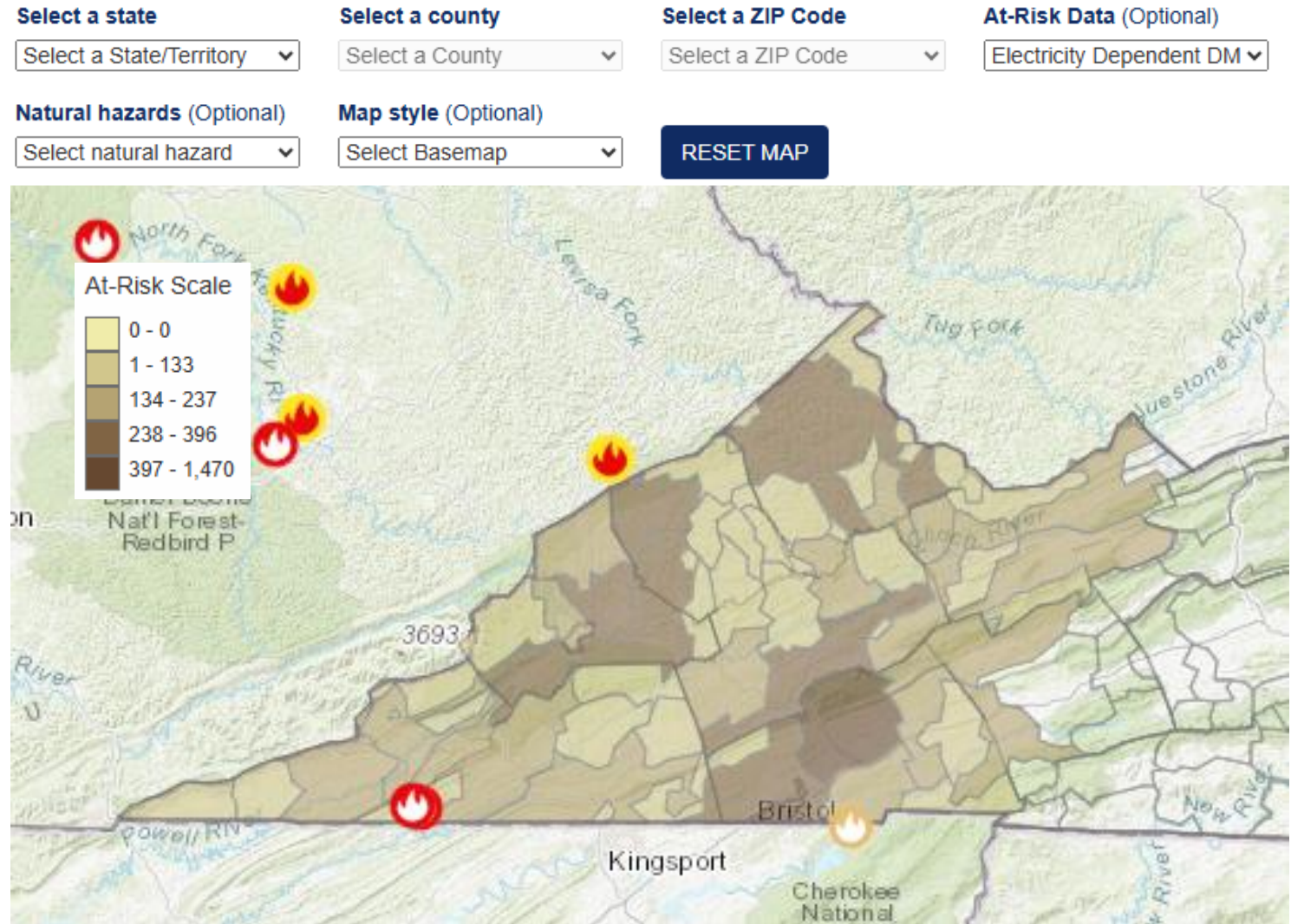
Oxygen concentrators
Ventilators
BiPAPS
Suction pumps
External feeding
IV infusion pumps
Home dialysis
Cardiac devices
Motorized wheelchairs/scooters
Electric beds

emPOWER Datasets & Access



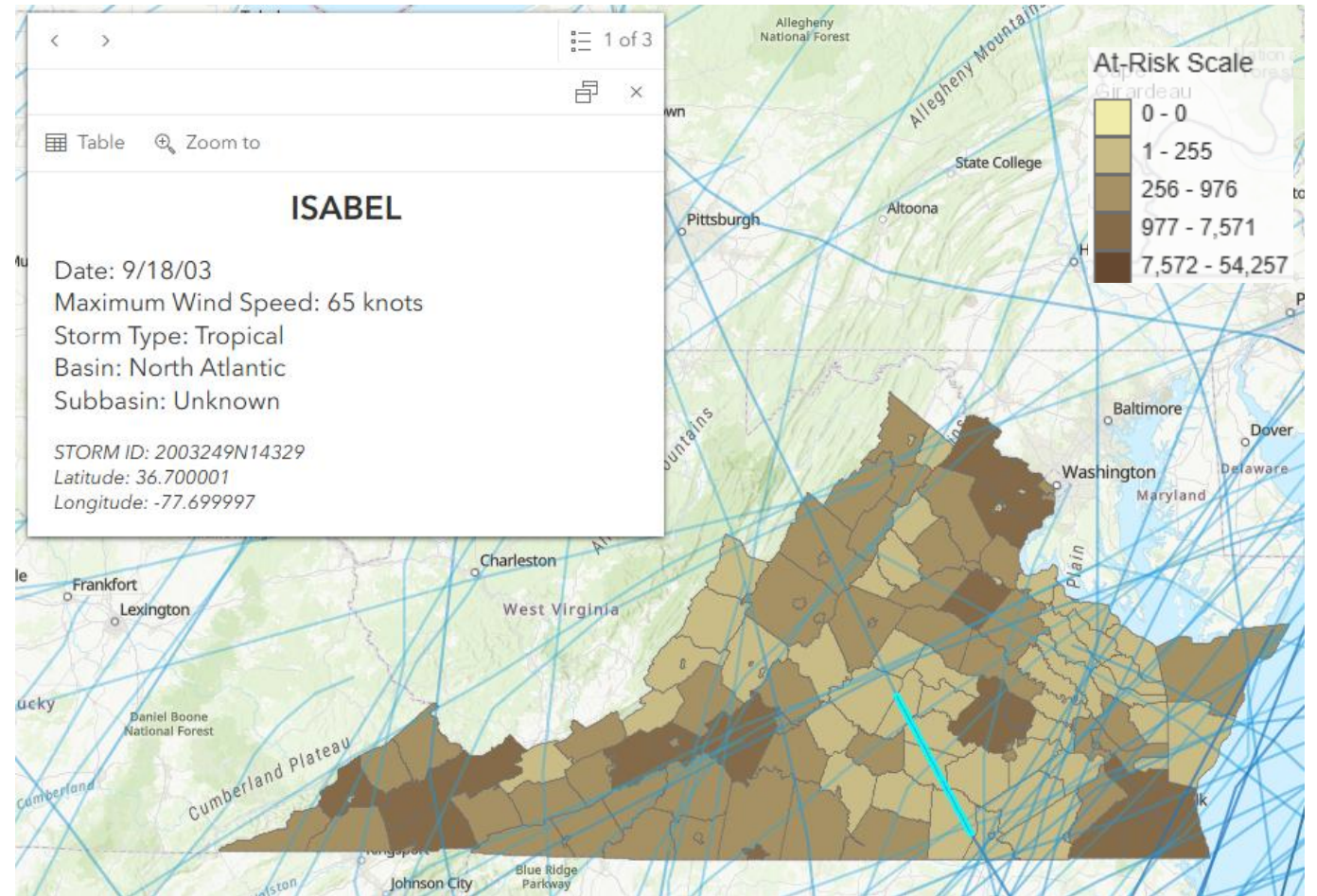
emPOWER Map

- Map of emPOWER data
 - State
 - County
 - Zip Code
- Limited DME/Service Types
- Counts (Downloadable)
- Hazard Layers
- Ease of use, limited flexibility



emPOWER REST Service

- More flexibility, longer learning curve
- Spatial files for GIS software
 - Downloadable
- ArcGIS Living Atlas
 - Online mapping service
 - Includes 'authoritative' map layers only



emPOWER AI

[emPOWER AI](#) puts HHS emPOWER Map data into your hands within seconds through public, voice-controlled applications on your mobile device. emPOWER AI gives you HHS emPOWER Program data at the national, territory, state, county, and ZIP Code levels, and information about other emPOWER tools and resources that collectively support emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities.

With one quick question, you can access emPOWER data, such as the total number of at-risk electricity-dependent Medicare beneficiaries in your ZIP Code:

"Alexa, open emPOWER AI. How many electricity-dependent Medicare beneficiaries are in my current ZIP Code?"

"There are 255 electricity-dependent Medicare beneficiaries in 79606."

Scan this QR code to access emPOWER AI on [Amazon Alexa](#)



"Alexa, open emPOWER AI."

"emPOWER AI, what is the emPOWER Program?"

"The HHS emPOWER Program provides dynamic data and mapping tools, as well as training and resources, to help communities protect the health of more than 4.4 million Medicare beneficiaries who live independently and rely on electricity-dependent durable medical and assistive equipment and devices, and or essential health care services."

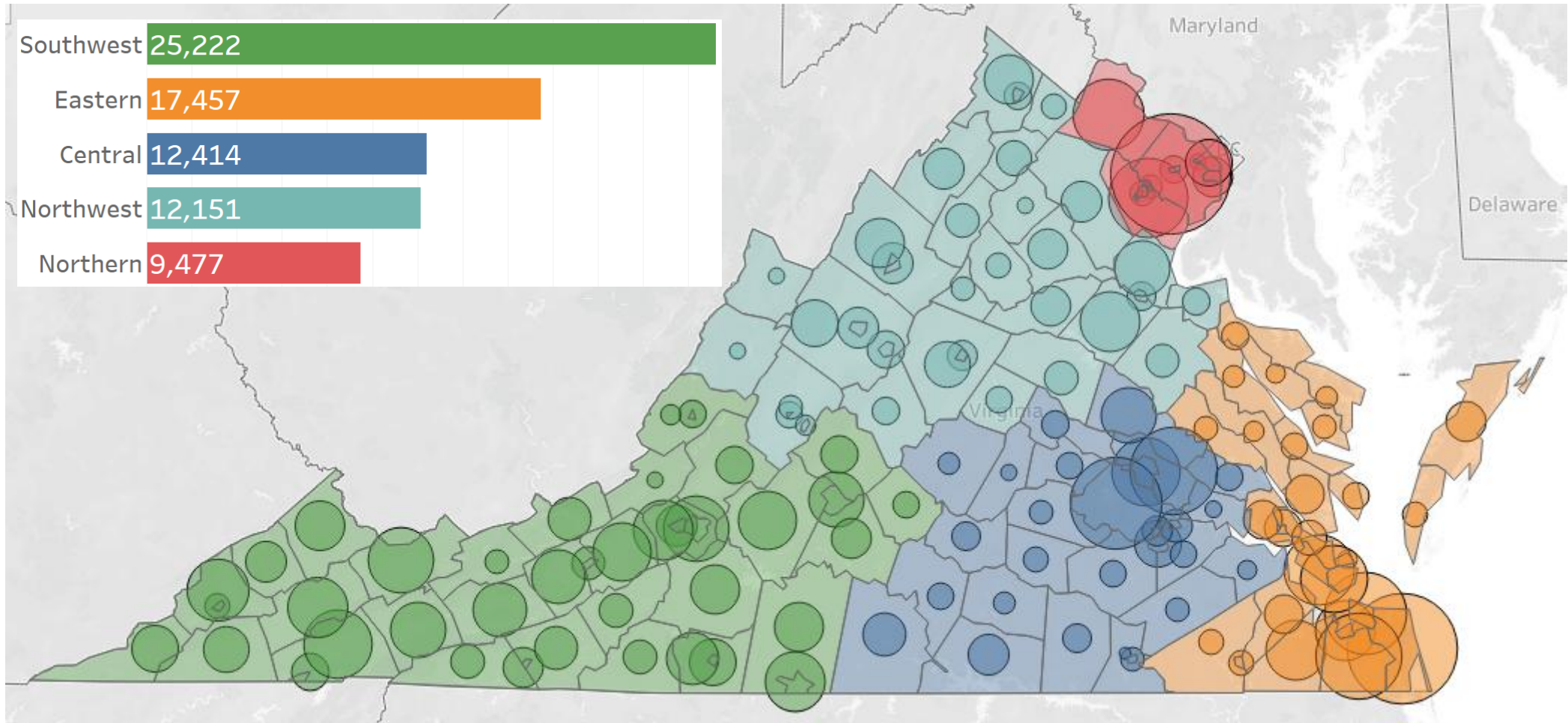
emPOWER Planning Dataset

HHS emPOWER Program - February 2026 Update
De-Identified Aggregated U.S. Zip Code

- Excel file
- All DME & service types
- Counts at
 - State
 - County
 - Zip Code levels
- Updated monthly

Zip Code	County FIPS Code	County	State FIPS Code	State	# Medicare Beneficiaries in Zip Code	# Beneficiary Addresses (Excludes P.O. Boxes and Unknowns)	Services				All Power Dependent
							# In-Facility ESRD Dialysis (3 months)	# Oxygen Services [Tanks] (13 months)	# Home Health (3 months)	# At-Home Hospice (3 months)	# Electricity-Dependent Devices and DME
20105	107	Loudoun	51	VA	2,730	84	11	11	34	11	49
20106	047	Culpeper	51	VA	1,274	58	11	17	13	11	53
20109	153	Prince William	51	VA	3,781	193	37	27	62	11	117
20110	683	Manassas City	51	VA	6,360	295	48	28	112	11	187
20111	685	Manassas Park City	51	VA	4,436	237	36	45	73	11	153
20112	153	Prince William	51	VA	4,793	209	12	33	65	15	150
20115	061	Fauquier	51	VA	1,669	61	11	12	23	11	44
20117	107	Loudoun	51	VA	920	14	11	11	14	11	17
20119	061	Fauquier	51	VA	860	36	11	11	13	11	33
20120	059	Fairfax	51	VA	6,229	233	26	33	77	11	170
20121	059	Fairfax	51	VA	3,261	84	11	11	29	11	55
20124	059	Fairfax	51	VA	3,188	99	11	20	49	11	69
20129	107	Loudoun	51	VA	161	11	11	0	0	11	11
20130	043	Clarke	51	VA	95	11	0	11	11	11	11
20132	107	Loudoun	51	VA	3,059	115	11	19	33	11	81
20135	043	Clarke	51	VA	689	32	11	11	13	11	21
20136	153	Prince William	51	VA	3,207	159	19	21	58	11	96
20137	061	Fauquier	51	VA	499	18	0	11	11	11	12
20141	107	Loudoun	51	VA	1,212	44	11	11	20	11	30
20143	153	Prince William	51	VA	272	11	0	11	11	11	11
20144	061	Fauquier	51	VA	259	11	0	11	11	0	11
20147	107	Loudoun	51	VA	10,656	604	30	93	242	26	395
20148	107	Loudoun	51	VA	4,715	156	11	21	58	12	104
20151	059	Fairfax	51	VA	3,478	125	12	26	43	11	92
20152	107	Loudoun	51	VA	2,941	122	11	13	38	11	80
20155	153	Prince William	51	VA	6,676	306	18	31	110	17	210
20158	107	Loudoun	51	VA	909	34	0	11	13	11	30
20164	107	Loudoun	51	VA	5,719	268	35	43	107	11	163
20165	107	Loudoun	51	VA	4,821	158	11	18	55	11	107
20166	107	Loudoun	51	VA	1,271	42	11	11	16	11	26
20169	153	Prince William	51	VA	5,431	219	13	25	82	18	134
20170	059	Fairfax	51	VA	5,742	211	28	29	86	11	130
20171	059	Fairfax	51	VA	6,429	237	13	27	104	11	148

Overview and Limitations



Limitations

- Zip Codes w/ counts 1-10 are suppressed
 - Marked as value '11'
 - Summed as '11' in locality totals
- Addresses matched to county by Zip Code
 - Zip Codes do not map to locality boundaries
 - This means:
 - Locality counts will include some non-residents
 - Locality counts will exclude some residents
- Only Medicare Beneficiaries
- Only Private Residences

		At-Home Hospice Services		All Power Dependent	
		At-Home Hospice (3 months)		Cardiac Device, Ventilator, BiPAP, Oxygen Concentrator, Enteral Feeding, IV Infusion Pump, Suction Pump, At- Home ESRD, Motorized Wheelchair, Scooter, or Electric Bed	
County FIPS Code	County	# At-Home Hospice	# Masked Zip Codes in County	# Electricity- Dependent Devices and DME	# Masked Zip Codes in County
001	Accomack	110	10	493	10
003	Albemarle	108	8	609	4
510	Alexandria City	71	5	473	0
005	Alleghany	22	2	126	1
007	Amelia	22	2	156	0
009	Amherst	48	2	389	0
011	Appomattox	37	2	212	0
013	Arlington	99	9	663	1
015	Augusta	146	12	677	3
017	Bath	22	2	75	2
019	Bedford	102	7	970	1
021	Bland	44	4	167	0
023	Botetourt	56	4	382	1
520	Bristol City	13	0	408	0
025	Brunswick	44	4	242	5
027	Buchanan	88	8	735	0
029	Buckingham	44	4	145	1
530	Buena Vista City	11	1	123	0
031	Campbell	80	5	488	0
033	Caroline	44	4	319	2
035	Carroll	66	6	532	0
036	Charles City	11	1	84	0
037	Charlotte	77	7	216	4
540	Charlottesville City	23	1	255	0
550	Chesapeake City	124	2	2,224	0

Use of Public & Planning Datasets



Anticipate potential health system surge and leverage resources to mitigate stress



Develop emergency plans, systems, processes, and triggers



Identify and address potential gaps in emergency resources



Identify optimal locations, staffing, resources, and power needs for shelters



Assess evacuation routes and accessible transportation needs



Inform power restoration prioritization decisions

Response Outreach Dataset

Name			Other Information		Address Indicators		Address					
Initial Sorting Order	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Enrollment/Plan Type	PO Box or Unknown Address	"Care Of" Indicator	Salutation	Street Address 1	Street Address 2	City	County Name	County FIPS Code
1	Anne	Smith	November 4, 1944	FFS	0	0	Adm Park Manor Home F	57 Coney Island Av		Brooklyn	Kings County	047
2	Amy	Brown	February 19, 1955	MA	0	1	C/O Geriatric Care Cntr	150 Dean Street		Brooklyn	Kings County	047
3	John	Taylor	December 20, 2028	MA	0	0		1600 40 St		Brooklyn	Kings County	047
4	Jane	Doe	March 4, 1966	FFS	0	0		1800 Bay Ridge Ave		Brooklyn	Kings County	047
5	Robert	Walker	May 20, 1930	FFS	0	0		1900 63rd St	First Floor	Brooklyn	Kings County	047
6	Mary	Johnson	September 14, 2012	FFS	0	0		17 212th Place		Queens Village	Queens County	081
7	William	Jones	December 1, 1933	FFS	0	0	Dev Ctr For David Robins	180 E 205 St		Bronx	Bronx County	005
8	David	Robinson	July 6, 1936	MA	1	0		PO Box 280507		Bronx	Bronx County	005
9	Carol	Davis	July 24, 1932	FFS	1	0		PO Box 100-144		Brooklyn	Kings County	047

Home Health Agency				DME Supplier			
Name	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number	Name	Address	Zip Code	Phone Number
View Home Health	384 Park Street	33333	(333) 383-1932	Respiratory Devices Inc	1 N Main St	11111	(333) 333-3333
Home Care Services	3929 1st Ave	44444	(399) 331-3913	Medical Supply Inc	2 Second St	22222	(999) 999-9999
Health Now Services	299 South 21st Street	44444	(399) 331-3000	Healthcare Supplier, LLC	3 3rd Ave	33333	(222) 111-3333
				Healthcare Supplier, LLC	3 3rd Ave	33333	(222) 111-3333
				Medical Equipment, Inc	4 S Main St	44444	(444) 443-3333
				Medical Equipment, Inc	4 S Main St	44444	(444) 443-3333
				Healthcare Provider, LLC	3 3rd Ave	55555	(222) 111-3333
				Healthcare Provider, LLC	3 3rd Ave	55555	(222) 111-3333

Response Outreach Dataset

No beneficiary phone numbers, so users may have to perform a reverse phone look-up with other available information

The **Salutation** column flags which beneficiaries may be living in a residential building or community

Name			Other Information		Address Indicators		Address					
Initial Sorting Order	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Enrollment/Plan Typ	PO Box or Unknown Address	"Care Of" Indicato	Salutation	Street Address 1	Street Address 2	City	County Name	County FIPS Code
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							Dev Ctr For David Robins	180 E 205 St		Bronx	Bronx County	005
								PO Box 280507				
								PO Box 114				

A "care of" (C/O) mark may mean that a family member is the administrative contact for a beneficiary and may not be their primary residence

Some beneficiaries have only a P.O. Box listed as their address

Limitations

- Data access, sharing and tracking can be burdensome
 - Contains HIPAA-protected PHI
 - Data security is primary
- **MUST** have actionable plan to use data
 - Patients did not provide data for this purpose
 - Patients did not grant permission for this use
 - Need assurance that patient benefit exceeds data exposure risk
- Addresses matched to county by Zip Code
 - PO Boxes also included

What can't you do?

1. Conduct outreach for future emergencies.
2. Create/fill a registry or list.
3. Share data with non-HIPAA trained individuals.
4. Share data with individuals or entities that do not need it for response.
5. Share/access more than the minimum data needed.
6. Use the data for any purpose beyond preparation/response to the current emergency.

Use Cases

2017 Nevada Flooding

In HHS emPOWER Program tools helped Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS) and Washoe County Health District (WCHD) assess its capacity to assist at-risk populations and engage partners to ensure coordinated outreach

Emergency Preparedness Planning

In 2017, CCHHS used both emPOWER datasets to **identify and address gaps in resources** (e.g., oxygen tanks) for the at-risk population in the event of required evacuations

Response

CCHHS and WCHD used the emPOWER Emergency Response Outreach Dataset to **identify at-risk individuals living in flood-prone, avalanche-prone, and remote areas**, and coordinated with partners to conduct outreach

Impact

CCHHS is expanding use of the emergency planning dataset to help **set up mass care operations and inform umbrella contracts** with DME companies. WCHD and Washoe County GIS developed an effective way to operationalize emPOWER data within 30 minutes



4 counties in Nevada benefitted from emPOWER Program data

300 homes in flood-prone areas contacted by CCHHS



Supporting partners:

- NV Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- NV Aging and Disability Services
- NV Division of Emergency Management
- NV National Guard
- Tribe Emergency Manager

2017 New York Winter Storm

The HHS emPOWER Program informed Broome County's power restoration decisions and provided vital information to coordinate public health emergency response activities

Emergency Preparedness Planning

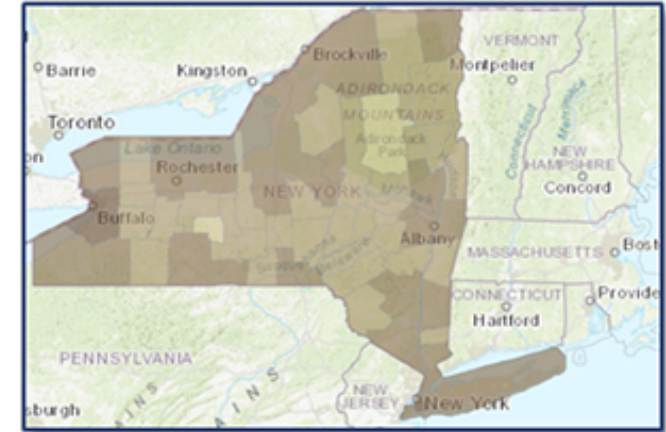
The Broome County Health Department regularly leverages the **HHS emPOWER Map and Emergency Planning Dataset** for emergency planning and preparedness

Response

In 2017, Broome County used the emPOWER Emergency Response Outreach Dataset to **identify at-risk residents in areas with prolonged power outages** following a severe weather and wind storm

Impact

The emPOWER dataset **enabled quick identification of at-risk residents** so local sheriff patrols could conduct timely individual outreach to electricity-dependent at-risk individuals that may have been adversely impacted by prolonged power outages



58 at-risk residents were quickly identified out of

~9,000 total residents who may have lost power



Supporting partners:

- Broome County Office of Emergency Services
- Broome County Sheriff's Office

2017 California Wildfires

HHS emPOWER Program tools helped Los Angeles (LA) identify the needs of its at-risk populations and connect with health care partners to improve continuity of care

Emergency Preparedness Planning

In December 2017, LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) requested emPOWER data on behalf of the City of LA to support first responder efforts to identify and locate at-risk individuals in areas that had been evacuated due to the historic wildfires

Response

LA County DPH also identified and engaged durable medical equipment (DME) and oxygen suppliers in the area that serve approximately 600 at-risk individuals. This effort helped inform and ensure continuity of care for many wildfire evacuees

Impact

The City of LA is incorporating emPOWER data into emergency response protocols and plans. LA County and City are developing mapping applications for the data to provide first responders with current, actionable information to support the at-risk population in their community



~600 at-risk individuals impacted by wildfires

38 DME providers contacted, and 22 surveyed



Supporting partners:

- LA Emergency Management Department
- LA Police Department
- LA Fire Department
- DME and Oxygen Suppliers

Hurricane Matthew

The HHS emPOWER Program helped Florida quickly identify and provide outreach to tens of thousands of at-risk individuals, setting the stage for life-saving emergency response

Emergency Preparedness Planning

In anticipation of Hurricane Matthew, the Florida Department of Health used the emPOWER Emergency Response Outreach Dataset to identify at-risk individuals in seven counties and performed a **reverse lookup of phone numbers**

Response

A life safety call was made to **almost 45,000 residents** by the Florida Division of Emergency Management using the Statewide Alerting and Notification System

Impact

Staff **contacted the 169 individuals** who indicated they might have a health need during and shortly after the hurricane



44,500 at-risk residents identified and called

17,000 residents responded to calls

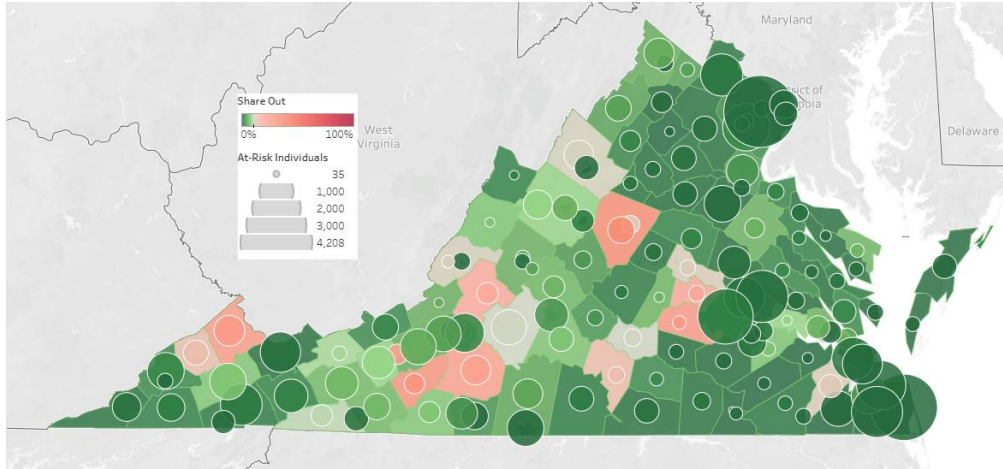
169 individuals requested assistance



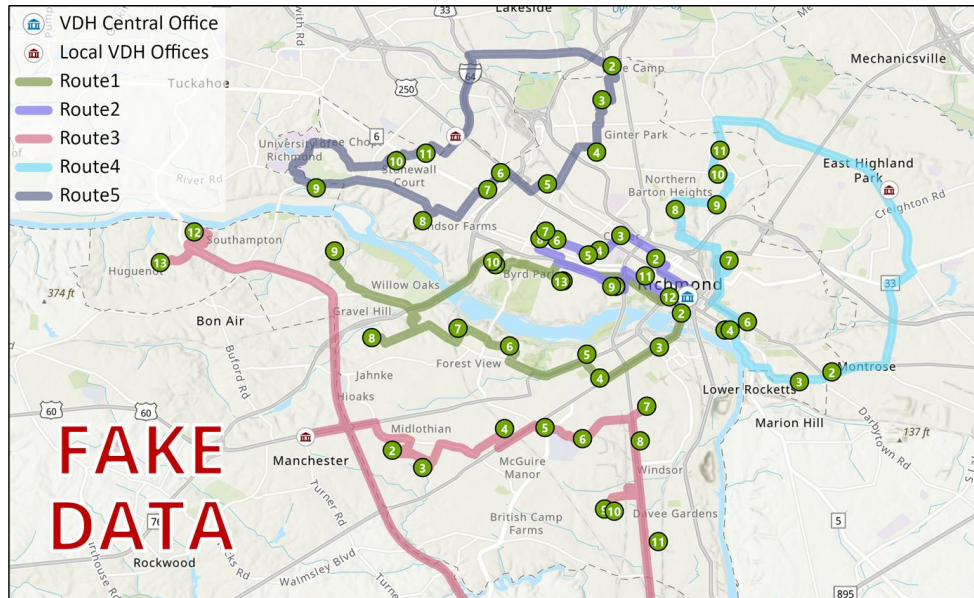
Supporting partners:

- Florida Division of Emergency Management and Emergency Operations Centers
- Local PHA and Emergency Managers

Situational Awareness



Route Maps



In Virginia

- Door-to-door outreach
 - Hurricane Helene
 - Winter Storms
- Shelter needs and placement
- Matched to outside data/maps
 - VDEM power outage service (Roanoke)
 - Emergency services maps (Chesterfield)
- Route maps
 - Goochland
 - Alexandria

emPOWER Data in Virginia

Continuous Improvement

Virginia's use of emPOWER data is relatively new

emPOWER data has only been requested a few times

We only have real data to work with for 30 days, max

Policies, procedures and tools are improving with each use



Two Methods to Request Identified Data

Central Office Initiated

- Widespread or anticipated emergencies
 - Tropical cyclone
 - Winter storm
 - Cascading power outage
- OEP initiates request with ASPR
 - For affected area
- OEP informs (emails) LHD Directors & Emergency Coordinators
 - Includes instructions to request local data
- OEP distributes data to local emergency coordinators
 - Turnaround time for locals: ~1 hour after receiving request (daytime)
 - For Excel/CSV file

Locality Initiated

- Local Emergencies
- Coordinate with local/regional emergency coordinator & OEP for HHS ASPR submission
- OEP or local coordinator receive data
 - Depends on capacity/preference

HHS Timeline:

6-8 hours weekdays

8-10 hours weekends

Expect 24-hour turnaround for unanticipated events

All Requests

- Approval from
 - Health Commissioner
 - OEP Director
 - Local Health Director
- Minimum dataset needed
 - Geographic scope
 - Fields
 - Demographic info
 - Addresses
 - DME/Services
- Event Description
 - Include emergency declaration info if appropriate
 - VHASS event notification required
- Data Users (General Description)
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Local government employees
 - MRC Volunteers
- An Actionable Plan
- Submission request and receipt of data affirms
 - Compliance with data security and tracking requirements
 - Compliance with data destruction instructions and documentation
 - Deletion and destruction of all data and derivatives within 30 days

An Actionable Plan

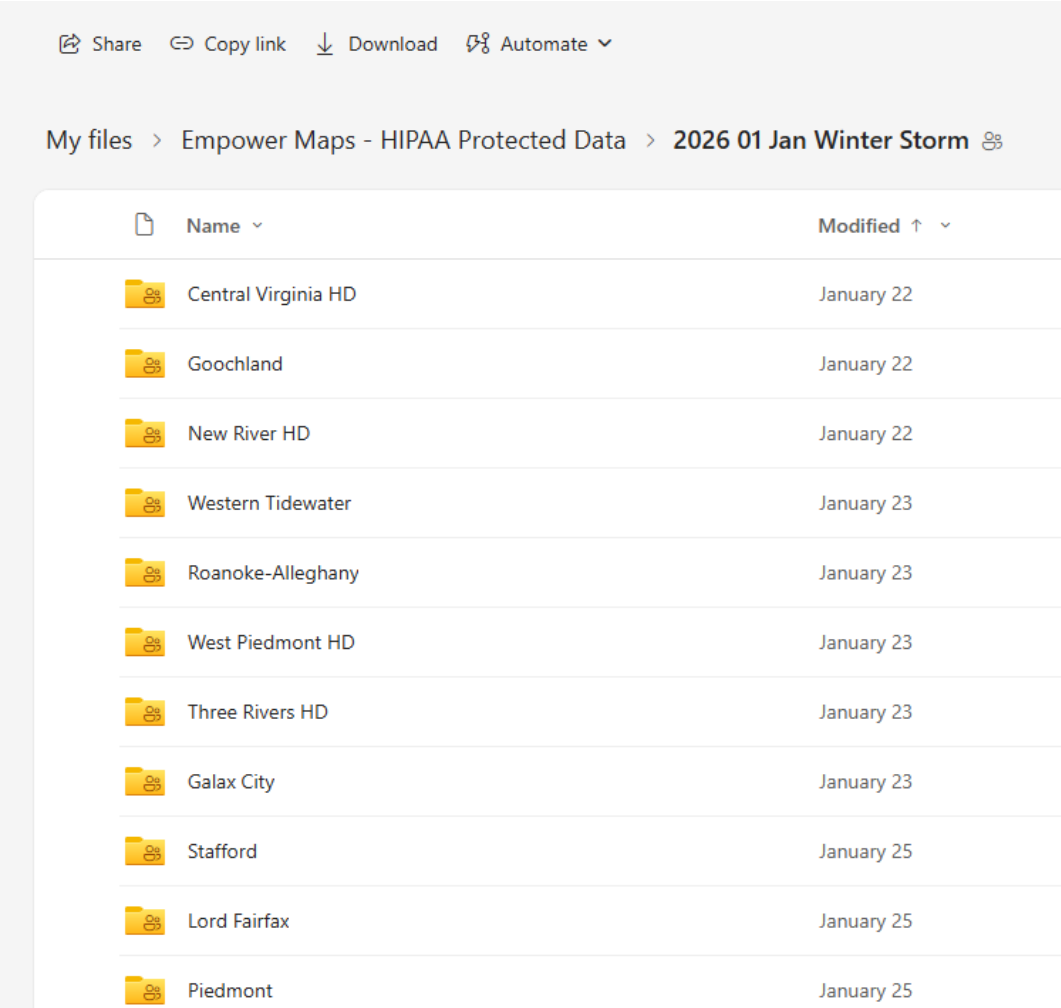
- Should be specific, but brief
- Ensure patients benefit from having data put at-risk involuntarily
- Does not preclude other appropriate uses than may arise
- Consider including emPOWER use in planning documents
 - These can be attached or referenced in requests
- **Who** will do **what** to **whom**, **how**, and **why**.

County IT staff will perform a reverse phone number lookup. MRC volunteers will call emPOWER at-risk individuals and connect those reached to services. EMS staff will conduct door-to-door outreach to those who can't be reached. EMS staff will provide medical care if necessary and connect residents to any needed services.

County GIS staff will securely geocode, map, and link dialysis patients to water utility service map. Utility will use the map to prioritize service restoration. MRC volunteers will call dialysis and other service providers to assess needs and offer support.

Data Management

- OEP uses SharePoint to distribute data, tracking logs, and data management instructions with Local Emergency Coordinators
- LECs share minimum data with local users
 - Secure method (e.g., Virtru, Secure FTP)
 - OEP can share at LEC request as needed
 - HIPAA data should not be placed in shared drives
- Must ensure recipient
 - Needs data to perform a public health response task
 - Is HIPAA-trained
 - Has security/destruction instructions
- Data Tracking Log (completed in SharePoint folder)



The screenshot shows a SharePoint file list interface. At the top, there are navigation options: Share, Copy link, Download, and Automate. Below this, the breadcrumb path is: My files > Empower Maps - HIPAA Protected Data > 2026 01 Jan Winter Storm. The main content area displays a table of folders with columns for Name and Modified. Each folder icon includes a small '08' badge.

Name	Modified
Central Virginia HD	January 22
Goochland	January 22
New River HD	January 22
Western Tidewater	January 23
Roanoke-Alleghany	January 23
West Piedmont HD	January 23
Three Rivers HD	January 23
Galax City	January 23
Stafford	January 25
Lord Fairfax	January 25
Piedmont	January 25

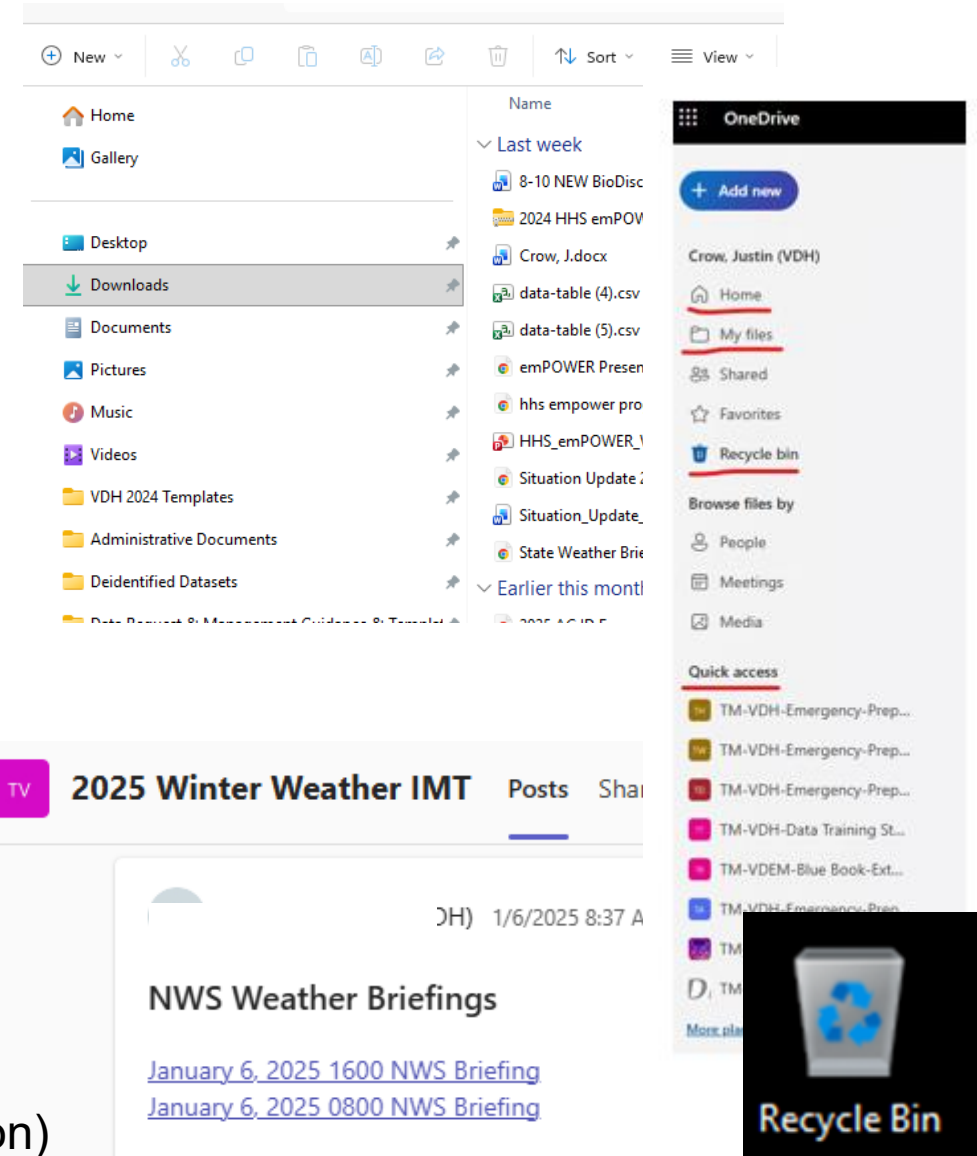
Data Tracking Log

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
3	Jurisdiction	Virginia					
4	Agency POC	Justin Crow					
5	Signature			Date:			
6	Data Shared						
7	Date Shared	Name	Phone	Email	Method of Distribution (electronic, paper, etc.)	Data Destroyed Date	Internal notes
8	1/23/2026	Justin Crow	804-864-7428	justin.crow@vdh.virginia.gov	Sharepoint Folder Access	2/12/2026	Dataset with Geocoding
9	1/23/2026	Jonathan Kiser	804-864-7277	jonathan.kiser@vdh.virginia.gov	Secure Virtru Email	2/9/2026	Dataset, Maps

- LEC should keep up-to-date in Sharepoint Folder
- Ensures continuity of operations for data destruction
- Each organizational recipient (e.g., Local EMS Authority) should maintain their own data tracking log
- Required to submit during data destruction certification

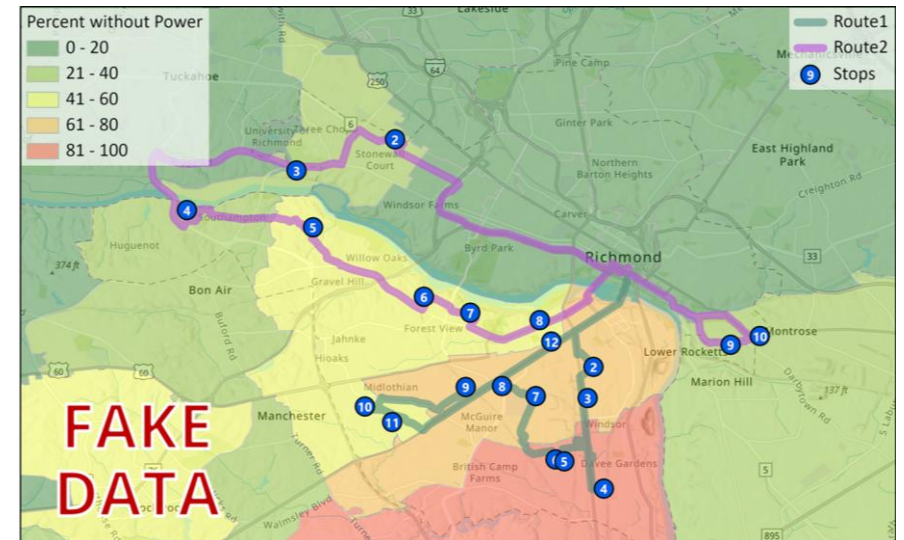
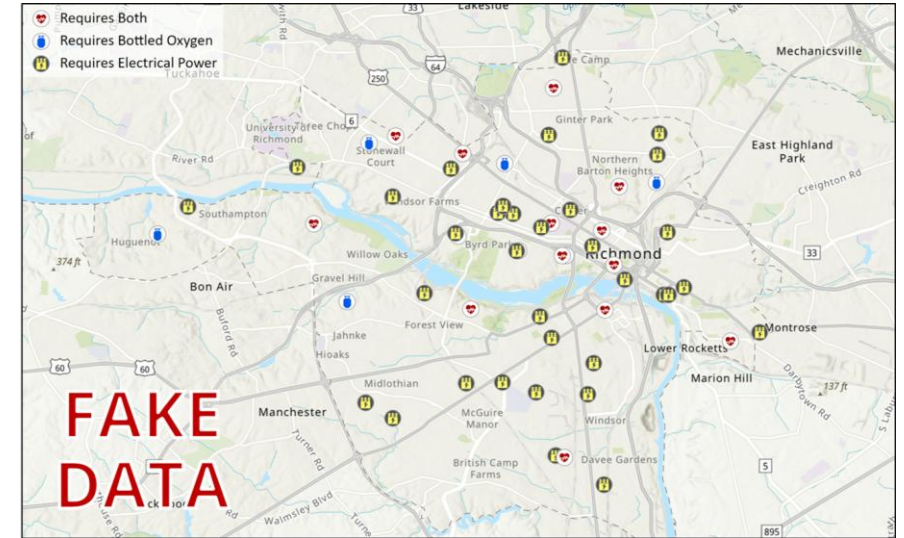
Data Destruction Certification

- Data Destruction Instructions sent with data
- **Everything** MUST be deleted or destroyed
 - Datasets
 - Screenshots
 - Maps
 - Printouts
 - Charts
 - Presentations
 - Notes
 - Etc.
- Who must complete a Data Destruction Certificate?
 - Local Emergency Coordinators
 - After collecting all DDCs for their LHD
 - Anyone who received or has data or derivatives
 - Electronic
 - Physical (e.g., printouts, notes)
- No DDC required if:
 - Did download/use data or derivatives
 - Only saw data/derivative (e.g., maps in a planning session)



Central Office Analytic Support

- Very limited
 - Recommend leveraging local GIS/Informatics when available
- GIS services
 - Geocoding
 - Maps
 - Maps with Overlays
 - Route Maps (Limited Capacity)
- Charts, Graphs, Etc



Help Me Prioritize!

- Improve Administrative Processes
 - Request Process
 - Data Management Process
 - Data Destruction Process
- Improve Dataset
 - Deal w/ Zip Code problem
 - Lat/Long with each dataset
- Improve Data Products
 - Automate Route Maps(?)
 - Map Overlays (e.g., power outages, EMS facilities)
 - Secure dashboards



menti.com
7146 5529

Questions?

Justin Crow

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Resources:

[HHS emPOWER Training](#)

TRAIN ID: [1083714](#)

[HHS emPOWER website](#)