



## **Disability Disaster Access and Resources (DDAR) Program**

A partnership between the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers and Independent Living Centers

Justina Victoriano

Community Resources for Independent Living



# **Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL)**

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## CRIL's Mission and Services

- Community Resources for Independent Living is a peer-based, self-identified, disability organization that advocates and provides resources for people with disabilities to improve lives and make communities fully accessible.



1. Information and Referral (I & R)
2. Housing Search Assistance
3. Personal Assistant Referral
4. Benefits Advocacy
5. Employment Benefits Assistance
6. Peer Support
7. Independent Living Skills Training

8. Travel Training
9. Disability Disaster Access & Resources
10. Individual Advocacy
11. Community Organizing
12. Assistive Technology
13. Device Lending Library
14. Voter Registration and Education



# THE DDAR PROGRAM

- The Disability Disaster Access & Resources program was established to ensure that people with disabilities and older adults with access and functional needs are integrated into California's planning, response and recovery processes of all disasters and emergencies.
- CRIL is one of twenty of California's Independent Living Centers that are working partnership with CFILC and the Disability Disaster Access & Resource (DDAR) program as Disability Disaster Access & Resource Centers (DDARC).
- DDARCs are a part of a two-way communication listserv that is used for sharing information on disasters, emergencies, information and resources across all DDARCs



## Disasters/Emergencies and Access

- Virtually all disaster or emergency incidents disproportionately affect individuals with access and functional needs (AFN)
- There are different types of power outages that occur across the state: Planned Outages, Unplanned Outages, Weather Related Outages
- Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) events are power outages that are planned as a mechanism to prevent and limit wildfires from starting due to old power lines and hardware that need desperate replacement and updating
- Disability Disaster Access & Resource Centers are currently funded to assist individuals with Access and Functional Needs impacted by a Public Safety Power Shutoff





# **DDARC Public Safety Power Shut-Off Services**

- Disaster/Emergency Training for Community Members & Individuals
- Assessment of DDARC applicants
- Emergency/disaster preparedness plans with individuals
- Medical Baseline program enrollment and other alert systems available
- PSPS resources:
  - hotel/motel stay
  - backup battery
  - food assistance
  - accessible transportation
- Follow-up before, during and after active PSPS event



# DDAR Application & Assessment Process

- Applicants can either apply directly on the DDAR website or CRIL can submit on their behalf.
- Link: <https://disabilitydisasteraccess.org/power-safety-shutoff-resources-application/>
- Each applicant will be assessed by the DDARC staff by using the DDARC assessment tool.

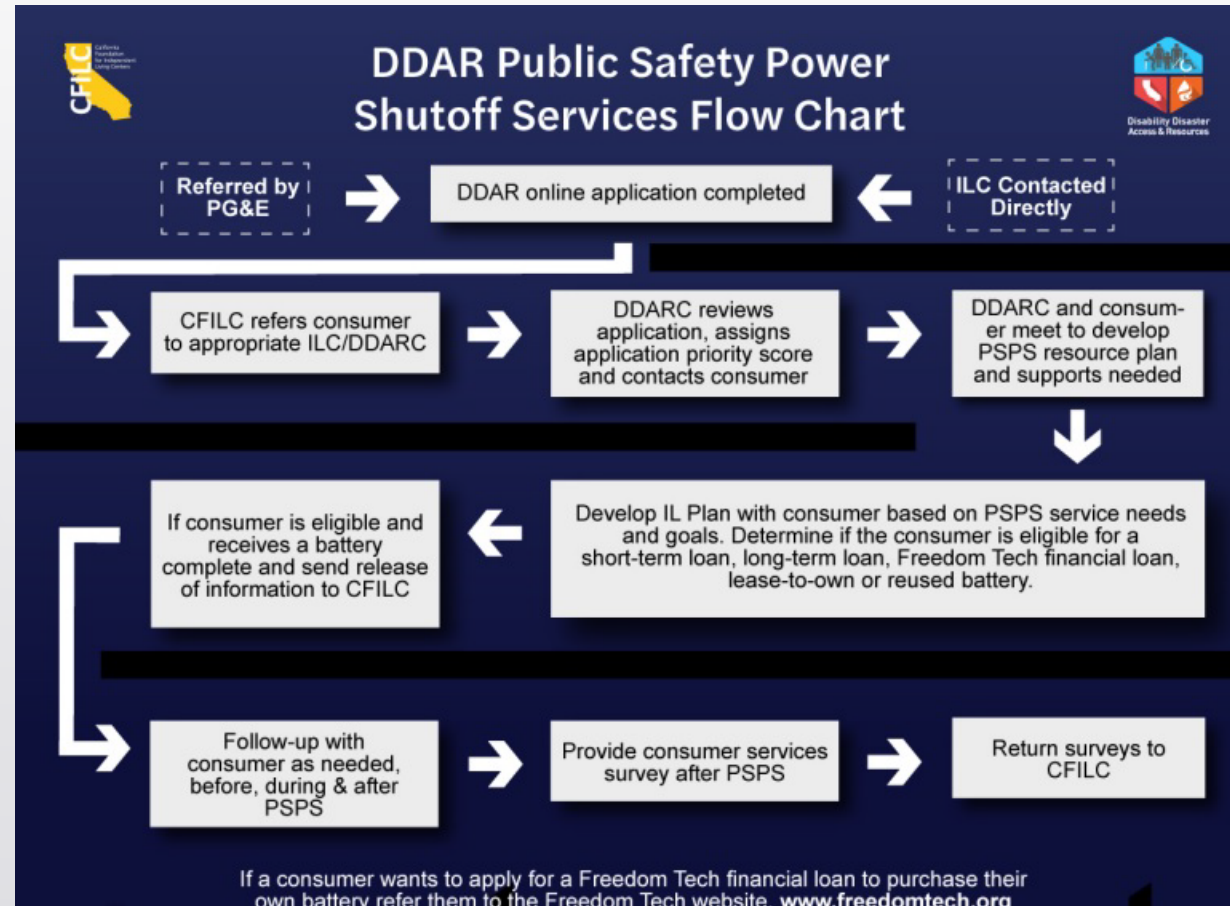


# **DDAR Qualifications**

- Applicant must use an electric powered assistive technology device or durable medical equipment as a part of their daily living needs
- Applicant must have a residence within a CPUC Wildfire Threat Tier 3 or Tier 2 area
- Applicant must be willing to enroll in the PG&E Medical Baseline program if they are not already in it
- Applicant must have or be willing to get assistance from DDARC staff in developing a personalized preparedness plan



# Flow Chart





## **DDAR Backup Batteries**

- Powered assistive technology devices and Durable Medical Equipment are diverse and use a range of watts to keep them on
- A portable battery will not work for everyone and especially for individuals who use multiple AT devices or DME, personalized tests maybe needed
- DDARCs can determine if an applicant who qualifies for a battery
- Applicants who wish to purchase their own battery, but do not have the upfront funds are encouraged to apply for a CFILC Freedom Tech loan
- If an applicant qualifies for a portable battery, they must complete a liability waiver form



# Additional DDAR Support

- **Motel/Hotel Support**

- Applicants who do not qualify for a portable battery, but have a home within a PG&E area should be offered a hotel/motel stay as an alternative during an active PSPS

- **Food Support**

- Applicants who have a home within a PG&E area and are assessed and qualify for full DDAR program should be provided food support, if needed during an active PSPS

- **Transportation Support**

- Applicants who qualify for DDAR and have a home within a PG&E area can be provided transportation to and from a community resource or charge station during an active PSPS event
- Applicants can also be provided transportation to and from (one time each way) their home and motel/hotel during an active PSPS event
- Gas to and from these locations can also be covered



## Active vs Proactive Services

- **Proactive DDAR & PSPS Services:** DDAR applications should be sent by CFILC to DDARC staff within 1 – 2 days. Applicants are notified that they will be contacted by their local DDARC within 4 – 5 business days. All DDARC applicants should be assessed, become an ILC consumer and be provided services.
- **Active PSPS Services:** CFILC is notified about 72 hours before an active PSPS event, (by PG&E, we are working with the other utilities to do the same). DDARC's use the 48 hour DDARC checklist to prepare for active PSPS event. When the event begins CFILC and the local DDARC's prioritize those in immediate danger first. Typically, these are individuals coming to us directly from PG&E's OES – Situation Room. CFILC and CRIL have up to two hours to respond to the situation room by email and should always cc CFILC staff so that duplicate work is not done.



## How to get Started...

- If you are eligible or would like to learn more about getting started with DDAR services, emergency preparedness plans or obtaining a backup battery, complete the online application or call CRIL
- Prepare for emergencies before the emergency!





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# Contact Information

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