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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES TO GET INVOLVED IN 2017 SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY FALL PREPAREATHON EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

LOS ANGELES (Thu., Sept. 7, 2017) – The destruction and aftermath Hurricane Harvey left reminds Los Angeles County that the time is now to prepare before the disaster strikes. For the past eight years, and in continuing the efforts to educate, train and prepare residents, businesses, houses of worship, and whole communities for emergencies and disasters, the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office, Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency and Ready.gov have once again teamed up in hosting and supporting September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) and Los Angeles County's Fall Prepareathon events and activities. For a complete listing of events and activities, go to <http://lacoa.org>.

This year's theme, "Disasters Don't Plan Ahead. You Can." Below is a list of weekly themes that can be easily done during the 2017 Los Angeles County's NPM and Prepareathon campaigns:

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| Week 1 (Sept. 1-9): | Make a Plan for Yourself, Family and Friends |
| Week 2 (Sept. 10-16): | Plan to Help Your Neighbor and Community |
| Week 3 (Sept. 17-23): | Practice and Build Out Your Plan |
| Week 4 (Sept. 24-30): | Get Involved! Be a Part of Something Larger |

"Both September is National Preparedness Month and Los Angeles County's Prepareathon are award-winning grass root campaigns that educate, train and prepare residents and businesses to do at least one disaster preparedness action step," said OEM Director Jeff L. Reeb. "I strongly encourage Los Angeles County residents, businesses, houses of worship, and whole communities to attend and participate in these free emergency preparedness expos, seminars, Community Emergency Response Team trainings and/or workshops that being held in their cities and neighborhoods." More specific information is also available in the Los Angeles County's Emergency Survival Guide, a free publication that can be downloaded in 13 languages at <https://www.lacounty.gov/emergency-survival-guide>.

Also, Los Angeles County residents, renters, and business owners, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, may call 211 LA County at any time for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed online by visiting www.211la.org.

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