Be Prepared in Case of an Emergency

As Hurricane Sandy approached, The Department of Public Safety prepared to assist those affected by the storm, and Bronx Community College was designated to serve as an Emergency Evacuation Center. The department worked diligently and around the clock with the Office of Emergency Management in providing adequate facilities for those who were displaced by the storm. Even days after the storm arrived, Public Safety provided assistance to other colleges that were providing shelter for the many New Yorkers in need. While we may never be able to fully prepare for the results of a hurricane or other natural disaster, there are some steps we can take in advance.

Everyone in your household should have a go bag:

- Copies of your important documents in a waterproof container (e.g., insurance cards, Medicare/Medicaid cards, photo IDs, proof of address, marriage and birth certificates, copies of credit and ATM cards)
- Flashlight, battery-operated AM/FM radio, and extra batteries
- List of the medications you take, why you take them, and their dosages
- Contact information for your household and members of your support network
- Supplies for your service animal or pet
- One gallon of drinking water per person, per day
- Non-perishables, ready-to-eat canned foods, and a manual can opener
- Back-up medical equipment (e.g., oxygen, medication, scooter battery, hearing aids, mobility aids, glasses, facemasks, gloves)
- Style and serial numbers of medical devices (such as pacemakers) and usage instructions

If there is any member of the college community wishing to obtain a Ready New York Emergency Plan booklet, please come to Loew Hall, 5th floor for this and other helpful emergency information.

Information can also be obtained by visiting www.nyc.gov/html/oem

Fire Prevention Tips

A small fire can grow into a deadly one within one or two minutes. To help prevent a tragedy, closely inspect your home to eliminate potential hazards. Prepare your home for an emergency, and teach your family about the dangers of fire and how to escape. Here are some tips you can follow to keep your family safe:

- Check smoke detectors once a month and change the batteries at least twice a year.
- Purchase smoke detectors labeled by the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM).
- Never use a gas oven to heat your home, even for a short time.
- Install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector in your home.
- CO alarms should be located near the bedrooms. If your smoke or CO alarm sounds, get everyone outside.
- Always have an evacuation plan.
- Never remove batteries from your smoke detector without replacing them.