## Are you ReadyPA?

**TIP SHEET** 

## **Emergency Financial Planning**

Start today to safely store and protect your important records and documents:

- Evacuation Box: paper versions of documents in case of power/internet outages
- Electronic file: email copies of documents to yourself in encrypted, password-protected files
- Safe Deposit Box: at a bank or credit union

## Important Records & Documents to Protect

- Bank and credit card account numbers
- Loan and investment accounts
- Phone numbers (accounts)
- Birth certificates
- Photo ID and passports
- Social Security card
- Naturalization documents
- Phone numbers (family/friends)
- Insurance policies
- Deeds and titles
- Wills

## 7 Tips to Prepare - FINANCIALLY - for Emergencies



**Keep some cash handy:** Set some emergency cash or traveler's checks aside in a safe, secure place.



**Keep a list of account and phone numbers** for your credit cards, mortgage/car loans, investment accounts and insurance policies.



**Use cellphone and email as backup record-keepers:** Save the toll-free telephone numbers to your credit card issuers in your cellphone contact list - and bring a cellphone charger.



**Store records/original documents in a safe place,** such as a safe deposit box at a bank or credit union, and copies of these documents in a fire-safe box or encrypted, password protected digital file.



**Spread the Wealth:** Give credit cards and checkbooks to more than one family member in case you are separated for any reason.



**Is your credit card ready for emergencies?** Pay off your balance and keep your debt low so you have enough credit to accommodate unplanned purchases during an emergency.



**Call your credit card companies** if you have an advance warning of an emergency, alert them about the emergency threat, and give them alternative ways to contact you.







