

2009 HURRICANES AND HEALTHCARE
June 18, 2009
PINELLAS COUNTY BREAKOUT SESSION

Hosts: Debbie Peck, Emergency Management Specialist and introducing
Paul Roberts, Emergency Management Coordinator

1. **Shelter-In-Place Procedures** - Emergency Management asked all facilities to insert these procedures into their CEMP Plan. While some have complied, others have not. We realize this is not AHCA required, however, EM is asking you to do this to ensure you, your residents and your building are prepared to stay as safe as possible. Even if you are in an evacuation zone A, you will shelter-in-place during a tropical storm event.
2. **Transportation Planning** - This element seems to be very vague in a lot of Plans. Larger facilities need to insert how many trips will be made, if they are transporting themselves or have contracted with a transportation company.
3. **June is not the month to change your transportation plans or your shelter location.** Regardless of when your Plan is due, all facilities should know exactly how they are going to get to where they are going and how long it will take to get their facility evacuated and moved. All mutual aid agreements should be in force for the coming season.
4. **Charging residents for evacuation?** How many facilities do this? Is this built into the contract or as an addendum?
5. **Outside Transportation** - Each facility that is using outside transportation (Escot Bus, etc.) should have a back-up shelter plan INSIDE Pinellas County. What if Escot is booked and cannot report to evacuate you out. You would be calling the EOC for help. School Board buses are not allowed to go out of the county limits. So, where will you go? If you are going to leave the county, you need a means of transport you can depend on and a backup location within the County. Be warned that an "if we can" agreement is not something you can depend on.
6. **FIRE SAFETY PLAN APPROVALS** - We are still receiving a lot of FIRE INSPECTION Reports, which are not sufficient. Please take your CEMP to the Fire Dept. for their approval in writing BEFORE your Plan submission to our office. We must have the fire dept's approval before approving the rest of the Plan. This is still the primary reason for returns. A fire inspection is NOT the same thing as a Fire Safety Plan approval. If the fire dept. comes to your facility and gives you the ok for re-licensure, this is not your Fire Safety Plan approval.
7. **New Pending Status** - If we receive your Plan and it is missing an item that can be faxed to our office, we will call you to inform you of what is needed to approve your plan. We will only keep it in "Pending" status for up to 7 days. At the end of 7 days if we didn't receive the item, we will notify you of the denial, request you to pick up the Plan, and re-submit within the 30-day correction period. The "pending" status is a way to help you avoid a needless denial to AHCA as well as not having to review your Plan again when it comes back to our office.
8. **Excessive Information** - The AHCA-criteria guideline is to help make sure you have those components included in your Plan. Be sure the AHCA criteria is completed with page numbers and included in your Plan. There is no need to submit your prior approval stamps, previous year's Fire Safety Plan approvals, or outdated agreements. The only archive needed to include in the Plan is any variance letters that have been previously granted. All other information should be kept in an historical folder at your office.