

Alamo Nursing Home Emergency Planning

The Midwest is vulnerable to multiple threats and hazards. These include natural hazards such as severe weather, including wind, rain and occasionally snow storms, tornadoes; and fires. Additionally, there are man-made hazards such as hazardous materials spills and potential civil unrest and/or terrorism.

While each of these threats is a problem in and of themselves, they are frequently the cause of secondary issues such as long-term power and telephone outages. In some cases, the event may cause disruption to critical supplies and services such as food, medical supplies, and gasoline.

Preparing for such disasters is critical for ensuring the safety and security of residents, staff, and visitors of long-term care facilities.

Alamo Nursing Home has an emergency plan in place for potential hazards that we may face. It is reviewed at least annually and as needed. Staff in our facility are trained in orientation, throughout the year through in-services, and tested through drills. The Codes for our facility are Code Red = Fire/Smoke, Code Gray =Tornado Watch, Code Black = Tornado Warning, Code Purple = Missing Resident, Code Orange = Bomb Threat and Code Silver = Weapon in the Building. These are high risk threats and staff is regularly educated on these and how to act during the codes.

Our facility has contracts with local emergency services, vendors, and other facilities. This is to continue providing quality care to residents of Alamo Nursing Home Inc. during times of major emergencies and/or disasters or when such events are reasonably believed to be pending by maintaining close coordination and planning links with local emergency response organizations on an ongoing basis. A disaster may be classified as a fire, tornado, flood, electrical power outage, explosion, bomb threat, hazardous material spills or releases, or any other situation that would warrant evacuation of the community in order to protect the lives and safety of residents and staff. It may also be considered a disruption of essential services needed to maintain care.

It will be the responsibility of the highest-ranking staff person on duty to declare a situation a disaster, notify the Administrator, and activate the disaster and/or evacuation policy and procedure. It is our policy to shelter-in-place unless we need to evacuate. We have supplies on hand that can last up 7-10 days for our facility. Our backup generators can run for 72 hours without a refill. We also have contracts with our vendors to deliver emergency supplies. We also have contracts with alternative sites such as St. Margaret's elementary School, Alamo Elementary School, and Otsego Public School for temporary evacuation sites if needed until other arrangements for care can be made.

It is important that you keep up your contact information so in an emergency we can contact you. If your phone number changes please let the Business Office know. If we lose our phone lines due to weather all phone calls are automatically routed to our Administrator's cell phone. Staff will update you using their personal cell phones in an emergency. If you have an email address you may give it to your social worker as another means of communication. We can also post general information on our facility's Facebook page and Website.

It is important if you are leaving the facility and/or are taking a resident out of the facility please make sure that you let their nurse know and sign them out in the "Sign-out Book". This lets us know where they are in an emergency. The "Sign-out Book is at each nurses' station.

At each nurses' station there is also a bulletin board with emergency procedures/policies and contact information posted.

If you would like any more information please contact the facility. The Emergency Preparedness coordinator is Emily Herschberger RN. She is happy to go through any details or concerns with you personally. You can contact her at the facility number 269-343-2587 or through her email emilyherschberger@alamonh.net

Resident Signature _____ Date _____

Representative Signature _____ Date _____