

CENTRAL CARE POLICY EMERGENCY PROTOCOL DUE TO NATURAL PHENOMENA

SUBJECT:	EMERGENCY PROTOCOL DUE TO NATURAL PHENOMENA
ANNUAL REVIEW MONTH:	June
RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW:	Director of Central Care
LAST REVISION DATE:	August 2010

POLICY: **Central Care Community Homes makes every attempt to provide services in a consumer's own home; however, in the event of an emergency situation such as natural phenomena/severe weather: ice storms, tornadoes, snow accumulations, flood, etc, the following procedures may be required depending on the severity of the event:**

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF SEVERE WEATHER:

1. At the first sign of severe weather (including unusually high winds), all consumers and staff working outside will immediately seek shelter.
2. The Director of Central Care/ Designee will notify all staff when tornado or severe storm watches/warnings are in effect.
3. If a tornado is heard or sighted, staff will ask consumers to walk inside the building to the hallway, basement, or a wall (as pre-designated) away from windows. (All consumers may be reassigned to a safe home within Central Care until the emergency is over). All consumers will face the wall on their hands and knees as close to the wall as possible. They shall cover their heads with hands and arms. If time permits push tables up to the wall and get under tables. Staff shall see that all consumers in their care are in place. They should calm and keep consumers as calm as possible.
4. When danger no longer appears imminent, the staff will go outside to check the weather and listen to the radio. At this time, consumers may relax but remain where they are. After staff is sure all is safe, consumers and staff will be told to resume their regular scheduled activities.

5. Should there be severe damage to the home, consumers shall be transported to Central State Hospital/local motel/other Central Care home for temporary living accommodations. If severe enough, emergency help shall be sought. Staff will be asked to work over typically scheduled hours depending on need.
6. Treatment of injuries will take place as quickly as possible.
7. A three day supply of food and water will be used as needed.
8. Emergency supplies and/or equipment will be authorized for purchase if the need arises.
9. Treatment of injuries will take place as quickly as possible.
10. Any serious damage to property or injury caused by severe weather should be reported to the Central Care Community Services Director, Service Director and the Chief Executive Officer.
11. Family member(s)/guardian(s) will be notified in a timely manner of any pertinent information.
12. Appropriate documentation will be completed as per Central Care's Emergency Preparedness Plan.

**Reference: Central State Hospital Emergency Preparedness Manual
And Central Care's Emergency Relocation Plan**

APPROVED: _____ **TITLE:** Central Care Director **DATE:** _____
George Harris, LCSW