

<b>MANUAL:</b> HEALTH & SAFETY	<b>HOME SPECIFIC NAME:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Fairfield Park</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Brouillette Manor</li> <li><input type="radio"/> LaPointe-Fisher Nursing Home</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Corporate</li> </ul>
<b>TITLE:</b> CODE ORANGE – EXTREME WEATHER OR COMMUNITY / NATURAL DISASTER	<b>SECTION:</b> EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
	<b>PAGES:</b> 4

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** JAN 1998, SEPT 2017

**REVISED:** JUNE 2022

**POLICY:**

The home shall have an emergency plan for potential community/natural disasters and extreme weather situations. The emergency code denoting this situation shall be “Code Orange”.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Advisories** – An advisory is issued when a less serious event is expected or is imminent within 12 hours.

**Watches** – A watch is issued for specific areas when the potential exists for an event to occur within 36 hours or less.

**Warnings** – A warning is issued for specific areas 24 hours or less before anticipated effects from an event is strongly expected or is imminent. Warnings are issued for specific areas 24 hours or less before anticipated effects occur from a winter or coastal storm.

**PROCEDURES:**

**TRAINING & EDUCATION**

Staff shall be trained on this plan upon hire and provided with refresher education annually thereafter.

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Residents and/or their legal representative shall be provided with a copy of this plan upon admission

**TESTING OF PLAN**

This plan shall be tested annually.

**ACTIVATION OF PLAN**

The RN or designate will page using the overhead paging system to alert staff of a code ORANGE. The RN or designate will page Code Orange and the type of emergency 3 times. For example "code orange - tornado warning"

WEATHER/ TORNADO/ FLOOD WATCH is in effect for our area:

- 1. Monitor the local radio station closely for possible warnings
- 2. Make regular observations of developments in the weather.
- 3. Cancel resident activity outings & ensure residents are indoors.
- 4. Monitor residents who are outdoors, in the event it is upgraded to a warning & they need to come inside.
- 5. Be prepared for further action in case a warning is issued.

TORNADO WARNING is in effect for our area.

- 1. Ensure residents and staff are indoors
- 2. Move the residents away from windows and doors, until the worst of the storm is over.
- 3. The safest location will be hallway in the resident home areas.
- 4. Stay away from doors, windows & outside walls.
- 5. Stay in the center of the room, and avoid corners because they attract debris.
- 6. If time does not permit resident to be moved to hall & they are in their bed, pull privacy curtain around resident's bed to help protect them from potential shattered glass.
- 7. Residents and staff that are able should protect their heads and crouch or kneel against the wall. Those that are unable should remain in their wheelchairs/lounge chairs etc. against the wall.
- 8. Shelter can also be taken under sturdy items, i.e. under a bed, under heavily stuffed furniture, in washrooms/showers, in an interior hallway or closet.

COMMUNITY DISASTER

In the event of a community disaster which does not affect the long term care home, residents from other long term care home and/or retirement homes may be accommodated. The home shall ensure that accepting external residents will not

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impede care of the current residents and that the home is able to accommodate the following:

- ✓ Dietary is capable of providing a sufficient number of meals and emergency food supplies are available.
- ✓ Staffing levels allow for it
- ✓ Nursing supplies are be available.

The following steps are necessary to implement this plan:

- ✓ Permission must be obtained from the Administrator or Designate.
- ✓ The Administrator must also notify the Ministry of the decision.
- ✓ Extra staff must be brought in to care for the additional people. The location they are arriving from may be able to assist with this.
- ✓ Director of Care will be responsible for receiving these individuals and allocating the accommodation.

## EVACUATION

In the event an evacuation of the home is required, refer to the emergency plan, “Code Green – Evacuation”.

## REPORTING

Review Critical Incident/Mandatory Reporting procedure and complete, if required.

## COMMUNICATION

The Home shall communicate to residents, substitute decision-makers, if any, staff, volunteers, students, caregivers, the Residents’ Council and the Family Council, if any, on the emergency in the home

- ✓ at the beginning of the emergency,
- ✓ when there is a significant change throughout the course of the emergency
- ✓ when the emergency is declared over

## RECOVERY

A debrief is provided for residents, substitute decision-makers, staff, volunteers and students involved.

The Administrator or delegate will ensure resumption of regular operations of the home takes place (i.e. coordinate with managers, service providers and support workers to ensure all essential services are in place)

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Coordination with Social Services to meet with residents, families and staff who may have experienced distress during the emergency, to offer support and resources.

**EVALUATION**

The emergency plan shall be evaluated annually and updated, if needed. If the plan has been activated, it shall be evaluated within 30 days of the emergency being declared over and updated, if needed.

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