

Emergency Readiness and Response in KY Long Term Care

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Since 2003, the Universities of Kentucky and Louisville have received funds from the KY Department for Public Health to provide emergency preparedness training and resources for providers of long term care and other aging services for older persons. Strong collaborative partnerships have developed over the years among the KY Association of Health Care Facilities, KY Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, KY Hospital Association, KY Regional Healthcare Planning Coalitions; KY Regional Long Term Care Subcommittees, KY Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, KY Department for Aging and Independent Living, KY Community Crisis Response Board, KY Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, KY Home Health Association, and the KY Office of the Inspector General.

Representatives from these agencies assisted in the development of the *KY All Hazards Long Term Care Emergency Preparedness Planning and Resource Manual*. This manual combined the recommendations of the collaborative partners with the adapted best features of the emergency plans from ten states. In fall 2009, hard copies and CDs of the resource manual were distributed to all long term care facilities across KY (<http://www.mc.uky.edu/aging/gec.html>).

The LTC emergency preparedness manual provides basic emergency plan elements, a vulnerability analysis, LTC emergency staffing roles and responsibilities, templates for 16 common disasters, plans for recovery, and extensive resources. See http://www.mc.uky.edu/aging/documents/8_CHECKLIST_USDHHS-CMS.pdf http://www.mc.uky.edu/aging/documents/9_USDHHS_Pandemic_Checklist.pdf .

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