

Team Response to Emergencies for KY Long Term Care

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The 2011 KY floods enabled a demonstration of the strong collaborative relationships that have been forged among the Office of the Inspector General, KY Department for Public Health, KY Department for Aging and Independent Living, KY Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, KY Association of Health Care Facilities and KY Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. Teamwork among these agencies facilitated a flow of information between Long Term Care facilities in the local community and the Departmental Emergency Operations Center in Frankfort to assure updates on facility status and life safety of long term care facility residents and staff.

These agencies, along with the KY Hospital Association, KY Regional Healthcare Planning Coalitions, KY Regional Long Term Care Subcommittees, KY Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, KY Home Health Association and the Universities of KY and Louisville, worked together to create the *KY All Hazards Long Term Care Emergency Preparedness Planning and Resource Manual* that is being used by long term care facilities across KY to enhance their emergency preparedness and response. See Emergency Preparedness at <http://www.mc.uky.edu/aging/gec.html> .

The 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. OIG staff might be especially interested in the cross-walk between each section of the *KY All Hazards LTC Manual* and the CMS Emergency Preparedness Plan Checklist and the USDHHS Long Term Care and other Residential Facilities Pandemic Influenza Checklist. 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 . For more information or for a copy of the CD or manual, contact arleen@uky.edu at (859-257-8314) or betty.shiels@louisville.edu at (502)852-8003.

The manual is one of the positive outcomes of greater Long Term Care participation in Regional Hospital/Health Care Preparedness Coalitions and Long Term Care Subcommittees. See more in the Winter, 2011, issue of the KY Preparedness for Aging and Long Term Care newsletter at <http://cwte.louisville.edu/ovar/emergency/winter2011.htm> .