Emergency Preparedness for Hurricane Season and Other Emergencies

Information posted May 24, 2018

Assisted living facilities, day activity health services facilities, home and community support service agencies, intermediate care facilities for individuals with an intellectual disability or related conditions, in-patient hospice facilities, and nursing facilities should review their emergency preparedness and response plans for the Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June 1, 2018 through Nov. 30, 2018.

Facilities must also be prepared for the possibility of other potential emergencies such as tornadoes, floods or fires. In consideration of a possible facility evacuation, plans must address:

- Evacuation procedures
- Shelter-in-place procedures
- Procedures for receiving evacuees from other providers, if applicable
- Resources available in the event of an emergency.

If facilities are impacted by an adverse event such as severe weather (e.g., water is in the building after a severe thunderstorm) they should contact their local HHSC Long-term Care Regulatory regional office.

This communication is especially critical if a facility projects exceeding its licensed capacity because it is accepting residents evacuated from another facility. All requests to exceed licensed capacity due to an emergency must be requested through the RO and approved by the director of survey operations.

Refer to Provider Letter 15-15 for additional important information regarding emergency preparedness.