

Emergency Preparedness

In November 2017 CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) began enforcing new regulations for all programs certified by CMS including Long Term Care, this includes Andrew Residence. These regulations are focused on Emergency Preparedness based on assessment of, and planning for, “All Hazards”. These new regulations direct facilities to have procedures in place for minimizing the impact of various hazards and emergencies and to involve a community approach to respond to emergencies.

One of the new requirements is to inform family members of emergency plans.

Andrew Residence is a member of the Metro Area Health Care Coalition, an organization made up of health care providers located in the metropolitan area. This includes; hospitals, clinics, long term care and other providers such as pharmacies, out-patient providers, and laboratories. Additionally Andrew Residence participates in MN Trac, a state sponsored program for tracking resources including available Long Term Care beds, and for tracking other resources and emergency communication.

For many years Andrew Residence has completed an annual Hazard Vulnerability Analysis. The Hazard Vulnerability Analysis assesses hazards, in three categories, Natural Events, Technological Events, and Human Events. Each item within the category is scored as to the likeliness it could occur; the level of disruption the hazard would impact our residents, and Andrew’s assessment of its level of preparedness to effectively mitigate the impact of each hazard.

Part of our planning involves both “sheltering in place” in the event of an emergency, and evacuation to other settings should our building be compromised. While we have transfer plans, we also plan that some of our residents would be cared for by family or friends and we would communicate via contact information we have. If your contact information is not current please contact us to update.

We have had procedures in place outlining our plan to respond to these hazards and review and update these plans when needed. We also continue to train staff in these procedures and conduct appropriate emergency drills to “test” the effectiveness of our procedures.

If you have any questions please contact us.