



Faculty

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Definition

- **Populations whose members may have additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas, including but not limited to**
 - **Maintaining independence, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care.**

Special Needs Categories

- Individuals in need of additional response assistance may include
 - Those who have disabilities
 - Who live in institutionalized settings
 - Who are elderly

Special Needs Categories

- Who are children
- Who are from diverse cultures
- Who have limited English proficiency or are non-English speaking
- Who are transportation disadvantaged

Evacuation of the Elderly

- During evacuation, when the elderly are taken from their familiar surroundings and relocated during a hurricane, they become disoriented and confused.
- As a consequence, they may become forgetful about names, addresses, phone numbers, medications, etc.

Special Concerns of the Elderly

- Alzheimer's disease, psychiatric conditions like schizophrenia or depression, and mental disabilities, as well as issues of mobility may affect the elderly.
- There individuals will need some type of supervision meeting their daily needs.

Special Concerns of the Elderly

- To minimize the impact on shelter staff, placing these individuals with family or caregiver will reduce the trauma.

Shelter-in-Place

- Sheltering-in-place can be a frightening experience for anyone but for the elderly, especially if he/she has other physical or mental impairments, it can be very traumatic leading to future long-term illnesses.

Shelter-in-Place

- Reasons the elderly shelter-in-place are numerous such as lack of transportation, paranoid, distrust, confusion, or neglect.

Disaster Assistance

By following the 3C's of Disaster Relief...

- Special Needs Population receive necessary assistance/service and
- A return to normalcy through safe centers

Communication • Coordination • Collaboration

C³ Implementation

- MOU between AEMA and ADSS
 - Daily download of Medicaid Waiver and Homebound Meals client records to AMEA
 - During disaster, local EMA can access list of at-risk clients

C³ Implementation

- Collaboration between FEMA and ADSS -FEMA establishes Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) and ADSS arranges for local representation at the DRC to assist the elderly

Area Agency on Aging

When a disaster occurs, the local AAA...

- Notifies ADSS of initial impact
- Coordinates with local EMA
- Activates local disaster plan
- Assesses impact on consumers

ADSS/AAA serve in an advisory/support role - they do not operate shelters

Disaster Declaration

Once a disaster declaration is issued...

- ADSS notifies AoA & dispatches staff
- AAA mans post in DRC to assist consumers
- AAA begins recordkeeping for recovery
- AAA evaluates consumer needs

AT THE DRC

- Collect consumer demographics
- Ensure FEMA registration
- Identify current needs and provide assistance
 - Sheltering -Food
 - Insurance -Utilities
 - Medical -Transportation
 - Clothing -Physical Health

Information & Referrals/Assistance

- Temporary Shelter
- Healthcare Needs
- Medication Replacement
- Financial Assistance
- State Services
- Home Services (example: Debris removal)

What does the future hold?

- Standardization of guidance for special needs population during an emergency
- Comprehensive Preparedness Guidance (CPG) 301
 - Interim release: August 15, 2008

When in doubt...

Medicaid • Disability • Medicare
Elderly • Long-Term Care

Got Questions?

1-800-AGELINE
www.alabamaconnect.gov

Aging & Disability
Resource Center

Division of the Department of
Health and Human Services