



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

May 29, 2015

To: All Adult Day Care Facilities (ADCs)
Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs)
Home and Community Support Service Agencies (HCSSAs)
Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICFs/IID)
Nursing Facilities (NFs)

Subject: Provider Letter No. 15-15 – Emergency Preparedness Reminder (Replaces Provider Letter 14-11)

With hurricane season about to start, the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) reminds providers that they must follow applicable program rules to ensure they are prepared to protect residents/clients during hurricanes and other emergencies. Hurricane season runs June 1 through November 30.

Also, please remember that [EMResource](#) replaced the Facility Inventory, Vacancy and Evacuation Status System on November 30, 2014. (To read more about this change, please see Provider Letter [15-04](#), Discontinuation of the Facility Inventory, Vacancy and Evacuation Status System, published on January 12, 2015.)

Every provider must:

- Make sure its emergency preparedness plan is up-to-date and meets the needs of the individuals the provider serves.
- Make sure personnel know what their responsibilities are during an emergency.
- Coordinate with its local emergency management coordinator in the event of an emergency.

For emergency preparedness and response rules specific to each provider type, please see the following sections of Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 1:

- Chapter 98, [§98.64](#) for ADCs
- Chapter 92, [§92.62\(d\)](#) for ALFs
- Chapter 97, [§97.256](#) for HCSSAs and [§97.871\(a\)\(2\)](#) for inpatient hospice units
- Chapter 90, [§90.50](#) for ICFs/IID
- Chapter 19, [§19.1914](#) for NFs

A provider must not exceed its licensed capacity without prior authorization from the director of survey operations at DADS Regulatory Services.

DADS will post a webpage for policies and procedures related to a specific hurricane. Providers may also sign up at [GovDelivery](#) to get electronic updates about emergency preparedness and other topics and can customize their notification preferences.

Provider Letter No. 15-15
May 29, 2015
Page 2

If you have questions about this letter, please contact a policy specialist in the Policy, Rules and Curriculum Development section at (512) 438-3161.

Sincerely,

Mary T. Henderson
Associate Commissioner
Regulatory Services

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