



Emergency Evacuation for People with Medical Needs

Presentation for the Delegation from China

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Evacuation Strategy

- Every operational strategy must account for populations with special needs.



Evacuation Strategy

- Evacuations of special needs individuals from an evacuation area may require utilization of public transportation resources.



Evacuation Strategy: Homebound Evacuation Operation (HEO) New York City Office of Emergency Management (NYCOEM)

- The HEO coordinates evacuation assistance for homebound individuals with disabilities with no other options for evacuation.



Evacuation Strategy: Homebound Evacuation Operation (HEO) New York City Office of Emergency Management (NYCOEM)

Medical Issue	Description	Transportation Asset	Final Destination
1. Stretcher	Unable to leave home on their own; unable to travel in a sitting position (require stretcher transport)	Ambulance	Hospital
2. Wheelchair	Unable to leave home on their own; able to sit for an extended period of time (can travel on a bus)	Department of Education school bus with Firefighter Transport Team	Hurricane Evacuation Center
3. Ambulatory	Able to leave home with assistance (can get to the curb); disabilities prevent use of public transportation for evacuation	Paratransit	Hurricane Evacuation Center



Evacuation Strategy: Healthcare Evacuation Center (HEC) New York City Office of Emergency Management (NYCOEM)

- HEC coordinates the Healthcare Facility (HCF) Evacuation Plan for the evacuation of hospitals, nursing homes, adult care facilities, and psychiatric facilities.



Evacuation Strategy

- To maximize the number of evacuations of people with medical/special needs the distance and time required to reach the Evacuation Centers must be optimally short.



Evacuation Strategy

- Must establish policies to allow pets and define limitations for carry-on items otherwise evacuees will remain at the evacuation area.



Evacuation Response Assessment

- Command decision to evacuate must be timely and considerate of the shut down of services to protect assets for recovery.



Evacuation Response Assessment

- Communication with other agencies/customers
- Employee Safety and Deployment
- Accounting of all evacuees transported from evacuation area
- Asset/Resource Evaluation prior to mobilization for recovery



Evacuation Response Assessment

- Fueling/Power Supplies
- Improvements in System/Facility/Equipment Protection & Recovery
- Use of photographs/video before and after emergency
- Management of Emergency Resources
- Restoration of regular service