

Emergency Response, Reporting & Review Policy

I. Policy

It is the policy of tFGMI to effectively respond to, report, and review all emergencies to ensure the safety of persons receiving services and to promote the continuity of services until emergencies are resolved.

“Emergency” means any event that affects the ordinary daily operation of the program including, but not limited to:

- fires, severe weather, natural disasters, power failures, or other events that threaten the immediate health and safety of a person receiving services; and
- that require calling 911, emergency evacuation, moving to an emergency shelter, or temporary closure or relocation of the program to another facility or service site for more than 24 hours.

II. Response Procedures

A. Safety procedures

1. **Fires.** Additional information on safety in fires is available online at: <http://www.ready.gov/fires>. In the event of a fire emergency, staff will take the following actions:

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Evacuate all people in the immediate area to an area of safety, closing doors against smoke and heat. Test a closed door before opening by feeling near the top. If the door is hot, use an alternative exit. If a room is smoke-filled, keep close to the floor to breathe more easily.

Remain calm and keep everyone together. Do not reenter until the fire department determines it is safe to do so. Call 911 for the fire department and provide them with relevant information.

Provide emergency first aid as required until emergency personnel arrive.

2. **Severe weather and natural disasters.** Additional information on safety in severe weather or natural disasters is available online at: <http://www.ready.gov/natural-disasters>. In the event of a severe weather emergency, staff will take the following actions:

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Monitor weather conditions: Listen to local television or radio or a weather-radio for weather warnings and watches. Follow their directions on the need to change plans and activities, stay indoors, or seek shelter.

WARNING: severe weather is either occurring or is imminent. A warning is the most significant and staff must take immediate action to protect people by seeking immediate shelter.

WATCH: severe weather is possible as conditions are favorable for the weather event. Staff should plan and prepare for the possibility of the severe weather. Staff should help people change their plans for travel and outdoor activities.

ADVISORY: weather conditions may cause inconvenience or difficulty when traveling or being outside. Staff should help people consider changing their plans for travel and outdoor activities or consider that additional time may be required to complete their plans.

Account for the well-being of all people receiving services.

Inform people why plans and activities are changing and what they are doing to keep them safe.

3. **Power failures.** Additional information on safety during power failures is available online at: <http://www.ready.gov/technological-accidental-hazards>. In the event of a power failure emergency, staff will take the following actions:

Use emergency supplies (flashlights, battery-operated radio).

Account for the well-being of all people receiving services.

Inform people why plans and activities are changing and what they are doing to keep them safe.

4. **Emergency shelter.** Additional information on emergency shelter is available online at: <http://www.ready.gov/shelter>. Some emergencies will be best met by seeking safety in an emergency shelter. Depending on the emergency you may need to shelter in place or shelter outside the disaster area.

Follow directions of local emergency personnel to locate the closest emergency shelter.

If time allows, move to the emergency shelter with a 24-hour supply of medications and medical supplies, medical books/information, and emergency contact names and information.

At the emergency shelter, notify personnel of any special needs required to use the emergency shelter.

Remain calm and keep everyone informed of why events are occurring.

Use of an emergency shelter may include: severe weather, natural disasters, power failures, and other events that threaten the immediate health and safety of people receiving services.

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5. **Emergency evacuation.** Additional information on emergency evacuation is available online at: <http://www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family>. Some emergencies will be best met by leaving a program site or the community and seeking safety in an emergency shelter. Often the emergency evacuation will be directed by police, fire, or other emergency personnel who will direct people where to seek safety.

Account for the well-being of all people receiving services.

Inform people why they are leaving the program and what is being done to keep them safe.

Follow directions received from administrative staff, police, fire, and other emergency personnel.

If time allows, evacuate with medication and medical supplies, medical and programs books/information, clothing, grooming supplies, other necessary personal items, and emergency contact names and information.

Emergency evacuation may include: severe weather, natural disasters, power failures, and other events that threaten the immediate health and safety of people receiving services.

6. **Temporary closure or relocation.** Some emergencies will be best met by temporarily closing or relocating a program site for more than 24 hours. This decision will be directed by program administrative staff.

Inform people why the program is closing and relocating to keep them safe. Formal notification to the person receiving services, legal representatives, and case managers will be completed by administrative staff.

Follow directions received from administrative staff, police, fire, and other emergency personnel.

If time allows, remove from the program medication and medical supplies, medical and programs books/information, clothing, grooming supplies, consumer funds, other necessary program and personal items, and emergency contact names and information.

Closure or relocation may include: severe weather, natural disasters, power failures, and other events that threaten the immediate health and safety of people receiving services.

III. Reporting Procedures

Emergency reports will be completed using the program's emergency report and review form as soon possible after the occurrence, but no later than 24 hours after the emergency occurred or the program became aware of the occurrence. The written report will include:

1. It is not necessary to identify all persons affected by or involved in the emergency unless the emergency resulted in an incident to a person or persons;
2. The date, time, and location of the emergency;
3. A description of the emergency;
4. A description of the response to the emergency and whether a person's support plan addendum or program policies and procedures were implemented as applicable;
5. The name of the staff person or persons who responded to the emergency; and
6. The results of the review of the emergency (see section IV).

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IV. Review Procedures

This program will complete a review of all emergencies.

1. The review will be completed using the program's emergency report and review form by Russ Fandel.
2. The review will be completed within 10 days of the emergency.
3. The review will ensure that the written report provides a written summary of the emergency.
4. The review will identify trends or patterns, if any, and determine if corrective action is needed.
5. When corrective action is needed, a staff person will be assigned to take the corrective action within a specified time period.

V. Record Keeping Procedures

- A. The review of an emergency will be documented on the emergency reporting form and will include identifying trends or patterns and corrective action if needed.
- B. Emergency reports will be maintained at the FGMI office, 31100 Forest Blvd, Stacy MN.

Policy reviewed and authorized by:

Kim Smith, Program Director

Print name & title

[Signature]
Signature

Date of last policy review: 1-4-26 Date of last policy revision: 8-1-22

Legal Authority: Minn. Stat. §§ [245D.11](#), subd. 2; [245D.02](#), subd. 8; [245D.22](#), subd 4-7.

NOTE: Websites from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are included as a resource for additional information. Another useful website is the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/planning-preparedness/Pages/default.aspx>).