Discharge Planning Teams & Shelter Transition Teams

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Discharge Planning Defined

*Discharge Planning* is a process that facilitates moving a person from one level of care or health care setting to another, or from a temporary or shelter setting back to the community for more permanent placement.

*Discharge Planning Teams* may also be created at the request of the local emergency managers; or the Secretary for the Department of Elder Affairs.
Section 381.0303, F.S. addresses Discharge Planning for Special Needs Shelters and authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) to convene, ... a multiagency special needs shelter discharge planning team.
Discharge Planning – Secretary of DOEAs’s Role

- The Secretary of Elder Affairs may request assistance from additional agencies and/or determine that assistance from certain agencies may not be necessary depending on the nature or circumstances surrounding the disaster.
Discharge Planning Teams

Discharge Planning Team Members can consist of members from all or some of these agencies:

- Department of Elder Affairs
- Agencies for Person’s With Disabilities
- Department of Health
- Agency for Health Care Administration
- Department of Children and Families
- Division of Emergency Management
- Department of Veterans’ Affairs
Discharge Planning Team Leader

TEAM LEADER:
Designated by DOEA
(CARES, LTCOP, the local AAA/ARDC, of DOEAs appointment designee from another state agency)

Agency  Agency  Agency  Agency  Agency
Discharge Planning – Closing Comments

- Discharge planning starts at admission to Special Needs Shelters (SpNS);
- The Secretary for DOEA may request a discharge planning team when there is an anticipated need (pre/post event);
- The county can request a discharge planning team once all their resources have been exhausted; and
- DOEA is responsible for discharge planning for all clients in SpNSs (not limited to elder population).
Discharge vs. Transition Planning

- Special Needs Shelter
  - Discharge Planning
    - Statutory Authority

- General Population Shelter
  - Transition Planning
    - Mass Care “Best Practice”
Transition Planning

- The Shelter Support Plan addresses the creation of Shelter Transition Teams.
- Shelter Transition Teams are created to assist counties in the transition of general population shelter residents to temporary or permanent housing.
- Shelter Transition Teams are activated at the request of the affected counties.
Barriers to Shelter Transition

Shelter Survivor

- Economic
- Social
- Psychological
- Medical
- Housing
Shelter Transition Team Process

• Step 1 – County requests activation of Team
• Step 2 – Team Leader and Team members designated
• Step 3 – Team conducts activities according to established operational procedures
• Step 4 - State coordinates support activities
Team Activation Process

1. **County** Requests Shelter Transition Team
2. **SEOC** Assigns Mission Request to H.S. Branch
3. **H.S. Branch** Tasks Mission to ESF 6
4. **ESF 6** Asks County for name of Shelter Transition Team Leader
5. **County** Responds with name of team leader
6. **ESF 6** Coordinates with new Team Leader
7. **County** Selects Shelter Transition TL
Shelter Transition Team Mission

- The mission of the Shelter Transition Team is to establish a unified approach to assisting shelter residents that have been impacted by the disaster by providing resources and implementing programs that will assist applicants in obtaining long-term or permanent housing.
Central Point of Contact

- Shelter Transition Team Leader
- FEMA
- Red Cross
- Local NGO’s
- Children & Families
- Veterans Affairs
- Elder Affairs
Shelter Transition Team Activities

• The integrated team will collaborate to provide a wide range of services to include:
  • Casework,
  • Case Management,
  • Housing Resources/Resource Management
  • Service Facilitation.
State coordinates support activities

- State ESF 6 coordinates with County Transition Team Leader to:
  - Ensure a unified shelter transition approach by the federal, state, & NGO agency representatives in the supported county,
  - Identify barriers to shelter transition,
  - Identify resources & programs that can be provided to residents in an effort to assist them with their recovery
Questions?