



Georgia Department of Human Services
Office of Inspector General

Practice Matters 12/12/17

Emergency Preparedness

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Director

Vision, Mission and Core Values

- **Vision**

- *Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia.*

- **Mission**

- Strengthen Georgia by providing Individuals and Families access to services that promote self-sufficiency, independence, and protect Georgia's vulnerable children and adults.

- **Core Values**

- Provide access to resources that offer support and empower Georgians and their families.
- Deliver services professionally and treat all clients with dignity and respect.
- Manage business operations effectively and efficiently by aligning resources across the agency.
- Promote accountability, transparency and quality in all services we deliver and programs we administer.
- Develop our employees at all levels of the agency.



Prepare for Emergencies

Both CCI and CPA programs are required to prepare for potential emergency situations that may affect the care of children by developing an effective disaster preparedness plan that identifies emergency situations and outlines an appropriate course of action. Both facility types require that the disaster preparedness plans include plans for the following emergency situations:



Components of Disaster Plan

- Local and widespread weather emergencies or natural disasters, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, ice or snow storms, or floods;
- Manmade disasters such as acts of terrorism and hazardous materials spills;
- Unanticipated interruption of service of utilities, including water, gas, or electricity, either within the facility or within a local or widespread area;
- Loss of heat or air conditioning;
- Fire, explosion, or other physical damage to the facility;
- Pandemics or other situations where the community's need for services exceeds the availability of beds and services regularly offered by the facility.



Frequently Overlooked Rules

There are several rules in both the CPA and CCI rules and regulations that frequently get overlooked.

Let's review a few of those rules!



Fire Drills

Both CCI and CPA rule sets require quarterly fire drills:

- CCI 290-2-5-.21(d) (Tag 2109)The facility shall document participation of all areas of the facility in quarterly fire drills.
- CPA 290-9-2-.12(d) (Tag 1409)The agency shall document participation of each placement home's quarterly fire drills. This includes ensuring that the *adoptive* and *foster families* conduct quarterly fire drills.

*****These drills must be documented by the facility/agency, and must be available for review by the Department as required.**



Disaster Preparedness Plan

- CCI 290-2-5-.21(e)(Tag 2110) In addition to fire drills, the facility shall have its staff rehearse portions of the disaster preparedness plan, with a minimum of two rehearsals each calendar year either in response to an emergency or through planned drills, with coordination of the drills with the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) whenever possible.
- CPA 290-9-2-.12 (Tag 1400) The agency shall prepare for potential emergency situations that may affect the care of children by the development of an effective disaster preparedness plan that identifies emergency situations and outlines an appropriate course of action.
The plan must be reviewed and revised annually, as appropriate, including any related written agreements.



Include the local EMA

- CCI 290-2-5-.21(g) (Tag 2112) The facility shall provide a copy of the internal disaster preparedness plan to the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and shall include the local EMA in development of the facility's plan for the management of external disasters.
- CPA 290-9-2-.12(f) (Tag 1411) The agency shall provide a copy of the internal disaster preparedness plan to the local Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and shall include the local EMA in development of the facility's plan for the management of external disasters.



Questions

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