Emergency Evacuation for People with Medical Needs

Presentation for the Delegation from China

October 2013
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)**

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