Wildland Fire Evacuation (Exercise of Choice)
After Action Report

May 4th

2023

Gil Damiani Report Completed: 5-5-2023 Facilitated by Arizona Health Care Association

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## **EXPLANATION OF TERMS**

Examples:

AAR After Action Report
BC Behavioral Care
BH Behavioral Health

CMS Centers for Medicaid/Medicare

CHVA Community Hazard Vulnerability Assessment

CoOP Continuity of Operations Plan
EPP Emergency Preparedness Program
EOP Emergency Operations Plan

FSX Full Scale Exercise

FW Fire Watch

HPP Hospital Preparedness Program
HSAG Health Services Advisory Group

HSEEP Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program
HSPD 8 Homeland Security Presidential Directive #8

HVA Hazard Vulnerability Assessment IPP Integrated Preparedness Plan

ID Infectious Disease
IC Incident Command(er)
ICS Incident Command System

IP Improvement Plan

LIPS Life Safety, Incident Stabilization, Property Preservation, Societal Threat

MHOAC Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator
NHICS Nursing Home Incident Command System
NIMS National Incident Management System
OEM Office of Emergency Management

PD-5 Presidential Directive #5
PIO Public Information Officer

SIP Shelter in Place TTX Tabletop Exercise

# **INTRODUCTION**

This was a Tabletop Exercise for the AzCHER Northern Region members interested in participating in a TTX. Attendees were from facilities throughout the Northern Region including 4 organizations represented. Administration, dietary, nursing, maintenance, medical records, social work, 25 in all (see attached roster). A PPT was presented briefly covering components of the Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) and the roles/responsibilities of each position. Assessing the situation, establishing objectives, and considering what an operational period is. The scenario was presented in 3 modules. Module 1, participants were provided information that northern and southern Az were experiencing unprecedented wildfires. Attendees were given time to contemplate a plan of action with the information provided up to this point, asking participants to consider the steps on establishing objectives if, who, when they might consider evacuating residents from their facilities. Module 2 introduced the fact that 100+ residents in northern Az need to be evacuated to the Phoenix area and ADHS was asking for assistance from the LTC community to take in displaced residents. Discussion followed, regarding steps to be taken to help. Module 3, buses and 5 (unexpected) ambulances arrive at YOUR facility unplanned/requested. The group was asked what steps they would take to address this situation.

## AFTER ACTION REPORT OVERVIEW

This report is a compilation of information from participants working in long term care facilities across Flagstaff and northern Arizona area. The presentation was intended to provide a semi complex incident for attendees to share policies and procedures related to dealing with behavioral residents, considering infectious disease and the possibility of evacuating their facilities. The pre- ttx session covered the NHICS as well as the roles and responsibilities of the ICS command team and provide information to assist attendees focus on establishing objectives and operational periods. Several attendees were new to the TTX process and dealing with emergent issues. All participants offered valuable insight as to how to deal with issues presented and how they might fit in.

The recommendations in this AAR should be viewed with considerable attention to creating and maintaining a culture of safety and collaboration while providing the care to residents and staff during emergencies. Each person should review the recommendations and determine the most appropriate action and time needed for implementation.

The issues outlined in this AAR will be addressed in the Improvement Plan and will list corrective actions to complete. The Improvement Plan will serve as a summary of the AAR and as a guide for corrective action over the course of the following year's training program for staff.

# **Exercise Overview:**

Facilities planning process relating to accepting residents from evacuated facilities in other parts of the state

Dι	iration: 4 nours
Fo	cus (Check appropriate area(s) below):
	Prevention
	Response
	Recovery
Χ	Other (Planning)
Ac	tivity or Scenario (Check appropriate area(s) below):
	Fire
	Flooding
	Severe Weather
	Hazardous Material Release
	Bomb Threat
	Medical Emergency
	Power Outage
	Evacuation
	Lockdown
	Special Event
	Exercise/Drill
Χ	Other (Discussion Based Exercise)

#### Location:

The Peaks, 3150 N. Winding Brook Rd. Flagstaff, 86001

**Participating Organizations:** The Peaks, Flagstaff, Haven of Prescott, Winslow Campus of Care, Aspire Transitional Care

25 individuals (see roster)

#### **STRENGTHS**

List strengths

After the session the group identified 3 areas, they felt were positives for the exercise

Include here the areas you felt went well or were addressed properly. Example: Staff members understood the issues dealing with facilities in distress, seeking to keep their residents safe and willing to accept displaced residents.

## **AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT**

List Areas of improvement

Include here what your facility needs to improve on.

Example: Due to staff turnover, few members are familiar with NHICS.

# **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Include here the action/steps your facility will take to address the areas of improvement.

Example: Provide NHICS training to staff likely to be involved in helping to manage an incident.

## **CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS**

The exercise went well, the group was engaged and very open to suggestions. The information presented was new to some attendees. Participants were very familiar with the unique characteristics of residents in the Behavioral Unit and how they may react during emergencies.