

Considerations for Emergency Responses in Assisted Living

Bureau of Assisted Living
Board on Aging and Long-term Care
Division of Medicaid Services



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Emergency Preparedness

What does your emergency plan look like?



AFH Codes and Regulations

- 88.05(4) *Fire Safety*
 - Requires a written plan for fire response, staff & resident training on the plan, and semi-annual drills.
 - Requires evaluation of resident evacuation abilities.
 - Encourages fire department consultation.

RCAC Codes and Regulations

- [89.23\(2\)\(c\)](#) *Emergency assistance.*
 - Requires written plans for a variety of emergencies.
 - Staff must be available to provide assistance 24/7.
 - Must be developed with local fire and emergency services.

CBRF Codes and Regulations

- 83.47(2) *Emergency & Disaster Plan*
 - Requires written emergency plans that include responses to a variety of situations, emergency shelter plans, transportation to the emergency shelter location, and meal/medication assistance when at the emergency shelter location.
 - New resident orientation to the plan.
 - Regular evacuation drills.
 - Coordination with local fire department.

After Your Initial Response

- Notify all appropriate parties that haven't been made aware of the situation
- Develop & implement contingency plans
- Analyze & revise emergency response plans



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Reporting Requirements for Assisted Living Facilities

Community-Based Residential Facilities
Adult Family Homes
Residential Care Apartment Complexes

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Division of Quality Assurance
Bureau of Assisted Living
P-02007 (09/2026)

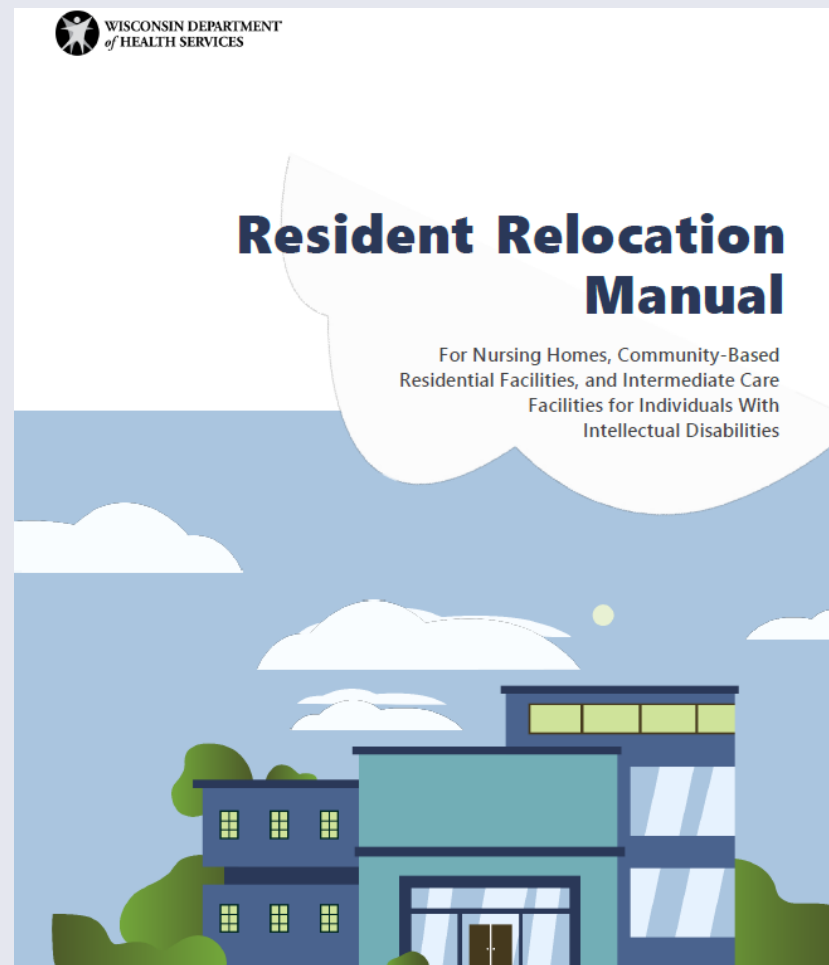
Scenario

- December 2023 CBRF sprinkler pipe bursts 3:30 am
- 13 residents evacuated
- Immediate response
- Relocation activities
- Coordination
- Collaboration

Supporting Successful Relocations

- Chapter 50 Relocation Process
- Relocation team purpose in emergency response

[Resident Relocation Manual:](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/relocation)
dhs.wisconsin.gov/relocation



Relocation Stress Syndrome or Transfer Trauma

- Defined
- Symptoms
- Factors That Can Magnify Symptoms
- Strategies for Successful Outcomes

Questions?

Contact Information

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[BOALTC Website](#)

Resources

- List of Local Public Health Contacts:
dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/index.htm
- Reporting Requirements for Assisted Living Facilities:
dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02007.pdf
- Resident Relocation Manual:
dhs.wisconsin.gov/relocation
- BOALTC Relocation Stress Syndrome Brochure:
longtermcare.wi.gov/Pages/Media/Publications.aspx