



## Emergency Planning and Preparedness

At Better Living at Thompson House, we are committed to the safety and security of our residents, their loved ones, our staff, volunteers, and all visitors to the Home. Better Living at Thompson House acknowledges that emergencies do occur and is committed to identifying any situations that may pose a risk to the home and to having a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Plan in place to plan for and coordinate all the personnel and materials required to mitigate the effects of, or recover from, emergency situations.

The Emergency Preparedness Plan includes specific emergency plans that will standardize and simplify responses to all identified emergency/disaster situations. The plan identifies the critical services and operations affected in emergency situations along with the emergency response that is required in order to ensure safety and maintain business continuity. The plan also ensures that all staff and agencies which may become involved in an emergency are aware of their respective roles and responsibilities during an emergency and participate in the emergency response program. To ensure our staff are prepared in an emergency situation, we have developed the emergency plan in collaboration with our emergency service partners, systems partners, resident councils, Family Council (when in place), and others. There are three main categories of emergency that may impact Better living at Thompson House and these include, but are not limited to, the areas that have been set out by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

**Natural Events** – A naturally occurring event, usually caused by extreme weather. These include:

- Fires (also required as part of the Ontario Fire Code)
- Natural disasters or extreme weather events (e.g., snowstorms, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, extreme heat or cold, drought)

**People-Related Events** – An event caused by the actions of an individual or one which impacts a large number of people. These include:

- Outbreaks of a communicable disease, outbreaks of a disease of public health significance, epidemics, pandemics
- Community disasters
- Hostile person
- Missing Resident
- Medical emergencies

**Infrastructure Disruptions** – An event that impacts the functionality of the building. These include:

- Loss of one of more essential services (i.e power outages, water outages, IT failure)
- Gas leaks
- Chemical spills
- Bomb threats
- Boil Water Advisory

We have a communication strategy for announcing Emergency Codes and we practice our response to these codes on a regular basis (e.g. monthly fire drills on every shift), so that we can analyze our response and make adjustments to our plans. Below is the list of our Emergency Codes:

<b>CODE ORANGE</b>	DISASTER/MAJOR EMERGENCY (INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL)
<b>CODE RED</b>	FIRE
<b>CODE GREEN</b>	EVACUATION
<b>CODE WHITE</b>	VIOLENCE & AGGRESSION
<b>CODE BROWN</b>	HAZARDOUS SPILLS

<b>CODE GREY</b>	SHUTDOWN & AIR EMERGENCY
<b>CODE BLACK</b>	BOMB THREAT
<b>CODE BLUE</b>	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
<b>CODE YELLOW</b>	MISSING RESIDENT
<b>CODE PINK</b>	ELEVATOR EMERGENCY

Our plans include communication systems (including a back up system in the event of a communication outage), emergency staff fan-out lists, relocation strategies, plans for essential supply acquisition such as food, water, medications, personal protective equipment and care items, and a strategy for supporting residents and staff during the emergencies and after the traumatic event.

Our Emergency Plan is available at our main reception area for review. If you have any questions about our plan please contact:

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