



2007 HIV/AIDS Hurricane Guide

This hurricane guide is tailored specifically for the HIV/AIDS population that we serve, however contains information that can be used by anyone in Florida Area 1. Within the past few years our area has been hit hard by storms— specifically Hurricanes Ivan, Dennis, and Katrina. After these storms we had individuals in our HIV/AIDS community who were at times injured or stranded due to lack of information about proper HIV preparation. In order to make sure that individuals in our area are prepared for the 2007 Hurricane season, we are handing out these pamphlets in the hope that they may provide information that will assist individuals in making informed decisions that will keep them safe.

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Evacuation

It is extremely important for individuals to know when the proper time is to evacuate for a storm. According to the Emergency Operations Center, if an individual is in a mobile home the best thing for them to do is evacuate during any hurricane. This does not necessarily mean that the individual must go to a shelter. They may choose to stay with a friend or family member in a brick home, make arrangements to stay in a hotel, or even choose to evacuate out of the area. Remember that even level 1 Hurricane winds can cause major damage to mobile homes.

If you live in a low-lying area where a mandatory evacuation is issued, you generally have no more than 8 hours to safely evacuate. It is important to remember that if you choose not to evacuate that help may not be able to get to you should you need it.

If you evacuate, please make sure that you bring with you all of your medications in their original bottles and a medication list from your doctor's office. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your original proof of HIV status. If you are unable to get back to town before you need a refill on your medications you may be able to fill them at a local pharmacy or through another physician's office if you have these items with you.



Remember that even in a level 1 hurricane, winds can cause major damage.

Hurricane Categories

Hurricane Category 1
74-95mph winds—
storm surge 4-5ft above normal

Hurricane Category 2
96-110mph winds—
storm surge 6-8ft above normal

Hurricane Category 3
111-130mph winds—
storm surge 9-12ft above
normal

Hurricane Category 4
131-155mph winds—
storm surge 13-18ft above
normal

Hurricane Category 5
155+mph winds— storm surge
18ft+ above normal

Transportation

Transportation is available for individuals who would like to be transported to a local shelter. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, individuals can call ECAT at (850) 595-3228. In Okaloosa County, individuals can call Okaloosa County Transit at (850) 833-9168 or (850) 689-7809. In Bay/Holmes/Washington/Walton counties, individuals can call the Tri-County Council at (850) 547-3689. Before calling any of these transportation services you must have everything packed and be ready to go to the shelter. The agency will tell you what time they will pick you up—you cannot choose a specific time that you would like them to come. You also cannot choose which shelter to be transported to—they will take you to the nearest shelter with available space.

