



Policy:

The Lutheran Home will have a policy and procedure in place in the event of a tornado warning to ensure residents safety.

Purpose:

- **NOTE: A TORNADO WARNING MEANS A TORNADO OR FUNNEL CLOUD HAS BEEN SIGHTED OR DETECTED BY RADAR.**
- To assure safety of residents, staff, and visitors of The Lutheran Home under the conditions of a TORNADO WARNING.

Procedure for a Tornado Warning:

1. Hope Residence will carry out a tornado drill during National Tornado Awareness week. This will take place two times on that day. Staff will complete a "Tornado Drill Report" form for all residents and staff involved. File the report in the facility where it is available for inspection upon request.
2. The Lutheran Home will be alerted to a tornado warning via weather monitor/television/radio or the civil defense siren. Staff will listen for current weather conditions. Local sirens are meant for those outside and are not to be depended on to warn those in the building.
3. At the first sign of severe weather, staff will confirm the location and safety of all residents.
4. Upon hearing that a tornado warning is in effect, the supervisor/nurse in charge will inform the staff we are under a tornado warning.
5. Any in town or out of town activities will be postponed or cancelled. All residents and staff should stay inside.
6. After being informed, all staff should:
 1. Assist residents inside the building and instruct them to stay inside.
 2. Move all residents to hallway between fire doors. Residents unable to move from their beds or refuse to move should be covered completely with a blanket and moved away from windows.
 3. Reassure residents if they are displaying signs of anxiety.
 2. Draw draperies, blinds, etc. in resident rooms and common areas as well as remove loose objects from window sills
 3. Close bedroom and fire doors to prevent flying glass.
 4. Prepare residents, staff and visitors for tornado warning by providing protection for head or face (a pillow or blanket).
 5. Have emergency kit and flashlight ready.
 6. Be alert to danger of winds and lightning.
 7. Be alert to loose or downed electric wires.
 8. NO resident is to have a tub bath or shower during a tornado warning.
 9. Administration designee/house charge is responsible to inform all nurses stations and Hope Residence when thunderstorm warning/tornado watch is cleared.
 10. Staff will complete a "Tornado Drill Report" form for all residents and staff involved. File the report in the facility where it is available for inspection upon request. Staff conducting the drill will complete the "Evaluation of Staff Performance" and "Drill Evaluation" and note how staff responded appropriately or where there may be any need for improvement.

* During a tornado, safe areas are defined as windowless spaces having close walls. i.e. public restrooms and tub rooms and between fire doors in hallways.