

# *Current Issues in Emergency Management*

## **Update On FNSS**

Bill Johnson, RN / Mike DeLorenzo

October 11, 2011

October 25, 2011



# Chronology

- FEMA disseminated guidance document in November 2010.
  - Document slated as purely “guidance.”
- FEPA presented a sheltering roundtable at its Annual Meeting January 27, 2011
- Florida DoH Special Needs Shelter Interagency Committee established two (2) sub-committees to address FNSS at its March 1, 2011 meeting.

Guidance on Planning for  
Integration of Functional  
Needs Support Services in  
General Population Shelters



# Chronology

- **Policy Sub-committee** to address the guidance document and develop a workable strategy.
- **Gap analysis/resource Sub-committee** to address current resource capabilities, potential shortfalls, and how to address them.
- FEPA developed a interim position paper April 6, 2011; posted on website.



## Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS)

### Introduction

Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) guidance released by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on November 1, 2010, in the form of a document entitled "Guidance on Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters."

Individuals with disabilities/functional needs may have physical, sensory, mental health, and cognitive and/or intellectual disabilities affecting their ability to function independently without assistance. Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) are services that enable children and adults to maintain their usual level of independence in general population shelters. These services include:

- Reasonable modifications to policies, practices and procedures
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Consumable Medical Supplies (CMS)
- Personal Assistance Services (PAS)
- Other goods and services as needed:
  - Access to medications to maintain health, mental health, and function;
  - Available sleeping accommodations (e.g., the provision of universal/accessible cots or beds and cribs; the placement, modification, or stabilization of cots or beds and cribs; the provision and installation of privacy curtains);
  - Access to an air-conditioned and/or heated environment;
  - Refrigeration for medications;
  - Availability of food and beverages appropriate for individuals with dietary restrictions (e.g., persons with diabetes or severe allergies to foods such as peanuts, dairy products, and gluten);
  - Access to transportation for individuals who may require a wheelchair-accessible vehicle, individualized assistance, and the transportation of equipment required in a shelter because of a disability;
  - Assistance locating, securing, and moving to post-disaster alternative housing, which includes housing that is accommodating to the individual's functional support needs;
  - Assistance with activities of daily living such as eating, taking medication, dressing and undressing, transferring to and from a wheelchair or other mobility aid, walking, stabilization, bathing, toileting, and communicating.

It is estimated that as many as fifty (50) percent of the overall national population require one or more of these functional services for daily living.

# Policy Sub-Committee Members

- Bill Johnson, Palm Beach County Emergency Management (Co-Chair)
- Mike DeLorenzo, Florida Division of Emergency Management (Co-Chair)
- Anne Miller, Sarasota Emergency Management
- Bob Lay, Brevard County Emergency Management
- Allen Harris, Seminole County Emergency Management
- Susan Bulecza, Florida Dept. of Health
- Carol Stachurski, Disability Rights of Florida
- Chip Wilson, Florida Division of Emergency Management
- Karen Hagen, American Red Cross
- Jesus Garcia, Logisticare
- Richard Kleindienst, Sumter Co. Dept. of Health
- Heather Komarnisky, FDEM Attorney
- Rich LaBelle, Family Network on Disability
- Tom Linley, Volunteer Florida
- Matt Motko, Independent Living Resources Center of NE Florida
- Rich Rasmussen, Florida Hospital Association
- Rhonda White, Florida Department of Health
- Keely Smith, Florida Department of Health
- Valerie Stafford-Mallis Children's Medical Services
- Karen Street, Brevard Co. Dept. of Health
- Lupe Taylor, Hendry Co. Emergency Management
- John Trifiletti, Ph.D., Independent Living Resources Center of NE Florida
- Cathy White, Dept. of Education
- Merrilee White, Volunteer Florida
- John Wilson, Lee County Emergency Management



# Chronology


- Sub-committees have held several conference calls; the Policy Sub-Committee has held at least seven (7) calls.
- In view of the dynamics and complexity of the topic, it was decided to convene a small workgroup retreat.
- Retreat held June 21-22, 2011 at the SLRC in Orlando, FL.



# Policy Workgroup Members

- Bill Johnson, Palm Beach County Emergency Management
- Anne Miller, Sarasota Emergency Management
- Bob Lay, Brevard County Emergency Management
- Allen Harris, Seminole County Emergency Management
- Susan Bulecza, Florida Dept. of Health
- Carol Stachurski, Disability Rights of Florida
- Chip Wilson, Florida Division of Emergency Management
- Karen Hagen, American Red Cross
  
- *Mike DeLorenzo, Florida Division of Emergency Management*
- *Jerry Smith, Florida Emergency Preparedness Association*

# Outcome

- Document is a framework; a guideline.
  - Downloadable from [www.fepa.org](http://www.fepa.org) 
- A baseline document for Florida emergency managers.
- A road map.
- Contains useful planning tools.

WHITE PAPER:

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GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
FUNCTIONAL NEEDS SUPPORT SERVICES (FNSS) IN  
GENERAL POPULATION SHELTERS IN THE STATE OF  
FLORIDA

DEVELOPED BY:

The Policy Sub-Committee of the Florida Department of Health Special Needs  
Shelter Interagency Committee

July 27, 2011

# Product of Collaboration

- Emergency Management
  - County-level
  - FL DEM
- Dept. of Health
- Dept. of Education
- Children's Medical Services
- American Red Cross
- Disability Rights of Florida
- Family Network on Disability
- Independent Living
- Advocates representing blind interests, deaf interests, cross-disability interests, and the cognitive disability interests.



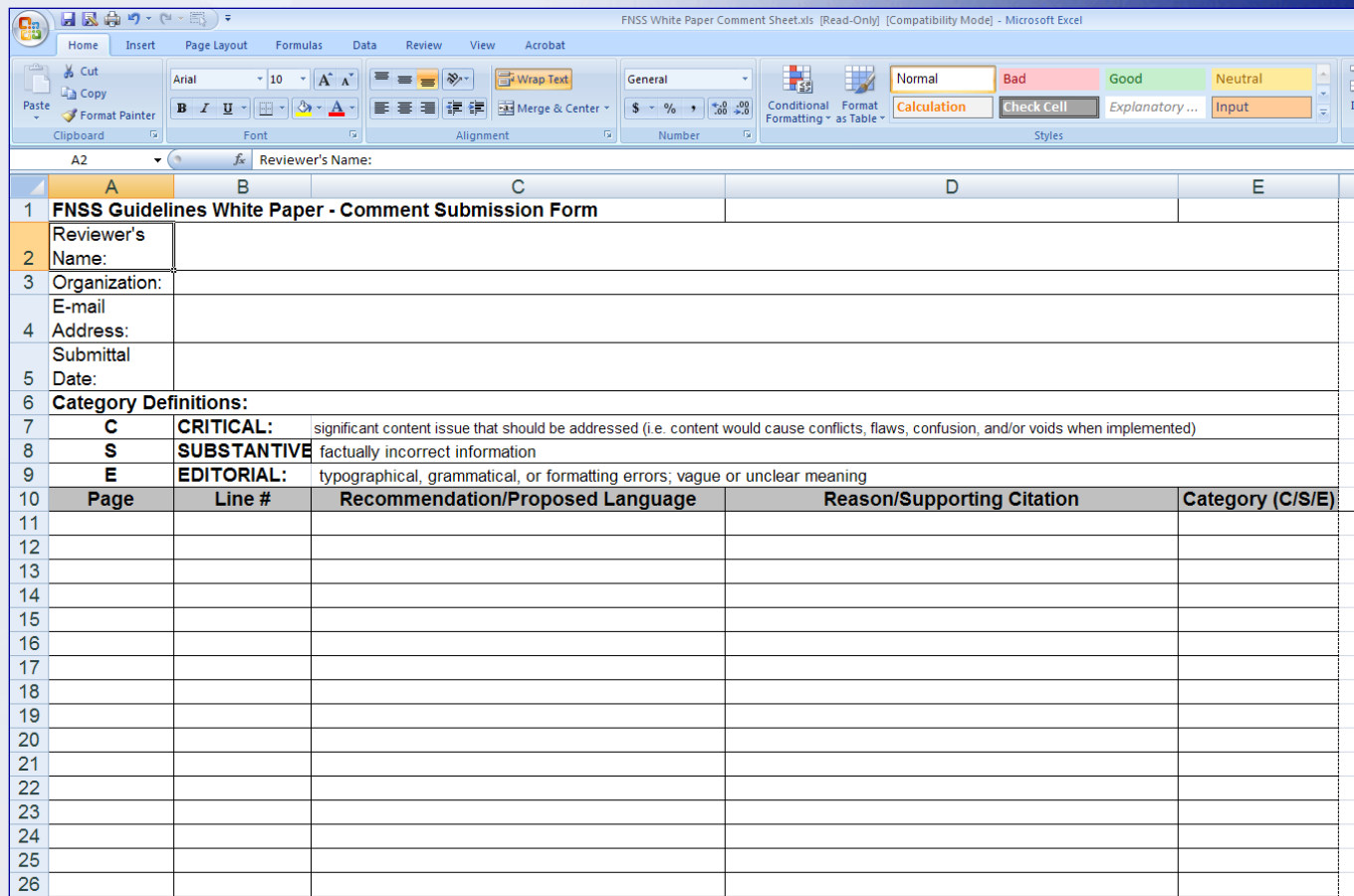
# Chronology continued...

- Draft White Paper approved by Policy Sub-Committee on July 27, 2011.
- Presented at FEPA Mid-Year [Tampa] on August 3, 2011.
- Presented to FL Dept. of Health Special Needs Interagency Committee on August 30, 2011.



# Chronology continued...

- Comment form distributed widely on September 6, 2011.



FNSS White Paper Comment Sheet.xls [Read-Only] [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Acrobat

Clipboard Paste Copy Format Painter

Font Arial 10 Bold Italic Underline

Alignment Wrap Text Merge & Center

General Number

Conditional Formatting as Table

Styles Normal Bad Good Neutral Calculation Check Cell Explanatory... Input

A2 Reviewer's Name:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>FNSS Guidelines White Paper - Comment Submission Form</b>				
2	Reviewer's Name:				
3	Organization:				
4	E-mail Address:				
5	Submittal Date:				
6	<b>Category Definitions:</b>				
7	<b>C</b>	<b>CRITICAL:</b>	significant content issue that should be addressed (i.e. content would cause conflicts, flaws, confusion, and/or voids when implemented)		
8	<b>S</b>	<b>SUBSTANTIVE:</b>	factually incorrect information		
9	<b>E</b>	<b>EDITORIAL:</b>	typographical, grammatical, or formatting errors; vague or unclear meaning		
10	<b>Page</b>	<b>Line #</b>	<b>Recommendation/Proposed Language</b>	<b>Reason/Supporting Citation</b>	<b>Category (C/S/E)</b>
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# Chronology continued...

- Comments were due September 30, 2011.
  - 63 distinct comments received
- Policy Sub-Committee to analyze comments and incorporate into a final version.
- Anticipate re-draft in November, 2011.



# Future Plans

- Submit to DoH Special Needs Interagency Committee in November; gain approval.
- Present to U.S. Dept. of Justice and FEMA for concurrence.
- Disseminate to Florida emergency managers for consideration in their planning process.



# Thank You.

**Bill Johnson, RN, MS, CEM®**

Palm Beach County Emergency Management

[wpjohnso@pbcgov.org](mailto:wpjohnso@pbcgov.org)

**Mike DeLorenzo**

Florida Division of Emergency Management

[mike.delorenzo@em.myflorida.com](mailto:mike.delorenzo@em.myflorida.com)

