



CFDMC Evacuation Caches

Updated 8-14-24

CFDMC conducted an assessment to identify the cost of equipping individual hospitals with needed evacuation equipment. The assessment revealed that this strategy would be cost prohibitive, and that storage of the equipment would be problematic for many hospitals. This was identified as a gap in the HVA.

To support the region's capability to effectively respond to an event which requires evacuation of a hospital or a long-term care facility, the Coalition has purchased two caches of evacuation equipment, one located in the central portion of the region, and one located in the southern portion of the region. A third cache for the northern portion of the region is planned in late 2024. Each cache includes 113 HMH sked rescue systems with belay straps on a 20-foot trailer. The caches are deployable to hospitals or nursing homes within the region in two hours. All caches are available across the region. The central cache is located at the Orlando Regional Medical Center warehouse in Orlando and should be the first cache requested by Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties. The southern cache is located at Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital in Port St. Lucie and should be the first cache requested by Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin Counties. The third cache, once in place, should be the first cache requested by Volusia, Lake and Brevard Counties.

Deployment Process:

Any hospital or nursing home within the region may request an evacuation cache in the event of a planned or unexpected evacuation. The initial request may be made by phone to 407/928-1288 or 407/908-0142 or email at info@centralfladisaster.org. The requestor must also submit a mission request through the local ESF8 for tracking purposes.

Upon receipt of the request, the Coalition will work with the requesting hospital or nursing home to deploy the cache, as follows:

1. The Coalition will notify the cache custodian of the request (Orlando Health Duty Officer at 321-843-4357 or Cleveland Clinic Emergency Manager at 772-341-9816).
2. The requesting entity will arrange to pick up the cache at the closest location: Orlando Regional Medical Center warehouse at 1420 Sligh Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32806 or Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital at 10000 SW Innovation Way Port St. Lucie, FL 34987.
3. If the requesting entity is unable to pick up the cache, the following individuals will be contacted to pick up and deliver the cache to the requestor:

First contact: Christopher Dorans, Region 5 RERA/Planner – 772-209-0397

Second contact: Matt Meyers, CFDMC Projects Manager - 407-908-0142

Third contact: RMAT Volunteer, contact Lynne Drawdy – 407-928-1288

4. Once the evacuation event is completed, the requesting hospital or nursing home will work with the Coalition to return the trailer to the cache custodian. The requesting hospital/nursing home will ensure that the equipment is returned completely and in working condition.