



Policy to Ensure the Health and Medical Needs of PRS are addressed (8.609.6)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the health needs of people receiving services are met.

Policy

Persons receiving services shall live safely in environments common to other citizens with reasonable supports provided to protect their health and safety while simultaneously promoting community inclusion. ABLE shall ensure that the health and medical needs of persons receiving services are addressed. The amount and type of guidance provided shall be directly related to an assessment of the person's capabilities.

1. Persons receiving services will be assessed for their ability to take appropriate action in case of an emergency. Safety assessments shall be conducted upon enrollment into services and be maintained current. The following emergencies and disasters will be addressed:
 - Fire
 - Severe weather and other natural disasters
 - Missing persons
 - Serious accidents and illness
 - Assaults
 - Intruders

2. Each person will have a written plan addressing how the above emergencies will be handled based on the individual's skills assessment(s). The plan will be maintained current, and address the following:
 - Specific responsibilities/actions to be taken by persons receiving services, staff or other providers of supports and services in case of an emergency;
 - How the person receiving services will evacuate in case of fire by specifying, at minimum, two exit routes from floors used for sleeping and level of assistance needed; and,
 - Telephone access (by the person receiving services or with assistance) to the nearest poison control center, police, fire and medical services.

3. Safety plans will be reviewed annually. They will be practiced at sufficient frequency to ensure all persons with responsibilities for carrying out the plan are knowledgeable about the plan and capable of performing it.
4. A fire extinguisher shall be available in each home.
5. Smoke detectors shall be installed in each home to meet HUD requirements and/or local ordinances.
6. Each home shall have first aid supplies.
7. Each person receiving services shall have a primary physician.
8. Each person receiving services shall receive a medical evaluation at least annually unless a greater or lesser frequency is specified by his/her primary physician. If the physician specifies an annual evaluation is not needed, a medical evaluation shall be conducted no less frequently than every two years.
9. Each person receiving services shall be encouraged and assisted in getting a dental evaluation at least annually.
10. Other medical and dental assessments and services shall be completed as the need for these is identified by the physician, dentist, other medical support personnel or the interdisciplinary team.
11. Records shall contain documentation of:
 - Medical services provided;
 - Results of medical evaluations/assessments and of follow-up services required, if any;
 - Acute illness and chronic medical problems; and,
 - Weight taken annually or more frequently, as needed.