

Special Medical Needs Shelters

If you have a medical condition that requires a greater level of care than that provided at a Mass Care shelter, but you do not require hospitalization or a medical institution, a Special Medical Needs Shelter may be appropriate for you. These shelters offer basic medical assistance and monitoring. They are staffed by qualified medical personnel and have back-up electricity for limited lighting and essential medical equipment. Family members and caregivers are encouraged to accompany residents with special medical needs. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. Pre-registration for the Special Medical Needs Shelter is open throughout the year, and while not required, is strongly encouraged to ensure that the shelter will be adequately prepared to meet your needs.

For questions or to register for placement in a Special Medical Needs Shelter, call Broward County Human Services Department at 954-357-6385 (TTY 954-357-5608).

Special Medical Needs Shelters are appropriate for someone who:

- has minor health/medical conditions that require professional observation, assessment, and maintenance
- requires assistance with personal care and/or assistance with medications but does not require hospitalization or a medical institution
- needs assistance with medication administration and/or vital sign readings and is unable to do so without professional assistance.
- All residents seeking shelter in a Special Medical Needs facility will be reviewed on an individual basis to determine the best placement for their needs.

Reasonable modifications will be made for shelter residents with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need transfer assistance, sign language interpretation and other auxiliary aids, or a quiet zone for a cognitive disability or mental health need, call 954-357-6385 or TTY 954-357-5608 for the most updated information. As with all public places, residents with service animals accompanying them are welcome at all shelter sites.

Residents are encouraged to bring their caregiver and family members are welcome at all shelter sites.

What to Bring to a Special Medical Needs Shelter

DO Bring Any or All of these Items that Apply to You....

- A list of your current medications and at least a 7 day supply of the medications
- Documentation of specific medical information (including provider contact information)
- Medical equipment
 - Oxygen supplies

- Nebulizers
- Wound Care supplies
- Ostomy supplies
- Catheter supplies
- Canes/Wheelchairs/lift equipment
- Batteries, chargers or repair kit for electric wheelchairs
- Diabetes equipment
 - Glucose meter/strips/lancets
 - Insulin/syringes
 - Other insulin supplies
- Non-perishable dietary items
 - Special dietary foods if required
 - Snacks or other comfort foods (meals are provided at the shelter)
- Electronic equipment
 - Flashlight
 - Radio
 - Extra batteries
 - Cell phone and charger
- Personal Care
- Incontinence supplies
 - Clothing
 - Undergarments/Socks
 - Shoes (durable)
- Personal hygiene items
 - Soap/shampoo
 - Deodorant
 - Toothpaste/toothbrush
 - Brush/comb
 - Wash cloth
 - Towel
- Sleeping lounging equipment
 - Air mattress or cot for caregiver or family members (registered clients receive medical cots)
 - Lawn/lounge chair/Sleeping bag
 - Pillow
 - Blanket
 - Sheet
- Important papers
- I.D. with current address
- Entertainment items
 - Books/Magazines
 - Toys/Cards/Games
 - Portable radio/CD/headset
- Infant care items
 - Formula
 - Food
 - Diapers
- First-aid kit
 - Personal equipment
 - Eyeglasses
 - Hearing aids
 - Dentures

- Service Animal Food and supplies (if applicable) and proof of current vaccinations

DO NOT Bring—THESE ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT THE SHELTERS

- Pets (however, service animals are welcome at all shelters and public places)
- Firearms or weapons
- Alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs
- Perishable food Items

Important Phone Numbers

Broward County > At Risk > Important Phone Numbers

Emergency Police, Fire or Medical Assistance	911
First Call for Help Crisis Counseling Line	211
Broward County Hurricane Hotline	311 or 954-831-4000
American Red Cross	954-797-3800
Broward County Emergency Management	954-831-3900
Human Services Department (Special Medical Needs Shelter Registration and Transportation)	954-357-6385 954-357-5608 (TTY)
Center for Independent Living of Broward County	954-722-6400
Federal Emergency Management Agency	800-480-2520
Florida Division of Emergency Management	800-354-3571
Homeless Services	954-563-HELP 954-563-4357
National Organization on Disabilities	202-293-5960
Salvation Army	954-524-6991
Elder Helpline	954-745-9779

Information obtained from www.broward.org for educational purposes only.

For more information on Hurricane Safety Tips, please contact the above website, the Emergency Management System located at 115 S Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33301 or (305)357-8250 or the Pembroke Pines Police Department 954-431-2200.