

## Jennifer Daniels

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**Sent:** Friday, May 29, 2020 10:22 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Daniels  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Questions for FDEM from the EM Director Hurricane season discussion

-----Original Message-----

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Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Questions for FDEM from the EM Director Hurricane season discussion

Good morning EM Directors,

Below are the Division's responses to the questions asked last week regarding Non-Congregate Sheltering. Thank you all for your patience and interest as we work to push the guidance out.

1. clarification/confirmation on "NCS being a statewide approach"
  - \* Does this mean FDEM will be responsible for promoting the registration process across the state to those in the CDC high risk category?
    - \* No -The State will augment the counties' promotion for registering to those at high risk of COVID-19.
    - \* Will FDEM be reviewing, prioritizing, and assigning the hotels?
      - \* No - FDEM is providing general prioritization of hotels based on location, generators and other factors, but sheltering remains a county-led operation.
      - \* NCS is a statewide approach because it is likely that an evacuating county will not have enough NCS space for their evacuees. As such, NCS only works if most counties participate and coordinate during an event.
  2. Who is responsible for getting the agreements with the hotels - State or County?
    - \* The County - just like for COVID-19 NCS.
  3. Is the agreement for the entire hotel, limited rooms, etc?
    - \* Each agreement with the hotel can be different. Each has its benefits. Booking the whole hotel is easier on staffing. Booking a floor or two minimizes having to "bump" pre-existing reservations.
  4. What happens if the rooms are not utilized - is there a cost incurred?
    - \* This will be part of the agreement and negotiations with the hotel.
  5. What if there are paying customers that want the hotel room - is it first come first served?
    - \* This will be part of the agreement and negotiations. This consideration may be a reason to not book an entire hotel, or only use a hotel with a "sister" property where pre-existing guests can be transferred.
  6. How will this impact companies that have standing contracts with hotels for responders?
    - \* This will be part of the agreement and negotiations with the hotel.

The discussions should include if there are pre-existing agreements with companies and long-term care facilities.

  7. Are the counties expected to staff these facilities? If so, what does that look like?
    - \* Yes. Staffing would be the same as a Congregate Shelter. A minimum of two staff, but use the same ratio as Congregate.
  8. What are the feeding expectations?
    - \* For risk sheltering, there is no expectation for feeding except for emergency supplies should someone need food with medication, or there is some other circumstance.
      - \* This should be a standard across the states - are evacuees using NCS expected to provide their own food & supplies
        - \* Yes - messaging should make clear that a risk shelter is a risk shelter regardless of if it is NCS or Congregate.
    9. We heard some people say we should use NCS for the sick or confirmed positive. Is the state considering this at all? If so, what is county liability to monitor/provide care?
      - \* Yes - We know that NCS space is limited. As such, it will be beneficial to target those individuals with pre-existing medical conditions and those over 65 years of age. Liability will be no different than for Congregate Shelters. Those with special needs should be in special needs shelters or in medical facilities.

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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Questions for FDEM from the EM Director Hurricane season discussion

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Jared, Kevin,

thank you for taking the time to meet with us on the call this morning. We all appreciate the work that FDEM and partner agencies have been doing to support our efforts in the county. We appreciate your interaction with FEMA to get us the additional tool of Non-Congregate Sheltering but we have several questions that we need clarification on.

1. Need clarification/confirmation on "NCS being a statewide approach"

- \* Does this mean FDEM will be responsible for promoting the registration process across the state to those in the CDC high risk category?
- \* Will FDEM be reviewing, prioritizing, and assigning the hotels?

1. Who is responsible for getting the agreements with the hotels - State or County?
2. Is the agreement for the entire hotel, limited rooms, etc?
3. What happens if the rooms are not utilized - is there a cost incurred?
4. What if there are paying customers that want the hotel room - is it first come first served?
5. How will this impact companies that have standing contracts with hotels for responders?
6. Are the counties expected to staff these facilities? If so, what does that look like?
7. What are the feeding expectations?

\* This should be a standard across the states - are evacuees using NCS expected to provide their own food & supplies

1. We heard some people say we should use NCS for the sick or confirmed positive. Is the state considering this at all? If so, what is county liability to monitor/provide care?

The clarification of these questions will help give all of us an idea of how to manage this additional tool in our shelter strategy.

Respectfully,

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