



Emergency Colour Codes – Quick Information Sheet

CODE GREEN (EVACUATION)
CODE YELLOW (MISSING RESIDENT)
CODE ORANGE (COMMUNITY DISASTER)
CODE RED (FIRE)
CODE WHITE (AGGRESSION/VIOLENCE)
CODE PURPLE (HOSTAGE TAKING)
CODE SILVER (PERSON WITH A WEAPON)
CODE GREY (UTILITY LOSS/FAILURE – WEATHER DISRUPTION – MAJOR IT INCIDENT)
CODE BROWN (IN-FACILITY CHEMICAL SPILL)
CODE BLACK (BOMB THREAT)
CODE BLUE (MEDICAL EMERGENCY)



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Code Green - Evacuation

The evacuation of a room, unit, floor, or building with the goal of getting every person to safety.

Code Yellow – Missing Resident

All staff are asked to be ready to assist with finding a missing resident when the code is announced. Follow the instructions as they are announced.

Code Orange – Community Disaster

HCH has formal shelter agreements called Reciprocal Agreements with neighbouring facilities and organizations. If there is a community disaster and a facility requires emergency shelter these pre-arranged agreements are activated.

Code Red – Fire

The most known emergency code. In the event of a fire all staff should follow the REACT acronym:

R – Remove those in danger

E – Ensure all doors are closed

A – Activate the Alarm

C- Call 9-1-1

T – Try to extinguish the fire if comfortable to do so.

Code White (Aggression/Violence)

If staff perceives themselves or other staff at risk of physical harm by an aggressive resident, family member or other staff, a Code White is called.



Code Purple (Hostage Taking)

If staff become aware of a hostage-taking (Code Purple) situation at HCH, follow the guidelines in the policy to manage the incident. The police will be notified of the incident, once they are onsite follow their instructions.

Code Silver (Active Shooter)

If staff encounter an active shooting incident (Code Silver) onsite. **RUN. HIDE. SURVIVE/DEFEND**

Get away from the situation. Find a hiding spot that keeps you away and out of sight of the shooter. Survive by any means necessary, fighting may be the only option. When Police arrive onsite follow their instructions.

Code Grey (Utility loss/failure – Weather Disruption -Major IT Incident)

When there is a loss of utility, weather disruption, or major IT disruption a Code Grey will be called. Supplies and resources will be distributed to ensure business continuity.

Code Brown (In-facility Chemical Spill)

If there is a chemical spill in the facility Code Brown will be called. Staff in the immediate area of the spill will be asked to evacuate the area so that the spill can be managed and cleaned according to the instructions in the SDS.

Code Black (Bomb threat)

If HCH is notified of a Bomb threat onsite, by telephone, email or Social Media OR if a suspicious package is received/delivered. Code Black will be called overhead. Cell phones and other devices will be requested to be turned off. The immediate area of the threat or package will be immediately evacuated. The Police and Fire department will be notified.

Code Blue (Medical Emergency)

For any medical emergencies – Cardiac arrest, breathing problems, chest pain, mental health...etc. The situation will be stabilized onsite and paramedic support will be requested through 9-1-1.

Emergency Colour Code Policies can be found on SharePoint!