
The handbook and companion plan template are intended to provide guidance and a format to aid local and tribal governments in the development of an Evacuation and Mass Care Plan, as a Support Plan or Annex to their Emergency Operations Plan, to ensure the timely, efficient and effective management of these two critical functions in time of catastrophe. The handbook and companion plan template address Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) in considerable detail. The planning and operational considerations contained in the handbook and companion plan template are consistent with the Michigan Evacuation / Mass Sheltering Plan, as well as the evacuation and mass care elements of the National Response Framework (NRF). The handbook is also consistent and compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS), supports evacuation and mass care recommendations provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and meets current evacuation and mass care standards under the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). The companion planning template document is identical in content to the handbook, but it has all of the explanatory notes (in green text boxes) removed so it is ready for local customization.

Questions about the documents should be directed to Mr. James Porcello, Planning and Program Development Section Manager, at (517) 336-6435, or by e-mail at porcelloj@michigan.gov. Be advised that the documents will not be distributed via hardcopy or on CD.

**Note:** It must be stressed that these documents are provided as guidance only, and local and tribal governments are free to use or not use them as deemed appropriate. For jurisdictions without an evacuation and mass care plan, the handbook and template can provide a solid starting point for plan development. For jurisdictions with established plans, the handbook can simply be used as a check to ensure that critical planning and operational elements have been adequately addressed in those plans. For jurisdictions somewhere in between, the handbook can provide an additional source to consult for background information and/or format suggestions.