

WORDS TO THE WISE

June 2007

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If you have clients who need assistance with finding the right place for their ill family member to live and determining how to pay for it,

***we can assist them
with becoming eligible
for Medicaid.***

If you have clients who are unable to care for themselves and make their own decisions,

***we can assist their loved
ones with becoming their
guardian.***

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Hurricane Season, 2007

Emergency Management Plans

The 2007 Atlantic hurricane season began on June 1st and lasts until November 30th. If your loved one lives in a nursing home or an assisted living facility, now is a good time to ask for a copy of the facility's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. This plan is required by Florida law and must be updated and approved every year by county emergency operation officials. The plan provides detailed information including where residents will be evacuated to in the event of an emergency, how family members will be notified, and how residents will be transported to a shelter.

Special Needs Shelters

If you or someone you know has special needs, register now for a special needs shelter in case evacuation becomes necessary. Once Lee County falls into the 5-day forecast cone of a hurricane, applications are no longer accepted. In Lee County, call 239-477-3640 for more information, or visit the Lee County Florida Emergency Management website at <http://www.leeecoc.com>. There is currently no application freeze in Collier County as a storm approaches, but it is still best to register now. For information on the Special Needs Shelter Program in Collier County, call 239-774-8000, or visit the Collier County Emergency Management website, at www.colliergov.net/index.aspx?page=101

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is Friday, June 15, 2007, and the Area Agency on Aging is sponsoring a local event in recognition of the day at Mount Hermon Church in Fort Myers. The church is located at 2856 Douglas Avenue and the event will be from 11am to 1pm. For more information, call 239-332-4233.

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse encourages everyone to wear purple on Friday, to show support for bringing an end to elder abuse and neglect.