

EMERGENCY RESPONSE - EARTHQUAKE

HS 3.5

INTENT

Staff will be able to respond specifically to a situation involving an earthquake.

POLICY

In the event of an earthquake staff is to respond immediately and ensure client and personal safety to the best of their ability.

PROCEDURE

1. Take immediate cover under tables, desks, or any other object that might offer protection while avoiding glass and light fixtures.
2. Assume the “Drop, Cover and Hold” position protecting internal organs and neck/head area from injury, remain in the position until shaking stops.

During aftershocks and immediately following a tremor:

- If outside remain outside in an open area away from buildings. If inside remain inside.
- Be alert to the possibility of fire, leaking gas, live wires, flooding and collapse/potential collapse of the building.

After the shaking stops if inside:

- Remain in place for at least 60 seconds in order to observe/assess your surroundings.
- Start “Evacuations for Emergency or Disaster” process.

After the shaking stops if outside:

- Check immediate area and start “Evacuations for Emergency or Disaster” process at step five.

EFFECTIVE: Dec. 1, 2015	APPROVED BY: Executive Director	
REPLACES: April 1, 2014	MONITORING: H&S Committee	FREQUENCY: Annually