HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM EMERGENCY PLAN
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science
The Medical University of S. C.

1) In the event of a hurricane, the senior admitting resident (SAR) and junior admitting residents (JARS) who are scheduled to be on night float on the day of predicted landfall (Team 1) should come to work prepared to stay for up to 72 hours. This includes bringing food, water, clothes, and sleeping gear.

2) Team 2 will be the SAR and JARS originally scheduled to be on night float on the following day. These residents will arrive at the hospital the same day and time as Team 1. Team 2’s responsibilities will be to assume on-call duties after Team 1 has fulfilled the first 24 hours. If necessary, the two teams will alternate call until relief is available for coverage.

3) If the storm is Category 3 or greater, the VA, IOP, and all of MUH will most likely be evacuated and the residents will be dismissed. The Chief Residents will notify the residents should evacuation occur. Residents should plan to be back in town and at work as soon as possible once the hospital reopens. See #8.

4) The day prior to call, all efforts should be made to ensure that Team 1 and 2 residents/interns can leave work early in the day to afford them time to prepare for extended on-call time, evacuate their families, etc.

5) Residents on Team 1 and 2 should report to the hospital no later than 8:00 AM on the day of predicted landfall. This is subject to change at the program directors’ discretion based on the time of predicted landfall.

6) Post-call residents preparing to leave the morning of landfall can check out to oncoming Teams as early as 8:00 AM. This is subject to change at the program directors’ discretion based on the time of predicted landfall.

7) All non-ward residents continue regular duties until mandatory evacuation is announced or as specified by the Chief Residents.

8) Prior to evacuating, all residents should leave their phone numbers and destination plans with the Chief Residents.

9) Residents in the process of evacuating must keep their pagers turned on while in radius for any new information.

10) Please pay close attention to news/weather channels for updates. As soon as possible, return to service so that the on-call residents may leave. If, for some reason, you are unable to return, notify the Chief Residents immediately so that arrangements can be made for coverage of your assigned service.
11) The above plans are subject to change if deemed appropriate by the Program Director. All parties would be notified in advance via email and paging system.