SHARED LIVING SAFETY

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INTRO:

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FACTS WE NEED TO KNOW!

- In 2019, there was 481,500 fire in the United States.
- Brattleboro Fire Department responded to 2523 incidents.
- Most fires occurred in residential dwellings.
- The risk of dying in a fire for elderly people (65 and over) or people with disabilities is over twice as high as others.
Toxic smoke inhalation causes more fire-related deaths than do the fires themselves. All combustible materials produce some amount of toxic smoke when they burn. How much toxic smoke will be emitted depends on the material, the amount of oxygen available and how long it burns.
Understand what needs to happen in an emergency and how to communicate and provide clear direction.

Understand what type of smoke and carbon monoxide detection is required in the living space.

Understand where fire happen in the home.

How and why to conduct fire drills regularly.

OBJECTIVES:
WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

- Always be prepared!
- Plan for the worst, hope for the best…
- Emergencies are not just fire…
  - Medical
  - Carbon Monoxide
  - Physiocratic
  - Family
  - The list is endless
  - Know your client.
- Establish an evacuation plan out of the residence.
- Plan for the weather and immediate needs of the client.
- Remember to also plan for yourself!
- Organization will be key during any emergency.
- Have phone numbers at the ready.
- Have a list of medications currently used for your client.
- What if the emergency is not at home…
COMMON CAUSES OF FIRE

Cooking

• Never throwing water on a grease fire. Instead, smother it with a pan or lid.
• Always keeping smoke detectors and a fire extinguisher in the home.
• Never leaving food to cook on a stovetop unattended.
Children

Curious minds and matches do not mix! Research shows children unintentionally cause an average of 7,100 home fires per year.

- Prevent accidental fires caused by children by:
  - Teaching your children the importance of fire safety at an early age. Children under the age of 6 are the most likely to find trouble with matches and lighters.
  - Making sure all matches and lighters are stored out of reach of children.
Candles

Candles provide lovely ambiance and fragrance, but they are also a fire hazard when not used appropriately.

- Stay safe when using candles in your home by:
  - Keeping candles away from flammable materials.
  - Never leaving a burning candle unattended, and always blowing it out before leaving a room or going to sleep.
  - Making sure candles are in secure holders. Elegant tapers are a nice accent, but they are much more unstable than jarred candles and, thus, more likely to tip over and cause a house fire.
COMMON CAUSES OF FIRE

Appliances
Also among the top causes of house fires are dryers and washing machines.
Keep these essential appliances worry-free by:
• Cleaning your lint screen after each use, and never using your dryer without it.
• Not overloading your washing machine — your clothes won’t get any cleaner if they are all jammed together, anyway.
• Making sure the dryer vent on the outside of the house is unobstructed
Smoking

The number of fires caused by smoking has decreased significantly over the past decade, along with the number of smokers in the U.S. However, there is still a significant risk of fire associated with smoking, especially for the elderly.

If you or others in your home smoke, improve safety by:

• Smoking cigarettes outside.
• Never smoking in bed.
• Using wide, sturdy ashtrays to hold butts and ashes
• Keep it clean!

COMMON CAUSES OF FIRE
SMOKE/CO DETECTORS

Working SMOKE ALARMS
SAVE LIVES
WHAT TYPE OF DETECTOR DO I NEED?

There Are Two Residential Smoke Alarm Technologies

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| **Not Fit For Purpose**  
(limited detection) | **Highly Effective**  
(absolute detection) |
| In Most Homes | In Most Commercial Buildings |
| Contain Radioactive Material | No Radioactive Material |
| Excessive False Alarms | Few False Alarms |
HOW DO I KNOW....

Photoelectric

Ionization
Smoke detectors should be inside every sleeping area and outside each sleeping area.

In the immediate vicinity of the bathroom.

There should be a minimum of one smoke alarm and one carbon monoxide (CO) alarm on each level. This can be a combination smoke and CO detector.

Interconnected detectors between floor when possible.

Carbon Monoxide???
Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal or other fuel. Improperly ventilated appliances and engines, particularly in a tightly sealed or enclosed space, may allow carbon monoxide to accumulate to dangerous levels.
QUESTIONS...