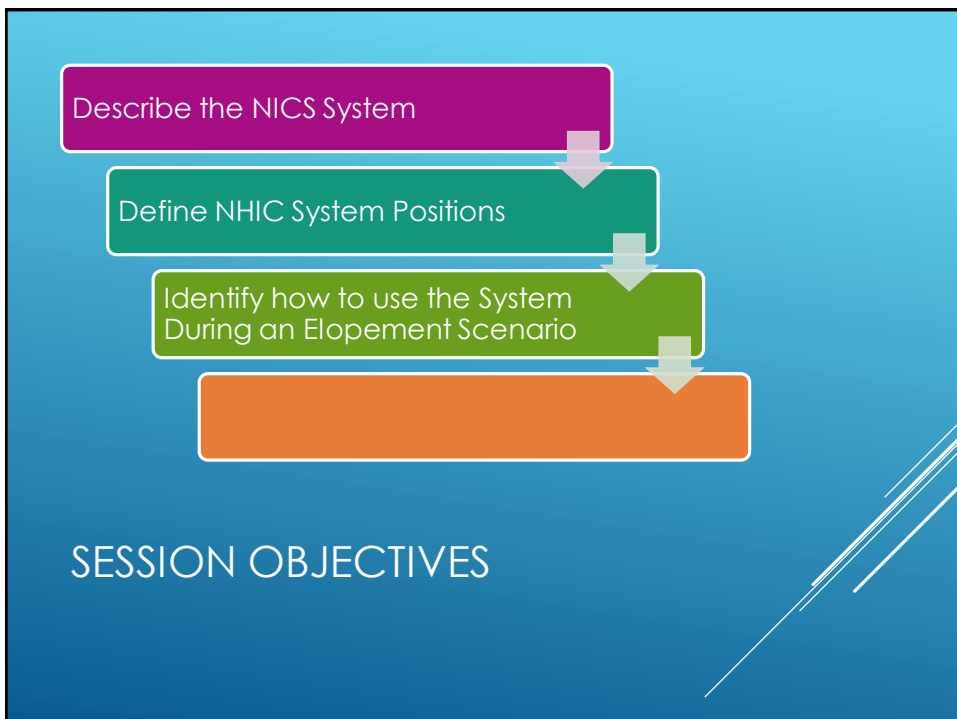
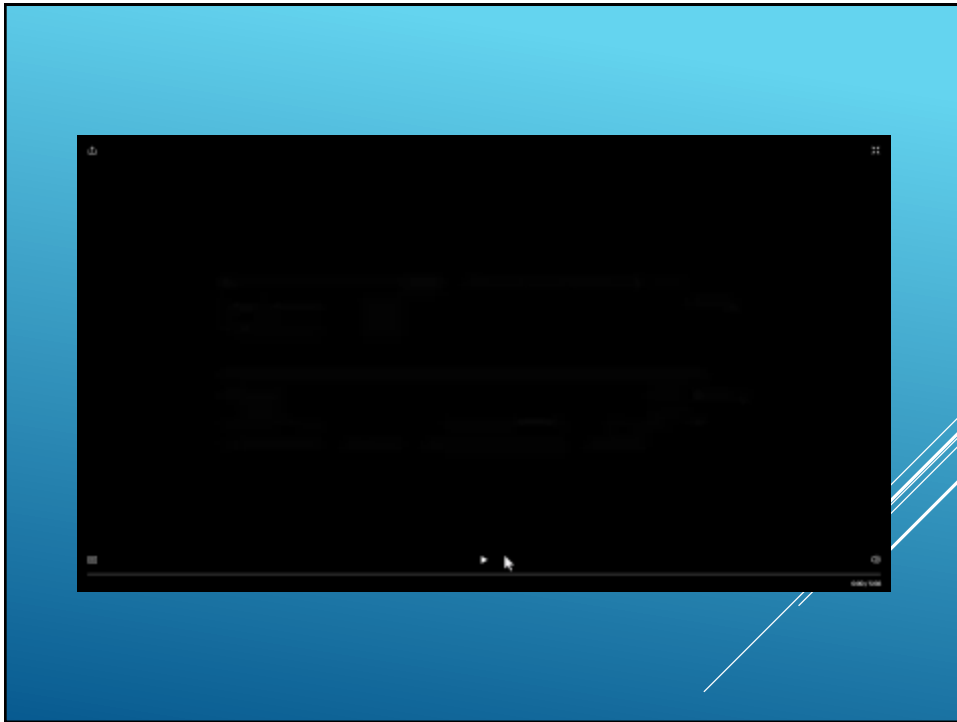








**IT CAN BE
OVERWHELMING!!!!**



**THIS IS WHY WE USE THE
NURSING HOME INCIDENT
COMMAND SYSTEM**

- NHICS is an emergency management framework adapted from the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS)
- Provides structure, roles, and responsibilities during emergencies
- Standardized system for communication and coordination
- Promotes efficient resource use and decision-making

WHAT IS THE NURSING HOME INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM?

- Chain of command ensures clear leadership
- Defined roles and responsibilities
- Scalable and flexible to fit any incident size
- Promotes accountability and documentation
- Focused on resident safety and continuity of care

PRINCIPLES OF NHICS

- ▶ Incident Commander = **"Leader"**
 - ▶ Command Staff Positions
 - ▶ Safety
 - ▶ Public Information Officer
 - ▶ Liaison
- ▶ Operations = **"Doers"**
- ▶ Planning = **"Thinkers"**
- ▶ Logistics = **"Getters"**
- ▶ Finance / Admin. = **"Payers"**

NHIC SYSTEM STRUCTURE

IC = "THE LEADER"

Someone identified - Everyday - Every shift

Trained to the "all hazard" plan and the high risk events for this facility

Authority to make decisions

The only position that is always activated

Duties: Assess the situation, establish priorities, prepare assignments, determine objectives and decide strategy

NHICS calls this the **"Incident Commander"**



OPERATIONS = “THE DOERS”

Coordinate tactical activities and implement actions consistent with the objectives identified by the Incident Commander

Resident care

Search and rescue

First aid

Assess physical plant and clean up or repair

Supervises the actual response duties

NHICS calls this “Operations”



PLANNING = “THE THINKERS”

Gather information for all functions

Prepare action plans

Keep abreast of changes (intelligence)

Analyze the situation and prepare recommendations and reports

Documentation of response

NHICS calls this “Planning”



Acquire needed staff, supplies and equipment in support of operations.

Arrange for transportation

Keep track of resources

Set up alternate communications

Establish staffing patterns

NHICS calls this "**Logistics**"



LOGISTICS = "THE GETTERS"

Track personnel overtime

Screen volunteers

Procurement and purchasing

Track costs

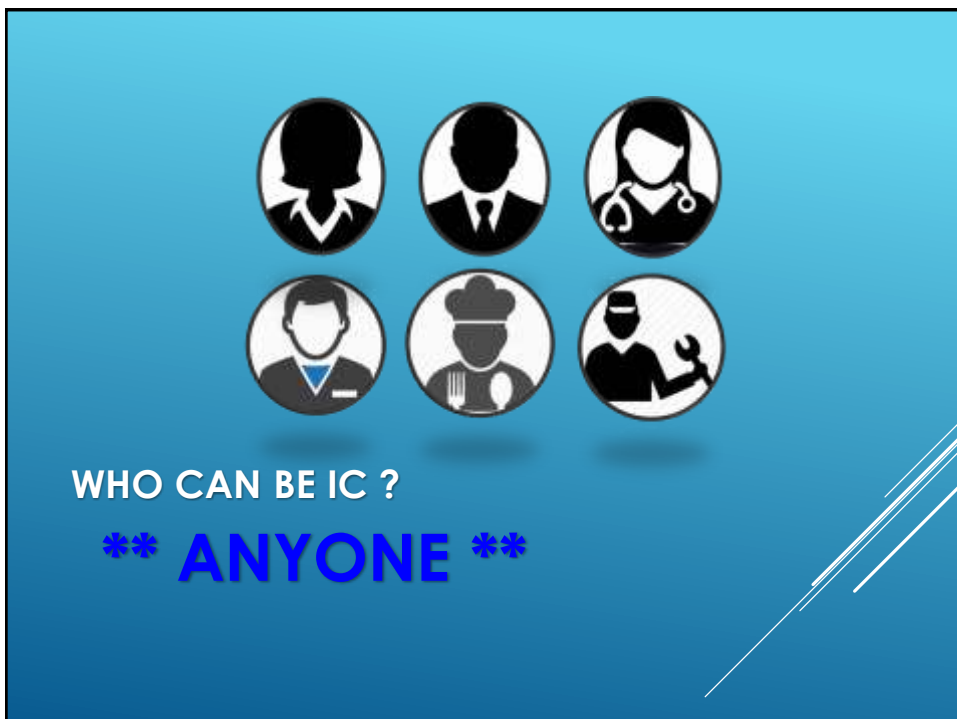
Handle claims

Handle the administrative elements

NHICS calls this "**Finance/Administration**"



FINANCE/ADMIN = "THE PAYERS"



- Infectious Disease Outbreak

- Fire

- Flood

- Power Failure

- Shelter-in-Place

- Evacuation

- Mechanical Failure

- Wildfire

- Mass Casualty



“IT DEPENDS ON THE INCIDENT”

- Elopement is a high-risk resident safety issue
- Requires coordinated and rapid response
- NHICS provides structured approach to:
 - Organize search efforts
 - Communicate with staff and families
 - Coordinate with law enforcement
 - Ensure documentation and debriefing

**WHY USE NHICS FOR
ELOPEMENT EVENTS?**

- Incident Commander initiates response and assigns roles
- Operations Section coordinates search and resident care
- Planning Section gathers information and tracks progress
- Logistics provides staff, equipment, and communication tools
- Public Information Officer manages communication with families and media

USING NHICS DURING A RESIDENT ELOPEMENT

1. Identify missing resident and confirm last seen location/time
2. Activate NHICS and designate Incident Commander
3. Notify staff, initiate facility-wide search
4. Contact local law enforcement if resident not located quickly
5. Maintain communication with staff and family
6. Document actions, timeline, and resolution
7. Conduct debrief and update policies

STEPS IN MANAGING AN ELOPEMENT EVENT

- Include NHICS roles in facility elopement policies
- Conduct staff training and tabletop exercises
- Establish clear communication protocols
- Coordinate with local first responders
- Review and revise plans after drills or incidents

INTEGRATING NHICS INTO ELOPEMENT PLANS

- NHICS provides a structured framework for emergencies
- Clear roles and responsibilities improve response
- Effective for managing resident elopement events
- Integration into facility policies ensures readiness
- Continuous training and drills are essential for success

SUMMARY

Thank You!



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