

Community Alliance of Sarasota County Community Disaster Preparedness Committee

Ringling Auditorium (Room 226)
Health and Human Services Business Center
2200 Ringling Boulevard

February 13 , 2006, 3:00-5:00 PM

Meeting Summary

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Alex Young	United Way of Sarasota, Committee Chair
Alberto Suarez	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health and Department
Bruce Wismer	Pine Shores Presbyterian
Bryan Pope	Salvation Army—Sarasota Corps
Cathy Emmett	Senior Friendship Centers
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Cindy Lehman	Agency for Health Care Administration
Dee Arch	Children's Medical Services
Dennis Stover	Friendship Volunteer Center
Donna Dunio	Southwest Florida American Red Cross
James Schulz	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kay Glasser	Human Services Advisory Council
Lois Natiello	DCF—Suncoast Region
Mark Porter	YMCA
Miriam Lacher	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Marion Sortore	FL Conference of the United Methodist Church
Michael Theall	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Nancy DeLoach	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Nancy Shoemaker	Catholic Charities
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Phil Gorelick	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Ron Grognet	YMCA
Stewart Stearns	Community Foundation of Sarasota County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Aleda Kleckauskas	Hospice of Southwest Florida
Bob Berns	Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters
Bob Carter	Senior Friendship Centers
Chris Stewart	First Step of Sarasota
David Stone	Pastor, First Brethren Church
Harold Williams	Agency for Health Care Admin. –Ft. Myers
Inaki Rezola	Southwest Florida American Red Cross
Joe McCormick	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

the Plan that include

- Increasing public awareness of community disaster planning for human services activities
- Advancing and expanding volunteer utilization
- Sharing client information among agencies
- Identifying additional human service partners who should be involved in CDPC
- Establishing health and human services communication linkages and alternate recovery plans with surrounding communities and other health and human services organizations
- Providing training and conducting exercises
- Completing human services annex in the Sarasota County Health and Human Services Business Center Emergency Operations Plan

Discussing the CDPC 2006 Action Plan, Chip Taylor stressed the need to bridge the gaps in the CDPC structure and process, and expand the scope and depth of CDPC goals and activities. To this end, Chip suggested creating several ad-hoc subcommittees to address specific issues indicated in the 2006 Action Plan. He invited CDPC members to volunteer in leading ad-hoc subcommittees on data sharing, public awareness/media, on identifying additional partners/vulnerable populations including developmentally disabled, homeless, and hearing/vision impaired, and on non-English speaking population.

Boban Pesic introduced Incident Command System (ICS) training schedule for the CDPC members and other community partners. He invited everyone to attend classes offered by the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in 1660 Ringling Boulevard, or by the Health and Human Services Business Center Emergency Operations Planning (HHSBC EOP) at 2200 Ringling Boulevard. ICS Online training is available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/crslst.asp>.

CDPC and other community members can contact Darrah Chichester by e-mail (Darrah_Chichester@doh.state.fl.us) in the Health and Human Services Business Center, to apply for training scheduled in EOC or HHSBC. Following the meeting today, Boban will be sending training schedule to all CDPC members.

Discussion

Alberto Suarez agreed to lead the Subcommittee on client information sharing, and to invite the Red Cross, Department of Children and Families, the Methodist Church, the YMCA, and other children and family agencies providing services in the County. He will report on the activities of this Subcommittee at the next CDPC meeting. Alberto asked if a public service announcement can be developed to reach the most vulnerable groups identified in the CDPC 2006 Action Plan.

Alex Young stressed the need to reach out, provide other services, and communicate with vulnerable groups affected by disasters. He supported focus on the homeless, those with substance abuse problems, and other vulnerable population including

disabled, visually impaired, and elderly. Ad hoc committees should examine the need of these different groups, including tourists, and agree on what is needed. Alex Young also asked if the work on homeless need a communications plan only, or a more comprehensive plan to address the problem. He supported the Department's initiative for ICS training for CDPC members and other community partners.

Bill Little commented North Miami's preparedness for the Hurricane Wilma. Regarding Hurricane Katrina he stressed the need to identify and reach out to ethnic and linguistic groups and minorities that have not been identified in planning, response, and recovery activities.

Bryan Pope will contact the Suncoast Partnership to get information on the Suncoast Partnership's activities on migrant and foreign language groups. He indicated Salvation Army's plan on homeless is ready, however, it cannot reach all the homeless in the county.

Cher McGuirk welcomed the opportunity to provide training to the Committee members and others, stressing their presence will bring additional level of expertise and outreach.

Chip Taylor emphasized the need to clarify responsibilities for activities and priorities in the 2006 Action Plan. He stressed information sharing problems in 2005, and the need to address and resolve those issues early. He also stressed each agency should be developing its own emergency plan, and Sarasota County Health and Human Services and the CDPC partners should meet with agencies and partners in other counties to share information and collaborate.

Diane Shipley will coordinate activities regarding media and public awareness with the Sheriff's Office.

Donna Dunio volunteered to join the public Information initiative, and to support the speaker's bureau as outlined in the CDPC 2006 Action Plan.

Marion Sortore raised the issue of migrant workers. This population is typically invisible, neglected, and even actively avoids being noticed. She stressed a need for new approach to reach out to farmers, including their number and location. To this end, Marion suggested a collaboration with the County School Board because migrant workers' children attend school. Other immigrant groups, including Russians and Ukrainians, need interpreters, and we do not know who they are. Marion provided a copy of Florida Catholic Conference and Catholic Charities Manual for Disaster Preparedness that can be emulated by others developing their own emergency preparedness manuals. She requested Sarasota County Health and Human Services Department Emergency Operation Planning review and comment the manual.

Mike Theall suggested St. Martha's Church could act as a focal point for the Spanish speakers, since many migrants attend services in this Church.

Nancy Shoemaker noted Latino Community Center is being constructed on 17th St. in Sarasota, and this Center could become an important place to disseminate information to Spanish speaking population including migrant workers. She offered help for key contacts in this community.

The following CDPC members agreed to lead CDPC 2006 Action Plan ad hoc Subcommittees:

1. Diane Shipley (Dianne_Shipley@doh.state.fl.us) -- Public Awareness/Media
2. Alberto Suarez (asuarez@uw211manasota.net) -- Client Information Sharing
3. Identifying Additional Partners/Vulnerable Populations
 1. Phil Gorelick (pgorelick@jfcs-cares.org) -- Developmentally Disabled
 2. Bryan Pope (bryan_pope@uss.salvationarmy.org) -- Homeless
 3. Lois Natiello (lois_e_natiello@dcf.state.fl.us) -- Hearing/Vision impaired
 4. Non-English Speaking Population
 1. Nancy Schumaker (SRQDisDir@comcast.net)
 2. Marion Sortore (mrsortore@yahoo.com)

The next meeting is scheduled for March 13th 2006 at the SCHHSBC, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Room 226.