

**Community Alliance of Sarasota County  
Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**

**May 5, 2008 Meeting Summary**

**Present**

Alexander, Claire  
Applebee, Wayne  
Berns, Bob  
Day, Anna  
DeLoach, Nancy  
Dennis, Kerry  
Dunio, Donna  
Glasser, Kay  
Gorelick, Phil  
Griffin, Michael  
Hencye, Curtis  
Kopp, Barbara  
Lacher, Miriam  
LaFlame, Cheryl  
Levesque, Elaine  
McKenzie, Jon  
Meunier, Pam  
Natiello, Lois  
Ourednik, Jennifer  
Poswiatowski, Tammi  
Pope, Bryan  
Sawyer, James  
Shipley, Dianne  
Skivers, MJ  
Smart, Kieran  
Sorter, Marion  
Stearns, Stewart  
Stover, Dennis  
Suarez, Alberto  
Taylor, Chip  
Tracy, Pauline

**Agency/Organization**

Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Volunteer  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
American Red Cross  
Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Relief Ministries Calvary Chapel Sarasota  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
SMH/Bayside  
Coastal Behavioral Healthcare  
First Step of Sarasota  
Sarasota County Government  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Department of Children and Families  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Salvation Army  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Friendship Volunteer Center  
Community Foundation of Sarasota County  
Friendship Volunteer Center  
United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services  
Sarasota County Health and Human Services

Stewart Stearns welcomed the attendees. Self introductions were made. The meeting summary for the April 14, 2008 meeting was approved without changes.

**Three Strike Team Goals**

Pauline explained that the 'three strike team goals' handout is missing the goals for the Volunteers and Donations Strike Team which did not meet this month. The consensus was to hold this agenda item for discussion until all the strike teams had a chance to submit their goals.

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**Citizens Corps Grant**

Dennis Stover explained that, since the COAD has also been designated the Citizens' Corps for Sarasota County, we are eligible to apply for certain grants.

Marion Sortore explained that the grant should come through the Volunteers and Donations Strike Team. However, grant deadlines did not permit. The grant is to collect information on existing resources and volunteer activities, coordinate with state and national Citizens Corps, develop survey methods to assist in preparation, training and volunteerism and conduct local or regional program implementation. It will support the Volunteers and Donations Strike Team in achieving their goals. The grant is for up to \$20,000.

A motion was made and seconded that the COAD approve the submission of this application. It was approved unanimously.

**Tapestry Update**

Pauline updated the group on the progress of the Tapestry Project implementation. The Manatee County Commission has approved their participation in the project and is providing \$12,000 in support.

The application for CAN was distributed to the committee. Pauline explained that CAN membership is required before you can work with them on disaster recovery. It was suggested by CAN that an umbrella agency representing Sarasota County become a member of CAN and that the COAD would be the ideal entity to act as that umbrella agency. Once the COAD's application has been approved by CAN, Pauline will notify all members. Each member that is not already signed up (a list of current members was distributed) will be able to do so as a case management agency under the umbrella.

Pauline suggested that each agency visit [www.CAN.org](http://www.CAN.org) to find information and the forms. Let Pauline know at any time if you have questions regarding this process.

Chip summarized that the software suite is called Tapestry. The company who developed the software is called VisionLink. In the last few weeks, funding has been secured for the first year of the project. A contract has been developed with County IT (led by Jon McKenzie) to support the software system. There are five modules of interest – resource directory (2-1-1), case management module to be used after a disaster, HMIS (under discussion) module, on-line, real-time available beds module for the acute care system, and an outpatient services module for substance abuse and mental health.

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Jon McKenzie explained that the first step is to get all the agreements in place and develop an action plan. He will work with each agency to coordinate data migration. He asked to have free access to the data person in each agency to begin work as soon as possible.

**Strike Team Updates**

*Children and Families:* The efforts of the strike team may be expanded to focus on older children. Their next meeting will be June 11.

*Elder Care:* They are still wrestling with the discharge issue. Their meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month (May 14).

*Mental Health/Substance Abuse:* They are reviewing activities that have happened over the last few years, increasing membership and trying to get south county representation. Their next meeting will be held next Monday.

*Volunteers and Donations:* Two members of our group will be presenting the National VOAD conference with Ed McCrane. Also, Dennis will be teaching a 2 1/2 day class on volunteer management at the Governor's Hurricane Conference. Volunteer Reception Center training will be held on May 20 at the Nokomis Community Center. The next meeting of the Volunteers and Donations Strike Team will be held on May 22.

**Operation North Port**

Tammi reviewed in detail with the group the exercise recently completed in the EOC regarding a fire in North Port.

- *First inject:* Once the level and intensity of the event is determined, an FDENS alert would be sent out to all COAD members and others. The COAD leadership would be called in for briefings. The donations management team would be working on setting up the virtual warehouse.
- *Second inject:* State of emergency called and shelters are open. HHS Ops and the VRCs would be opened. COAD would be actively working.
- *Third inject:* Wildfire contained but many remain homeless. Volunteers are flooding in to help. Volunteer Reception Centers will be working, shelters are up, etc. COAD will be in the process of determining long-term housing.

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**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters will be held on June 9, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, Room 226, at the Health and Human Services Business Center offices, 2200 Ringling, Sarasota.