

Community Alliance of Sarasota County

Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

October 9, 2006, 3:00-5:00 P.M.
Sarasota County Health Department
2200 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota, FL

Meeting Summary

Members Present:

Berns, Bob
Dunio, Donna
Grognet, Ron
Lacher, Miriam
McLeod, Erin
Natiello, Lois
Pope, Bryan
Sortore, Marion
Stover, Dennis
Tanner, Bert
Young, Alex

Agency/Organization

Volunteer
Southwest Florida American Red Cross
Southwest Florida American Red Cross
Bayside Center – Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Senior Friendship Centers
DCF – Suncoast Region
Salvation Army – Sarasota Corps
Friendship Volunteer Center
Friendship Volunteer Center
Salvation Army – Sarasota Corps
United Way of Sarasota, Committee Chair

Others Present:

McKenney, Kevin
Metheny, Deb
Miller, Anne
Springer, Carrie

YMCA of Sarasota
Sarasota County School Board
Sarasota County Emergency Management
Coastal Behavioral Healthcare

Staff Present:

DeLoach, Nancy
Ivy, Jamila
Little, Bill
McGuirk, Cher
Poswiatowsky, Tammi
Shiple, Dianne
Taylor, Chip
Tracy, Pauline

Sarasota County Health and Human Services
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Members Not Present:

Arch, Dee
Bigner, Mike
Giles, Tom
Glasser, Kay
Gorelick, Phil
Heath, Mary
Jaffe, Pat

Children's Medical Services
Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
Senior Friendship Centers
Human Services Advisory Council
Jewish Family and Children's Services
TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care
Medical Reserve Corps (SCHHS)

Johnson, Lee	YMCA of Sarasota
Knox, Al	Peace River Presbytery
Kutch, Kim	DCF – Suncoast Region
Lehman, Cindy	Agency for Healthcare Administration
Mahadeo, Jamie	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
McCormick, Joe	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Nieskes, Gary	Lions Club
Pfaff, Tom	Goodwill Industries
Porter, Mark	YMCA Youth and Family Services
Rezola, Inaki	Southwest Florida American Red Cross
Shoemaker, Nancy	Catholic Charities
Stearns, Stewart	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Stephens, Carl	Friendship Volunteer Center
Stewart, Chris	First Step of Sarasota
Stone, David	First Brethren Church
Suarez, Alberto	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Williams, Harold	Agency for Healthcare Administration, Ft. Myers
Wismer, Bruce	Pine Shores Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

The Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster Committee (SCOAD) met on Monday, October 9, 2006, at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd, from 3:00-5:00 P.M. Alex Young welcomed SCOAD members, and introduction of the meeting participants followed.

Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT)

Anne Miller brought fliers, a participant equipment kit, and an operations manual for the CERT training program. She introduced the concept of CERT and discussed the history of the program in Sarasota County. CERT is under the umbrella of the Citizens Corps.

CERT programs are currently being run by North Port High School, Nokomis Fire Department and Sarasota County Emergency Management. These are separate and distinct programs. The program in Sarasota County has been on hold for the last year. They recently had a recertification class for trainers to revitalize the program. The next regular CERT training will be held in January 2007. Anne showed the committee the contents of the participant equipment kit.

There is a new neighborhood grant program being offered for CERT training. There are currently two groups providing the training - South Venice and Venice Gardens.

For more information contact Anne Miller, (941) 861-5930, amiller@scgov.net.

Staff Support

Chip Taylor discussed the need to clarify the issue of staff support for this committee now that Boban has left. Chip provided a handout to the committee outlining the current Sarasota County Health and Human Services staff assigned to each strike team/task force. The responsible individuals that have been appointed are shown in

these minutes following each strike team/task force report. Since no one has yet been hired to replace Boban, Cher is filling in.

2006 Action Plan Update

Alex went over the latest version of the Action Plan. He asked that everyone check the information provided and send any changes to Tammi. He noted that, under the Volunteer Task Force, it needs to reflect that the SCOAD has been established.

Dennis Stover advised the group that they had received funding from Emergency Management to hire an emergency planner at Friendship Volunteer Center. This individual has been hired. Marion Sortore has been appointed to the position.

Subcommittee Reports

Elder Care Strike Team

Erin advised that letters will be going out to the ALFs to identify potential beds post disaster that may be available to accommodate the special care needs of elders who are unable to go back into their homes. The next meeting of the Strike Team is scheduled for November 23. Pauline and Dennis will be coming to speak to the group on the Volunteer Task Force and how the two teams can collaborate.

For more information contact:

Erin McLeod, (941) 556-3243, emcleod@seniorfriendship.com, or
Sherry Crelin, (941) 684-0090 x1252, sherry_crelin@doh.state.fl.us, or
Pam Meunier, (941) 861-2578, pam_meunier@doh.state.fl.us.

Youth and Families Strike Team

No report was made. Alex pointed out that he saw an e-mail from the Early Learning Coalition updating the Childcare Plan. This is an on-going project.

For more information contact:

Lee Johnson, (941) 951-2916 x1007, ljohnson@sarasota-ymca.org, or
Kelly Lewin (941) 684-0090 x1256, kelly_lewin@doh.state.fl.us, or
Pam Meunier, (941) 861-2578, pam_meunier@doh.state.fl.us.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Strike Team

Miriam Lacher has been appointed to chair this Strike Team. She announced that 30 private mental health practitioners have taken the Red Cross training. These individuals will now be registered in the Medical Reserve Corps to provide mental health counseling to disaster victims. They are putting together a resource directory of mental health/ substance abuse providers in the community to be used as a referral tool in the event of a disaster. The next meeting will be announced at a later date.

For more information contact:

Miriam Lacher, (941) 917-1779, miriam-lacher@smh.com
Anna Day, (941) 861-2558, aday@scgov.net, or
Pam Meunier, (941) 861-2578, pam_meunier@doh.state.fl.us.

Volunteer Task Force

Dennis Stover advised the group that the Volunteer Task Force is making headway on their action plan by showing activity in each action item. With Marion now on-board, the committee will be able to have a voice in the community. The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 12 at 9:00 a.m. at the Salvation Army on 10th Street.

For more information contact:

Dennis Stover, (941) 953-5965, dstover@seniorfriendship.com, or
Pauline Tracy, (941) 861-2561, pauline_tracy@doh.state.fl.us, or
Jamie Mahadeo, (941) 861-2563, jmahadeo@scgov.net.

Public Awareness/Media Committee

No report was made.

For more information contact Dianne Shipley, (941) 861-2852,
Dianne_Shipley@doh.state.fl.us.

Sharing Client Information Committee

Chip Taylor announced that FEMA has released complicated new guidelines regarding what HIPAA requirements can be waived during a disaster. There is a website that the DOH attorneys are studying in an attempt to decipher the regulations. To date, Sarasota County has sought the assistance of CAN in Washington. They have not been able to provide any assistance. Bill suggested that all the agencies that can enroll in CAN go ahead and enroll. Donna Dunio suggested that each agency write a letter and provide their current policies on confidentiality including procedures to protect the information and develop agreements between agencies to share certain client information. Bill proposed that this be submitted to CAN asking that they change course and allow Sarasota County to lead the way on this issue.

Marion Sortore brought up the point that CAN shuts down their computer system at the end of a disaster period (based on their definition) whether or not the locals have completed their work. This has caused serious problems when two to three years after a major event, you can't get into the system to update and run reports.

The consensus of the COAD was to use the CAN system to the extent possible until a better solution is found.

For more information contact:

Alberto Suarez, (941) 345-5804, asuarez@uw211manasota.net, or
Chip Taylor, (941) 861-2575, ctaylor@scgov.net, or
Bill Little, (941) 861-2950, bill_little@doh.state.fl.us.

Identifying Additional Partners/Vulnerable Populations Committee (Developmentally Disabled, Homeless, Hearing/Vision Impaired, and Non-English Speaking)

No activity has taken place since the Intern left.

For more information contact:

Nancy Shoemaker, (941) 379-5110, SRQDisDir@comcast.net, or
Marion Sortore, (941) 322-4626, msortore@seniorfriendship.com, or
Phil Gorelick, (941) 366-2224, pgorelick@jfcs-cares.org, or
Lois Natiello, (941) 316-6130, lois_e_natiello@dcf.state.fl.us, or
Bryan Pope, (941) 364-8845, bryan_pope@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Communications Committee

Cher informed the group that a new Communications Committee has been proposed. It will address, among other things, the SCOAD role as relates to the Health Department's communications plan, HAM/800 mhz radios, functional use of redundant equipment, and methods of communication. The consensus of the committee was to proceed with developing this committee. Cher asked that volunteers who would be interested in serving on the committee contact her.

For more information contact Cher McGuirk, (941) 861-2716,
Cheryl_mcguirk@doh.state.fl.us.

ICS Training and Exercise Update

Cher announced that there is an upcoming Pan Flu exercise on October 30 that the Strike Team Leaders have been asked to attend. This is not the same exercise as the weather-related event. There was a weather-related event exercise that was previously cancelled. Its purpose was to test the connectivity between HHS Ops and the EOC. This will be rescheduled and is to be called the HHS Ops and EOC Interface Exercise. A similar event took place last year. It was decided that the Pan Flu exercise would take the place of the regular COAD meeting in November.

Next Meeting

Next COAD meeting is scheduled for December 11, 3:00 -5:00 PM at 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Auditorium.