

# Community Alliance of Sarasota County

## Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

February 12, 2007, 3:00-5:00 P.M.  
Sarasota County Health Department  
2200 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota, FL

### Meeting Summary

#### Members Present:

Berns, Bob  
Blandford, Vicki  
Dunio, Donna  
Glasser, Kay  
Johnson, Lee  
Lacher, Miriam  
Levesque, Elaine  
McLeod, Erin  
Natiello, Lois  
Sortore, Marion  
Stover, Dennis  
Wisner, Bruce  
Young, Alex

#### Agency/Organization

Volunteer  
Tidewell Hospice  
Southwest Florida American Red Cross  
Human Services Advisory Council  
YMCA of Sarasota  
Bayside Center – Sarasota Memorial Hospital  
First Step  
Senior Friendship Centers  
DCF – Suncoast Region  
Friendship Volunteer Center  
Friendship Volunteer Center  
Pine Shores Presbyterian Disaster Assistance  
United Way of Sarasota, Committee Chair

#### Others Present:

Burke, Hal  
Ritter, Rev. S.

Baptist Disaster  
Sarasota Sheriff's Office

#### Staff Present:

DeLoach, Nancy  
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  
Gorelick, Phil  
Grognet, Ron  
Heath, Mary  
Knox, Al  
Kutch, Kim

Children's Medical Services  
Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice  
Senior Friendship Centers  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
Southwest Florida American Red Cross  
TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care  
Peace River Presbytery  
DCF – Suncoast Region

Lehman, Cindy	Agency for Healthcare Administration
McCormick, Joe	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Nieskes, Gary	Lions Club
Pfaff, Tom	Goodwill Industries
Pope, Bryan	Salvation Army – Sarasota Corps
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
Stone, David	First Brethren Church
Suarez, Alberto	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Williams, Harold	Agency for Healthcare Administration, Ft. Myers

The Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster Committee (SCOAD) met on Monday, February 12, 2007, 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. The meeting summaries from October 9, 2006 and January 8, 2007 were approved.

### **Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund (EMPATF) Competitive Grant**

Sarasota County submitted two grant applications: one application submitted by the Sarasota County Health and Human Services Business Center; the other submitted by the Senior Friendship Centers. The grants, if approved, must have letters of formal consistency; Emergency Management and Community Alliance have both agreed to provide letters. After reviewing a brief outline of the grant application, SCOAD voted to provide a letter as well.

### **2007 Hurricane Expo**

The 2007 Sarasota County Hurricane Expo is March 10, 10:00am to 7:00pm, at the Sarasota Square Mall. The expo has been advertised in the weekend newspapers. Exhibitor fees are \$80.00 or \$110.00 if electricity is needed. Senior Friendship Centers stated they will have a booth; if SCOAD would like a booth, funding is available. Volunteers are being requested in two hour shifts; a sign up sheet will be distributed via email. Erin McLeod, Elder Care Strike Team Leader, indicated that they are currently developing a printed checklist and asked if this could be distributed at the expo if completed in time; currently no budget exists for reproduction; however, Sarasota County Health Department stated they do have inhouse capabilities. Erin will share list with Dianne Shily; Dianne will meet with Cher McGuirk to discuss cost.

Marion Sortore also notified the group that on May 5, 2007, Newtown will be hosting its own hurricane expo. Anyone interested in participating should contact Marion.

## Florida Department of Health Emergency Notification System (FDENS)

Sarasota County Health Department is transitioning to a new emergency notification system that utilizes email, phone, and fax to distribute alert messages. Currently FDENS is in the pilot phase and there is no cost to join at this time. Health department staff have been loaded into the system; the next step is to load partners. A spreadsheet will be emailed to SCOAD members requesting information needed to load partners into the system. Once loaded a welcome email will be sent along with instructions on how to create a user profile. The FDENS will be tested monthly.

### 2006/07 Action Plan Reports

The Action Plan was last updated in December 2006.

**Public Awareness/Media:** currently collecting information from the subcommittee groups regarding completed presentations.

For more information contact:

Dianne Shipley, (941) 861-2852, [Dianne\\_Shipley@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Dianne_Shipley@doh.state.fl.us).

**Volunteer Task Force:** submitted an EMPATF application; met with the Citizens Corp representative to more closely align the activities of Citizens Corp and SCOAD. They will also be meeting with interested parties to discuss next steps regarding long-term recovery.

For more information contact:

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

**Elder Care Strike Team:** last update was October 2006; nothing to update at this time. The strike team's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 16.

For more information contact:

Erin McLeod, (941) 556-3243, [emcleod@seniorfriendship.com](mailto:emcleod@seniorfriendship.com), or  
Sherry Crelin, (941) 684-0090 x1252, [sherry\\_crelin@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:sherry_crelin@doh.state.fl.us), or  
Pam Meunier, (941) 861-2578, [pam\\_meunier@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:pam_meunier@doh.state.fl.us).

**Mental Health/Substance Abuse:** strike team is not meeting on a regular basis, as needed. Team has established communication protocols and developed a resource list which has been shared with Pam Meunier, Human Services Group Supervisor.

For more information contact:

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

**Youth and Families:** strike team meets as needed; feel they are ready to activate. Janet Kahn as compiled a list of child care providers; see plan for current list.

For more information contact:

Lee Johnson, (941) 951-2916 x1007, [lhjohnson@sarasota-ymca.org](mailto:lhjohnson@sarasota-ymca.org), or  
Kelly Lewin (941) 684-0090 x1256, [kelly\\_lewin@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:kelly_lewin@doh.state.fl.us), or  
Pam Meunier, (941) 861-2578, [pam\\_meunier@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:pam_meunier@doh.state.fl.us).

**Sharing Client Information:** The next CAN/Data Sharing conference is June 5/6 in Dallas, TX. Donna Dunio will follow up with Inaki Rezola to see about the possibility of arranging for three to four SCOAD members attending conference. Ted Williams was contact for 2006 conference; may be able to assist with approval for County staff to attend. Bill Little met with Bob Hanson, County IT Department, to discuss County's role and what if anything they can do to integrate with CAN. Chip Taylor mentioned a new tool, Synthesis, that was developed in Milwaukee. The Early Childhood Mental Health program is currently researching the use of this tool. HSIS is also being looked at; however HSIS is limited; regional construct is related to 2-1-1 and the homeless.

For more information contact:

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

The 2006 Action Plan was built off information Pauline Tracy collected while working on her thesis. The SCOAD has made very good progress in completing their 2006 goals. Strike Teams/Task Force are now asked to meet within the next few weeks to develop goals for the 2007 Action Plan; while staying focused on vulnerable populations. The Strike Team/Task Force Leaders should begin thinking about how best to transition the leader role to another team member; discuss training needs, etc. with Alex Young, Cher McGuirk, and Chip Taylor.

## **2007 SCOAD Agenda**

In December 2006, SCOAD submitted an application to the Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) for a Class B Membership. This application is still in process; SCOAD members will be notified when the application is approved. If an event were to happen in Sarasota County, the SCOAD would be the coordinating body. Marion Sortore has a list of outside organizations currently active in the tornado recovery in Central Florida; list will be emailed to SCOAD members as FYI.

Issue of participation at SCOAD meetings was raised; are the correct organizations/strike team members present? Does SCOAD need to make outreach efforts to local organizations not currently attending meetings? Group asked Tammi Poswiatowsky to review past meeting attendance and track who is/isn't present on a regular basis. Marion Sortore will reach out to the FEMA representative, Keith Denning, to see if he is available to attend.

The SCOAD members stated that two hour meetings are difficult; group consensus is that SCOAD move the meeting time from 3:00 to 5:00pm to 4:00 to 5:00pm. Meetings will still take place the second Monday of each month.

SCOAD must decide if they will accept donations. It was mentioned that Volunteer Florida has a virtual warehouse that lists available resources and provides information on the process to apply for needed goods. Volunteer Florida is responsible for handling distribution of resources. A meeting with Ed McCrane (EM Chief) and ESF 6 is needed to discuss logistics. SCOAD feels dollar donations can be accommodated; however, feel that distributing goods is beyond the scope of the group. Red Cross has a disaster assessment team that determines needs in an effected area; they do not accept piece meal items. Salvation Army accepts a limited amount of goods; Representatives from Red Cross, Salvation Army, Friendship Volunteer Center will meet to develop a plan for SCOAD regarding donated goods (Donna Dunio will coordinate meeting). If SCOAD decides against accepting donated goods, clear communication is needed that only volunteers or monetary donations will be accepted. The message needs to be out prior to a disaster; media needs to be involved. A plan is also needed for cash donations: where is the money held, how is it distributed, etc. Can monetary donations that have not been ear marked go to the SCOAD long-term recovery team (unmet needs committee) for any unmet needs? An independent entity is needed that can make decisions based on feedback provided from the Unmet Needs Committee.

A 2007 SCOAD exercise plan needs to be developed. Strike Teams/Task Force are asked to evaluate what has been built and what needs practiced for their individual groups; then as a whole will come together for a larger exercise of the SCOAD process.

### **Miscellaneous**

Alex Young will not be present at the March meeting; reminds group to focus on what needs to be accomplished in 2007.

Group is reminded to expect an email regarding preparation for the March meeting: exercise plan ideas, action plan items, and recommendations for participation.

Red Cross has deployed a number of volunteers to the tornado recovery area in Central Florida.

Dennis Stover and Pauline Tracy will co-present with Ed McCrane at the 2007 Governor's Hurricane Conference, May 14-18, in Ft. Lauderdale. The topic of the presentation is Volunteer Response – Managing Good Intentions.

### **Next Meeting**

Next COAD meeting is scheduled for March 12, 4:00 to 5:00pm at 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Room 226, Sarasota, FL.