

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

August 11, 2008 Meeting Summary

Present

Berns, Bob
Day, Anna
Day, Michael
DeLoach, Nancy
Dennis, Kerry
Duff, Debbie
Dunio, Donna
Glasser, Kay
Griffin, Michael
Hencye, Curtis
Hernandez, Grisel
Kopp, Barbara
Lacher, Miriam
LaFlame, Cheryl
Mahadeo, Jamie
McKenzie, Jon
Minzey, Marlene
Natiello, Lois
Ourednik, Jennifer
Purdy, Jim
Rezola, Inaki
Skalitzky, Ken
Sorter, Marion
Stearns, Stewart
Stover, Dennis
Suarez, Alberto
Tracy, Pauline
Wisner, Bruce

Agency/Organization

Volunteer
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Department of Children and Families
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jewish Family and Children's Services
SMH
American Red Cross, Southwest FL Chapter
Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Relief Ministries Calvary Chapel Sarasota
FL Conf United Methodist Church/UMCOR
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
SMH/Bayside
Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Sarasota County Government
First Step of Sarasota
Department of Children and Families
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
YMCA
American Red Cross
FEMA
Volunteer
Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Friendship Volunteer Center
United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Stewart Stearns welcomed the attendees. Self introductions were made. The meeting summary for the June 9, 2008 meeting was approved without changes.

Tapestry/IDEAS Update

IDEAS is a acronym that stands for Information Data Exchange Alliance of the Suncoast. There is a core group of system administrators that will be trained in the system. This is a team that has met several times to help design and configure the Tapestry system.

Pauline distributed information on CAN and requested that agencies that will be assisting after a disaster join CAN. Sarasota COAD is already a CAN member. It is particularly important for those who will be providing disaster case

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management to sign up. She referred everyone to the website, www.CAN.org, for additional information. There will be a policy group meeting later in the month to identify next steps for the IDEAS project. Anyone interested in being on the policy group, please contact Pauline.

Regional FEMA Update

Ken Skalitzky advised that there have been some changes in the law with regard to case management as a result of Hurricane Wilma. They are doing a pilot project for disaster case management in the region. See CAN.org for more information.

NSS is the National Shelter System database that is being managed for the federal government by the Red Cross. The next generation of NSS is being beta tested now. The roll out of the new system will be paid for by FEMA. NSS lists all of the shelters in the system. They are working with national VOAD on resource typing of the different levels of staffed shelters.

They are doing gap analysis to make sure they are ready for hurricane season. FEMA is working with Florida state government on catastrophic disaster planning at this time.

The National Disaster Housing Strategy is open for public comment. Each voluntary agency should review and comment on it. The document is available at FEMA.gov. The federal government is now authorized to do post disaster construction now as a result of Katrina where the provision of trailers is not feasible.

How will FEMA interact with us after a disaster? When there is a presidential declaration, they can help home owners and renters with rental assistance if they are displaced from their homes. They also provide repair and replacement assistance for home owners up to a maximum grant of \$28,800. SBA low interest loans are available for up to \$200,000 for dwellings and \$40,000 for personal property with the potential for another \$40,000 for mitigation activities like elevating the house, etc. FEMA relies heavily on voluntary agencies to assist on a case-by-case basis for those needs that have not been met.

The registration period for FEMA assistance is normally 60 days. There have been some exceptions made for Wisconsin's flooding event. FEMA can have the funding in the hands of the affected individuals within a matter of days.

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Citizens Corps Grant

Dennis advised the group that a \$7,500 Citizens Corps grant has been received for outreach, recruitment and retention of volunteers.

Long-term Recovery Committee

Bruce updated the group on the status of the project. He requested that a Nominating Committee be named to identify candidates for the Leadership Team of the LTRC. As soon as the document is ready for review, it will be presented to the COAD for comment.

Strike Team Updates

Children and Families – Lois Natiello reported that they had a speaker at their last meeting from Wachula who had established a child care center for the employees and volunteers after Hurricane Charley. It was very successful and is a model that could be replicated in a similar event. There was an additional problem of the lack of child care for the clients who are coming in to fill out the FEMA and other forms that need to be addressed.

Elder Care – Michael Day reported that they have been having discussions on discharge planning. They just found out that ACHA will not be providing discharge planning as they originally thought.

Mental Health/Substance Abuse – Miriam Lacher advised that they have been meeting regularly and have their mission in place. The Medical Reserve Corps has been recruiting and training mental health/substance abuse counselors that benefit the committee's work. They are considering how they can address care for the caregivers which Red Cross does a good job of covering.

Volunteers and Donations – Dennis Stover noted that the committee discussed Tapestry and combining volunteer intake forms between the Volunteer Center and the Red Cross. They still haven't resolved how to get the volunteers background checked. They did a hotwash on the VRC training at the last meeting. The last training was very successful with many staff who will be involved in operating the centers being trained. They are planning another meeting in the EOC with faith-based and neighborhood organizations to discuss their roles and responsibilities in the event of a disaster.

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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters will be held on October 13, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, Room 226, at the Health and Human Services Business Center offices, 2200 Ringling, Sarasota.