



**Building Capacity:
A Community Responds to Disaster**

Community Alliance

May 19, 2008

Andrew

Charlie

Katrina

“The answer my friend is blowing in the wind...”

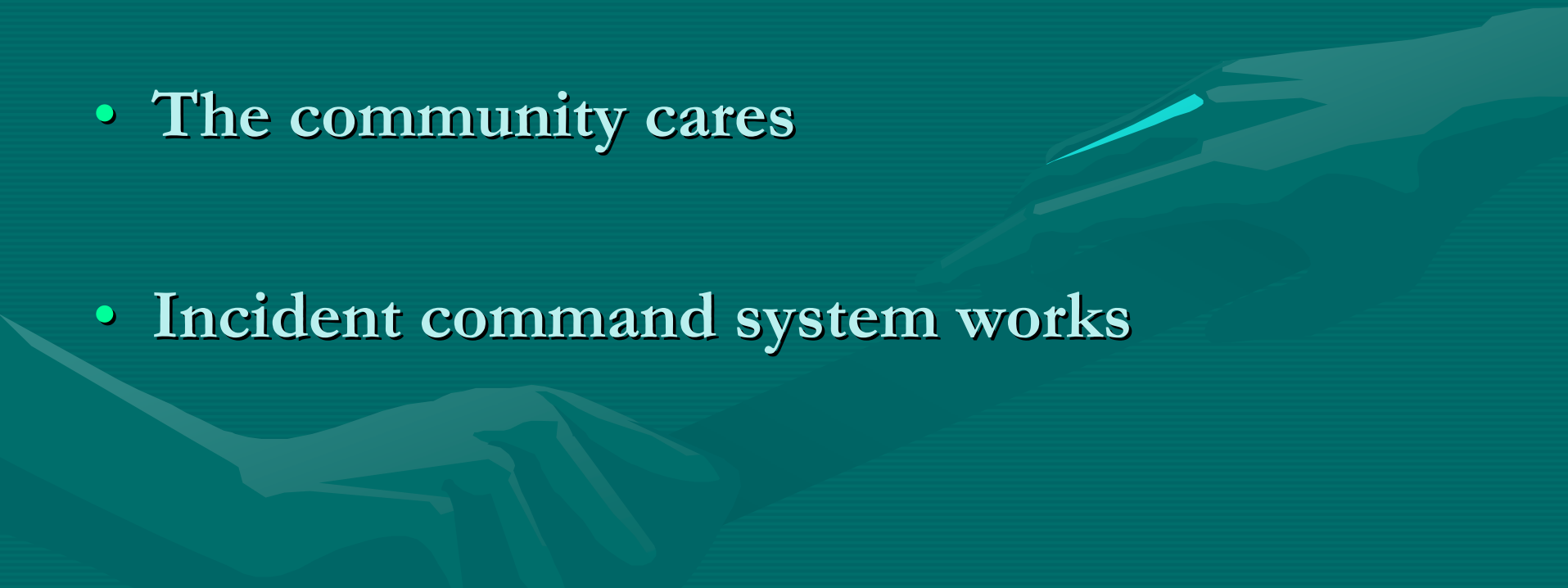
Bob Dylan

Charlie's Challenges

- Sheltering and placing special needs patients
- Linking human service agencies and the EOC
- Connecting volunteers to needs
- Addressing failed systems

Airplanes have blankets....

- Planning builds relationships
- The community cares
- Incident command system works



“I want to help, but don’t know what to do.”

Sarah Gorman

Executive Director
Healthy Start Coalition



Release the Energy

- Empower community ownership
- Restructure emergency operations for HHS
- Use NIMS/ICS as linkage to community

Making it happen

- Facilitating community support- Community Alliance
- Key leader involvement
- The power of invitation
- An open door to all
- A focus on critical issues
- Staff to support the effort
- Lead, not direct

Successes

- SCOAD
- Integrated community emergency response
- Community information exchange