

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

**October 8, 2009 Meeting Summary**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>
Berns, Bob	Volunteer
Craft, Sherl	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
D'Amico, Mike	Sarasota County Health Department
Danhires, Ruth	Adventist Community Services
Desmond, Cindy	Red Cross
DuPlantier, James	Friendship Volunteer Center
King, Mary	Sarasota County Extension Office
Lacher, Miriam	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
LaFlame, Cheryl	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Levesque, Elaine	First Step of Sarasota
McIntyre, Laura	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
McKenzie, Jon	IDEAS/Recover Suncoast
Ourednik, Jennifer	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pope, Bryan	Salvation Army
Pritchard, Scott	Sarasota County Health Department
Rainey, Mary	Red Cross
Ramseyer, Diane	Sarasota County Health Department
Taylor, Chip	Sarasota County Health and Human Services

Chip Taylor welcomed attendees. Self introductions were made. A spelling correction was made to the minutes of the last meeting (Koontz). The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Pharmacy**

Chip explained that the Community Pharmacy presentation has to be postponed. However, Michael D'Amico from the Health Department Pharmacy was present to answer any questions with regard to pharmacy needs during a disaster. Mike explained that they are a basic primary care pharmacy. They don't carry psychotropic medications. Requests for such medications would have to be routed through the hospital. People coming into shelters must bring their medication with them.

**H1N1 Flu Response Update**

Scott Pritchard provided an update on the H1N1 flu response being conducted by the Sarasota County Health Department. Sarasota County has widespread flu activity according to the state. Approximately 9% of ER visits are due to influenza type illnesses or complaints. This is a huge number over what is

typically seen coming through the ERs. The major impact is seen in those aged 0 to 19. Vaccines will be distributed in the very near future. In Sarasota County, the vaccines will be targeted to children.

### **Legal Status of Emergency Shelter Volunteers**

Miriam Lacher brought up a concern of the Substance Abuse/Mental Health Strike Team that there may be restrictions on who would be allowed in a shelter to do client evaluations and screening. The Red Cross requires fingerprints and background checks. Also, as a licensed mental health professional volunteering in a shelter the liability would be on the individual, not the agency they work for. Cindy Desmond of the Red Cross explained that an individual can come and work in the shelter up to 7 days without background screening but would have to work with a Red Cross volunteer. The background screenings can be completed within a day however. Cindy will ask Inaki Rezola to provide something in writing to explain the process.

### **Strike Team/Committee Reports**

#### *Developmental Disabilities Strike Team*

They are still looking for a strike team leader and are seeking additional members.

#### *Mental Health/Substance Abuse Strike Team*

See previous entry

#### *Elder Care Strike Team*

The strike team will be hosting the Red Cross at their next meeting. In December, they will be doing a year-end wrap up and will begin planning the calendar for the coming year.

#### *Youth and Families Strike Team*

No report provided

#### *Volunteers and Donations Strike Team*

No report provided

#### *Long-Term Recovery Committee*

No report provided

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Sarasota COAD is scheduled for November 12, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota in the Auditorium.