

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

May 11, 2009 Meeting Summary

Present	Agency/Organization
Berns, Bob	Volunteer
Bilyeu, Danny	Congressman Buchanan's Office
Day, Anna	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Dennis, Kerry	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Denyngoert, Tawes	First Presbyterian Church
DuPlantier, James	Friendship Volunteer Center
Gallagher, Sandy	Catholic Charities
Hernygers, Debbie	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Heymann, William	Sarasota County Health Department
Johnson, Linda	Department of Children and Families
Kahn, Janet	Early Learning Coalition
Kopp, Barbara	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Lacher, Miriam	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
LaFlame, Cheryl	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Lucas, Kim	Adventist Community Services
Mahadeo, Jamie	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
McCrane, Ed	Sarasota County Emergency Management
McIntyer, Laura	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
McLeod, Erin	Senior Friendship Centers
Miller, Jenny	First Presbyterian Church
Natiello, Lois	Department of Children and Families
Pope, Bryan	Salvation Army
Poswiatowski, Tammi	Sarasota County Health Department
Rezola, Inaki	American Red Cross
Sortore, Marion	Florida VOAD
Taylor, Chip	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Tornabene, Davis	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Wismer, Bruce	Presbyterian Disaster Services

Bruce Wismer welcomed the attendees. Self introductions were made. The meeting summary for the April 13, 2009 meeting was approved without changes.

Strike Team/Committee Reports

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Strike Team:

Miriam Lacher advised that the strike team is working on more educational forums. They are meeting regularly and are working on scenarios to practice how they would respond under specific circumstances.

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Elder Care Strike Team:

Erin McLeod advised that they will be doing an educational seminar for the public entitled, "All Disasters Are Not Hurricanes." It will be held Thursday, May 14 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Senior Friendship Centers. In addition to providing valuable information to the public, they hope to get the word out about what the Elder Care Strike Team is all about.

Youth and Families Strike Team:

Lois Natiello announced that they will be surveying their membership and others to find out what resources are available in the community to support youth and families in the event of a disaster.

Volunteers and Donations Strike Team:

Jamie Mahadeo advised that they are working on a donations procedures manual that should be ready this week. They are seeking new members for the group and are meeting bi-monthly. James DuPlantier mentioned the faith-based and neighborhood training that will take place on May 19 in the EOC. There will be a volunteer reception center training held at Bee Ridge Park on June 9. Additionally, there will be a community education meeting held at the Non Profit Resource Center on June 19.

Long-Term Recovery Committee:

Bruce Wismer advised that the committee still meets monthly. There will be a meeting with Ed McCrane soon to discuss how the Long-Term Recovery Committee efforts fit into the larger Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan work that is currently underway in Emergency Management.

Developmental Disabilities Strike Team:

Anna Day noted that there is a core group of four agencies that are participating in meetings. This is a new start-up strike team. They are looking for interested groups who would like to participate.

Upcoming Disaster Drill

Ed McCrane informed the group that there will be a state-wide disaster drill that the County will participate in. It is being held from the end of May through the first week in June. It will simulate the 1926 Great Miami Hurricane. The EOC will

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be participating in the simulation on June 2. The assumption is that a Category 2 hurricane entered in Miami and exited just north of us. It is a catastrophic event with 10,000 people coming to Sarasota County from other counties. Several points of distribution will be activated around the county. The dilemma is how to feed and house that many additional people.

Swine Flu and Pandemics Presentation

Ed McCrane explained that the Health Department is not the only entity that has a role during a pandemic. Emergency Management, other government entities, and the community are also involved. He went into detail regarding how everyone collaborated to respond to the Swine Flu threat. The emergency response to a pandemic is the same as for a hurricane with regard to the incident command structure. There were daily conference calls with the state EOC, local Emergency Management Directors, health departments, law enforcement, etc.

Scott Pritchard presented a PowerPoint on the H1N1 flu. He advised that they no longer call it Swine Flu. It is a new virus that has emerged and has been identified as a seasonal human flu. They activated their incident command system with Chris Griffith from the Health Department as the Incident Commander. At this time, it has been determined that this flu is no more severe than the normal seasonal flu. Their response to the incident was adjusted accordingly. It is predicted that the flu will continue to be spread. They are counting on community containment measures to address the problem. This includes public information on hand washing, staying home when sick, coughing in the sleeve, etc. There are no mandatory isolation measures being considered at this time. Also, the Center for Disease Control does not recommend school closures because the severity of the disease does not warrant it.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Sarasota COAD is scheduled for June 8, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota in the Auditorium.