

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

**July 14, 2009 Meeting Summary**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>
Alexander, Claire	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Danhires, Ruth	Sarasota Adventist Community Services
Dennis, Kerry	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Desmond, Cindy	American Red Cross
Double, Nicole	All Faiths Food Bank
DuPlantier, James	Friendship Volunteer Center
Gallagher, Sandy	Catholic Charities
Hencye, Curtis	Calvary Chapel Relief Ministries
Hill, Meagan	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Johnson, Linda	Department of Children and Families
Kahn, Janet	Early Learning Coalition
Kopp, Barbara	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Kunkel, Ben	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Levesque, Elaine	First Step of Sarasota
Long, Beth	Vamo ERT
McCrane, Ed	Sarasota County Emergency Management
McKenzie, Jon	IDEAS/Recover Suncoast
McLeod, Erin	Senior Friendship Centers
Miller, Jinny	First Presbyterian Church
Patterson, Frances	Vamo ERT
Poswiatowski, Tammi	Sarasota County Health Department
Seville, Eleanor	ACHA
Sortore, Marion	Florida VOAD
Taylor, Chip	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Tracy, Pauline	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Wismer, Bruce	Presbyterian Disaster Services

Bruce Wismer welcomed the attendees. Self introductions were made. The meeting summary for the June 8, 2009 meeting was approved without changes.

**EOC 101 Presentation**

The mission of the EOC is to serve as a central coordination point or command center acquiring and allocating resources. It meets the needs of disaster victims by collaborating with all stakeholders, coordinating with other jurisdictions, and helping to facilitate a county-wide response.

There are four phases in emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. They are always working in one of these phases. During blue-sky, they are in the preparedness phase. Recovery takes the longest time to complete. As in 2004 and 2005, you can be recovering from one

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storm while another storm is hitting. The response is not just for hurricanes, but for all hazards.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) itself is set up under the principles of Incident Command. There is a command and general staff with all the branches underneath who are responsible for completing the mission. They operate under the Emergency Support Function (ESF) system in the EOC. There are currently 18 ESFs in Sarasota County. Each ESF lead person should be someone who is knowledgeable, is familiar with the parties involved, and can make decisions.

Sarasota County has a call center, 861-5000, that goes to 24/7 during an incident to provide feedback to the community and control the number of calls coming into the EOC. An incident can be hurricanes, severe weather, environmental effects (brush fires, floods, droughts, storm surge), terrorism, mass migration (from Haiti, Cuba, etc.), and biological and hazardous materials incidents (trucking, rail, airplanes).

**Recover Suncoast**

Jon McKenzie explained that the Recover Suncoast disaster portal is an effort to get prepared to address unmet needs in long-term recovery. There will be a meeting on July 20 at 1:00 in the Auditorium at the Health Department where there will be a presentation on the Recover Suncoast disaster portal. He encourages everyone who thinks their agency may be involved in meeting unmet needs after an event to attend this meeting to find out next steps. This portal is fashioned after the national Coordinated Assistance Network. At this meeting, the agencies can sign up for the local portal as well as the national portal.

**Change Meeting Date**

Pauline Tracy led the discussion of changing the COAD meetings to the second Tuesday of the month to accommodate Emergency Management and other organizations that are unable to meet on Monday afternoons. It was suggested that an email survey be done to find out if this meets the needs of the entire group. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

**Community Day**

Susan Calkins explained that the Sarasota Library System received a grant to have a community day during September which is National Preparedness Month. It will be held on September 26, 2009 from 10:00 to 4:00. They are offering those interested in having a table at the site to contact them. They will be hosting Ham radio operators, search and rescue dogs, Channel 7, Mote Marine, FPL, etc. Pauline Tracy offered the suggestion that the COAD have a table at

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the event. Ed McCrane offered to help the COAD make a banner for the table. Pauline asked for volunteers to man the table. Please contact Pauline at 861-2561 for more information.

**Strike Team/Committee Reports**

*Mental Health/Substance Abuse Strike Team:*

Kerry Dennis advised that the strike team continues to meet once a month. They are considering the development of a standardized screening tool for people with mental health needs.

*Elder Care Strike Team:*

Erin McLeod advised that the Elder Care Strike Team hosted a shelter workshop with Rob Day and Tammi Poswiatowski. It was a very useful presentation. There is an on-going need for volunteers to man the shelters. On August 13, the Volunteers and Donations Strike Team will make a presentation on their work with volunteers. The Elder Care Strike Team will not be holding regular meetings throughout the summer but will continue to host these educational events.

*Youth and Families Strike Team:*

Linda Johnson advised that after the exercise it was decided that a resource list was needed. Based on discussion by the strike team, it was found that a list could be completed within a reasonable period of time.

*Volunteers and Donations Strike Team:*

Pauline Tracy reported that the July meeting was postponed. The strike team meets bi-monthly. However, they will be meeting on August 13 to make up for missing the July date. The strike team is working on a donations manual and will be discussing the after action report at the August meeting.

*Developmental Disabilities Strike Team:*

Barbara Kopp reported that there are currently seven agencies participating. They are actively recruiting new members. The next meeting is set for July 23. The strike team has received a lot of emergency preparedness guides for people with disabilities. Anyone who is interested in receiving some of these guides needs to talk to Anna Day or Barbara.

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*Long-Term Recovery Committee:*

Marion Sortore reported that the LTRC is meeting with other players in the disaster community to better identify how they can work together.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Sarasota COAD is scheduled for August 11, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota in the Auditorium.