

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

**September 14, 2009 Meeting Summary**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>
Beightol, Bronwyn	United Way Manatee
Craig, Erin	American Red Cross – Manatee
Day, Anna	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Dennis, Kerry	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Double, Nicole	All Faiths Food Bank
Drennon, Michael	Sarasota County Health Department
Ferrier, Anne	Sarasota Partnership for Children's Mental Health
Gallagher, Sandy	Catholic Charities
Gorelick, Phil	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Haynes, Dick	Manatee County Emergency Management
Hencye, Curtis	Calvary Chapel Relief Ministries
Koentz, Jerry	United Way Manatee
Kopp, Barbara	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
LaFlame, Cheryl	Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
Long, Beth	Vamo United Methodist Church
McIntyre, Laura	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
McKenzie, Jon	IDEAS/Recover Suncoast
McLeod, Erin	Senior Friendship Centers
Minzey, Marlene	First Step of Sarasota
Pope, Bryan	Salvation Army
Rezola, Inaki	American Red Cross – Southwest Florida
Skalitzky, Ken	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Sortore, Marion	Florida Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster
Stover, Dennis	Friendship Volunteer Center
Taylor, Chip	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Tracy, Pauline	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Vibbard, Justin	Adventist Community Services

Marion Sortore welcomed attendees. Self introductions were made. The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

**H1N1 Flu Response Update**

Michael Drennon 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. So far this year, Florida has seen 670 known hospitalizations with 18 new cases as of a week ago. There have been 77 known deaths due to the flu with 8 new deaths recently. One of the deaths was in Sarasota County.

## **FEMA Update**

Ken Skalitzky presented an update on FEMA. There will be a detailed training on Small Business Administration loan applications for individual assistance on September 15. FEMA encourages all agencies to have a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). However, in those plans agencies need to consider the impact of H1N1, particularly if it affects key personnel. FEMA is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and the American Red Cross to discuss the impact of H1N1 in shelters should hurricanes or other disasters occur.

Ken mentioned that Craig Fugate from Florida is the new FEMA Director. Mr. Fugate is emphasizing preparedness for all agencies.

FEMA is working on several case management projects around the nation. They are working with Catholic Charities to provide case management for FEMA.

There is a House bill under consideration that will reauthorize the mortgage and rental assistance program. This program has lapsed, but if reauthorized will help pay for mortgage and rental assistance for those severely impacted by a disaster. He encourages that the nonprofits rally to support this bill.

The National VOAD conference will be held May 10 through May 14, 2010 in Orlando. He encourages all who are able to try to attend this informative meeting.

Ken advised that the Small Business Assistance loan program for individual assistance has about a 10% return rate. If the application isn't returned, there is no way and individual can be funded. He encouraged the nonprofits to educate their constituents that they must fill out the forms even if they don't think they are eligible.

Ken explained the process for public assistance that will allow nonprofits who are doing work requested by Emergency Management during a disaster to apply for reimbursement.

## **Meeting Schedule**

Pauline Tracy advised that the meetings will be scheduled on the second Thursday of the month from 2:30 to 4:00. In November the room is booked. Another location will be found and all will be notified.

## **Strike Team/Committee Reports**

### *Developmental Disabilities Strike Team*

Anna Day advised that they are still seeking new members to participate including family members/clients. They are doing a resource list based on that of the Whole Child Project.

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

Barbara Kopp advised that they are continuing to work on the assessment tool. They are sponsoring an Ethics and Pandemics Workshop on December 11 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. Their next meeting is September 21. Barbara asked if the COAD would like to have a presentation on Project Hope at their next meeting. The COAD agreed.

### *Elder Care Strike Team*

Erin McLeod announced that the Elder Care Strike Team continues to meet on the second Thursday of the month. Recently, instead of having regular meetings, they have been hosting speakers to discuss various topics. Their next meeting is November 12 where they will host a representative from the American Red Cross.

### *Youth and Families Strike Team*

Barbara Kopp advised that they are continuing to work on a contact list. They are also working on a children's checklist for parents of those children who need to go to a shelter after a disaster. The checklist includes games and other activities to keep the children occupied. There is a national effort to address the 25% of the population who are children. A national Commission on Children in Disasters has been formed and will report back to Congress in 2010. The strike team will be keeping track to determine how children in Sarasota County can benefit. Their next meeting is October 12.

### *Volunteers and Donations Strike Team*

Dennis Stover discussed the effort they are making to develop a donations manual. They are working with the faith community to assist. The state is considering locating their emergency food stamp operation to the All Faiths Food Bank property. The Friendship Volunteer Center currently has 31 Vista employees trained to assist in a disaster. The strike team will meet again on Thursday at All Faiths Food Bank.

### *Long-Term Recovery Committee*

Pauline Tracy advised that Ken Skalitzky was able to attend their meeting today. He addressed the group and made several

observations on the efforts of the committee. They are working on a long-term recovery manual that they hope to have ready soon.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Sarasota COAD is scheduled for October 8, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota in the Auditorium.