

# Community Alliance of Sarasota County Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster

## November 4, 2010 Meeting Summary

<b>Present</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>
Sandy Benz	Sarasota County Organizational Employee Development
Susannah Cripe	Easter Seals
Anna Day	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Nancy DeLoach	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Nicole Double	All Faiths Food Bank
Sandy Gallagher	Catholic Charities
Christine Griffith	Sarasota County Health Department
Hassan Hares	Islamic Society of Sarasota and Bradenton
Curtis Hencye	Calvary Chapel Relief Ministries
Wendy Hopkins	Community Foundation of Sarasota County
Linda Johnson	Department of Children and Families
Janet Kahn	Early Learning Coalition
Nancy Kenney	Network of Hope
Tammi Ketcham	Sarasota County Health Department
Barbara Kopp	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Ben Kunkel	United Way 2-1-1 of Manasota
Miriam Lacher	Sarasota Memorial Hospital/Bayside
Ronda Layton	Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Lawrence Leon	Sarasota County School District
Elaine Levesque	First Step of Sarasota
Bill Little	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jamie Mahadeo	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Ed McCrane	Sarasota County Emergency Management
Laura McIntyre	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Anne Miller	Sarasota County Emergency Management
Rick Morrow	Sarasota County Damage Assessment Team
Rod Myers	Sarasota County Fire Department
Jennifer Ourednik	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Chris Pfahler	Gulf Coast Community Foundation
Mary Rainey	American Red Cross
Inaki Rezola	American Red Cross
Vince Riva	Sarasota Sheriff's Office
Sylvia Scott	Tidewell
Dianne Shipley	Sarasota County Health Department
Marion Sortore	Florida VOAD/United Methodist Church
Chip Taylor	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Pauline Tracy	Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Justin Vibbard	Adventist Community Services
Alex Young	United Way

Bill Little welcomed the attendees. Self introductions were made. The draft meeting summary for August was discussed. Miriam Lacher clarified the item on

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Page 2 of the meeting summary referring to strike team reporting procedures. Her concern was that the strike teams take up a lot of time during the meeting when it may be better to have them submit their reports to staff who can publish the reports for the benefit of all leaving more time during the meeting for other activities. With this clarification, the meeting summary was approved unanimously.

### **University of South Florida Grant Award**

Bill provided the background and history behind the grant that USF has received from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) intended to replicate the process that was used in Sarasota to develop the COAD. Bill introduced Christine Griffith who provided details regarding the grant:

- The USF program will be called the Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center (PERLC)
- 14 grants were awarded around the nation by the CDC
- A lot of the programs will be using canned (off the shelf) programs. Instead, USF will be developing a custom curriculum based on the skills and best practices identified in Sarasota to put together the COAD
- The purpose is not to develop an organization called the COAD in each community. That is a very particular type of organization that Sarasota chose based on the needs and resources in that community. Other communities will have different needs. The program will be designed to be flexible enough to meet the varying needs of other communities.
- The program will be based on the goals developed by the Florida Department of Health (DOH).
- There will be a strong evaluation component developed with the curriculum.
- It is anticipated that this program will be sustained beyond the project end period of the grant.
- A committee of Sarasota COAD members has been put together to assist USF in developing the program. They have been meeting weekly for the last month.

### **Organizational Life Cycle Review**

Bill Little reminded the members that the COAD has been talking for a while about doing some strategic planning sessions to guide the future of the organization. He suggested that the COAD utilize the expertise of County leaders who have adopted the Organizational Life Cycle Review model of strategic planning. He gave a brief description of the model and suggested that this re-visioning process may be ideal to move the COAD forward to the next

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level. He introduced Sandy Benz from the County's Office of Organizational Employee Development who will facilitate the process.

Ms. Benz reviewed the revitalization model used by the County and provided handouts to illustrate the process. She indicated that this process will take several meetings to work through. She provided a tentative timeline for review by the committee. For those who would like more information on Organizational Life Cycle planning, they can Google William Bridges who is the author of the book used as the County's model.

Bill asked the group for their feedback on whether this approach would be acceptable to them. The consensus of the group was in agreement with this approach.

Miriam Lacher reiterated the general concern expressed at other meetings that the COAD still needs to develop a marketing plan to ensure the community is prepared for disaster. She asked if this topic would be included in this planning process. Bill agreed that this issue should come out of the planning process as a need/gap in services. Ed McCrane advised that a system is already in place through County Emergency Management to address this issue. During this planning process, that system can be examined to ensure it is sufficient to meet the need in Sarasota County and evaluate how the COAD can participate most effectively.

### **Community Emergency Response Team Training Update**

Anne Miller made a presentation to the group on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training. CERT is a part of Citizens Corps. For those who were unaware, the Sarasota COAD sits as the Citizens Corps Council in Sarasota County. The County receives CERT grants to fund the training that Anne provides to community groups (typically neighborhoods).

CERT is a 20 hour program provided to neighborhood groups on topics such as disaster preparedness, fire suppression, search and rescue, first aid, etc. This gives these individuals the knowledge and basic skills they need to better cope with disasters when they occur and make the neighborhoods more self-sufficient particularly in the time immediately following the event before the first responders arrive. CERT saves time and money, but most importantly, it saves lives. Since 2004, nearly 1,000 individuals have gone through CERT training in Sarasota County. Additionally, there are 100 people on the waiting list for the next set of trainings.

Anne went over the equipment that is provided to the CERT members through the grant. She introduced Susanna Cripe (Easter Seals), Mary Rainey (Red

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Cross), Nicole Double (All Faith's Food Bank) and others who are a recent CERT graduates. Ed noted that they partner with Sarasota County Technical Institute to provide the training which gives them a classroom and grounds to do the training the way it needs to be done. Justin Vibbard asked if the County would be willing to go to a business to provide this training. Anne advised that they have done this already for the Hyatt employees but the training was not held on Hyatt property.

### **Emergency Management Update**

Ed McCrane provided an update on hurricane season as it is winding down. He illustrated the cyclical nature of hurricane seasons through history to show that we are now in an upswing for more frequent and stronger storms. The estimate done early in the calendar year by the National Hurricane Center predicting hurricane frequency was very accurate.

### **COAD Training**

Jamie Mahadeo asked everyone to submit ideas for training COAD members.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Sarasota COAD is scheduled for December 9, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. at the Health and Human Services Building, 2200 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota in the Auditorium.