

**Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disasters
Volunteers and Donations Strike Team
Meeting Summary**

March 11, 2010

Present: Nicole Double, All Faiths Food Bank
James DuPlantier, Friendship Volunteer Center
Curtis Hencye, Calvary Chapel Relief Ministries
Jamie Mahadeo, Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Jennifer Ourednik, Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Bryan Pope, Salvation Army
Pauline Tracy, Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Sunie Wood, Sarasota County Health and Human Services
Justin Vibbard, Adventist Community Services

Pauline Tracy welcomed attendees and self introductions were made. The meeting summary of the last meeting was approved as written.

Training Update

Curtis Hencye discussed the development of a one-day relief training to be held possibly in late May or early June. He is going to ask Ed McCrane to be the main speaker for the event. James DuPlantier offered to send the invitations to his list of faith-based agencies. If you have an interest in attending the training or would like to be a trainer, please let Curtis know: curt@reliefministriesccsarasota.com He would also like to invite agencies to have a table at the training to hand out information and discuss with attendees what their agencies do before, during, and after a disaster. The topics of the training could include personal preparedness, donations, chain saw usage, food preparation, CPR/medical care, spiritual care, etc. Each class should last one to one and one-half hours. Seriously interested participants will be referred for additional training currently being offered in the community.

Justin Vibbard discussed his offer to do an abbreviated free training for volunteers regarding donations collections centers. This is training for volunteers who are working in donations collections centers. It is designed to review the details of operating a collections center.

James DuPlantier discussed the three annual trainings that Friendship Volunteer Center coordinates: VRC training for volunteers (first week of June), faith-based and neighborhood training in the EOC, and community disaster training through the Nonprofit Resource Center (second week of June). He would like to do the community disaster training around the end of May. With regard to the VRC training, James is expecting a lot more people to attend this year. They will need to find a larger facility for the training. The Twin Lakes Park facility and the Philippi Estate facility were suggested along with the Girl Scout facility on Proctor. James informed the committee that there was a charge to use the Girl

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Scout facility. Justin Vibbard suggested that a local church may be an option since there are many that have large meeting facilities.

Priorities for 2010

Pauline Tracy explained that we have been asked to update the VDST priorities that are found on the website. The 2008 - 2009 priorities were:

- Develop a written plan for both monetary and material donations.
- Increase capacity of volunteers in operating a Volunteer Reception Center and develop leadership capacity.
- Develop a matrix of potential resources including neighborhood plans and faith-based.

Discussion ensued regarding the development of new priorities. The consensus of the group was to adopt the following:

- Finalize a written plan for both monetary and material donations.
- Maintain the capacity of volunteers to operate one or more Volunteer Reception Centers.
- Develop criteria for the ideal donation collection/distribution site by the type of donation (food, clothing, large items, etc.) to be collected, identify potential sites that meet these criteria, and perform site assessments to produce a list of acceptable sites.

Haiti Donations Collection Hotwash

Discussion ensued regarding the Haiti donation effort that took place several weeks ago. Eleven pallets of items were collected. The individual who was supposed to arrange transportation was unable to do so due to the difficulty in getting into the country and the increased cost of the airlines. Several alternatives were discussed. The group felt that the donation collection effort itself was a success (other than the delivery issues). Pauline brought up an issue that came up regarding the issuance of event notices through the PIO. They probably could have gotten more donations if it had been properly noticed. Pauline will mention this issue at the COAD meeting this afternoon to see if Ed McCrane can help.

Next Meeting

The next bi-monthly meeting of the Volunteer and Donations Strike Team will be held on May 13, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Salvation Army on 10th Street.