



NJVOAD
New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

The Board of Trustees and staff of NJVOAD wish you and your loved ones a Happy New Year!



MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE CALLS

Tue Jan 5, 2016

10:30am - 12:30pm

Tri-County COAD Meeting - 3100 Dune Dr., Avalon, NJ

Thu Jan 7, 2016

10:00am - 12:00pm

Ocean County LTRG General Meeting - Elks Lodge -
600 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ



DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION IS 1-13-2016

THE NEXT NJVOAD CALL IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016!

OCEAN COUNTY CORE ADVISORY GROUP FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS



Ocean County Core Advisory Group
for Individuals with Access and Functional Needs

Invites YOU to

Please join your Ocean County neighbors and the Core Advisory Group for Individuals with Access and Functional Needs by sharing your "Sandy" related experiences and be a part of the discussion and emergency management plan in the event of another emergency.

- * How the needs of individuals with disabilities should be met
- * What are the current practices?
- * What are the challenges?

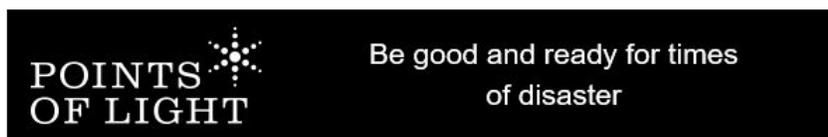
With Special Speaker

Jim Flemming
FEMA Region II Disability Integration Specialist

(YOU MUST RSVP FOR THIS EVENT, SEE THE FLYER FOR MORE INFORMATION)

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR THE FLYER

Management of Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteers



Training in Partnership with Volunteer Florida
January 13, 2016, 2 - 4 p.m. ET

Disasters often evoke an outpouring of individuals wanting to be a part of response and relief activities. These individuals, although well-intentioned, are rarely trained and can add to the already overtaxed resources available to assist the impacted community. This online training will help organizations manage "spontaneous" volunteers effectively. Register today by clicking [here](#).

Operation Volunteer Placement February 24, 2016

Operation Volunteer Placement will allow agencies and organizations tasked with the coordination of spontaneous volunteers during a disaster to exercise their plan in a web-based simulation. Participants work together as a unified team in establishing, managing and demobilizing a Volunteer Reception Center. This exercise can be accessed between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET and lasts

between 90 minutes and three (3) hours depending on group interaction.

NOTE: While intended for group interaction, each participant should individually register to ensure receipt of post-exercise certificate of participation. For additional information click [here](#).

Points of Light - the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service - mobilizes millions of people to take action that is changing the world. Through affiliates in 250 cities and partnerships with thousands of non-profits and corporations, Points of Light engages four million volunteers in 30 million hours of service each year. We bring the power of people to bear where it's needed most.

For more information, go to www.pointsoflight.org or e-mail disastertraining@pointsoflight.org. Good & Ready is a national initiative facilitated by Points of Light to help ensure everyone can be prepared for a disaster. Connect with us online: GoodandReady.org | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

Making Connections in Times of Personal Crisis

NJ 2-1-1 Answers the Call



When many heard that Hurricane Sandy was due to hit our shores they evacuated as requested, never realizing at that time that they were in for much more than hurricane winds. What so many NJ residents faced when the storm passed through, was utter destruction. The chaos that ensued turned worlds upside down.

Finding help when you are overwhelmed and traumatized by unexpected life events can feel impossible, especially when you don't know where to turn. In the aftermath of the storm, NJ 2-1-1, a statewide information and referral service, helped thousands of people find their way to existing services, just as it does every day of the year. Three years after the superstorm hit our shores and hurricane recovery services are dwindling, NJ 2-1-1 is still able to connect people with the help they need.

While resources may be more scarce, often the problem that exists is that programs and services are unknown to those in hardship. The NJ 2-1-1 resource database holds up-to-date information on over 10,000 services provided by more than 3,000 non-profit organizations and agencies in our state. This database is maintained by a data team that is highly trained in the use of taxonomy, a classification system that organizes resources for easy access. This team also spends their time reaching out to agencies to update these records. Unlike printed directories that can become dated quickly as resources change locations, phone numbers, or services, those in need of help are able to search the 2-1-1 database and access the most current information available.

Day or night, these resources are freely accessible to anyone. Those wishing to speak with someone can **dial 211 or 1-877-652-1148** and be connected with a call specialist who has been trained to listen with empathy and look for solutions. For many callers this makes the difference between desperation and hope. The same resources are available to those who go to www.nj211.org, the organization's newly launched website. Along with access to the database, visitors will find web pages with information about assistance programs, eligibility requirements and links to applications.

From the time the storm was forecasted NJ 2-1-1 created a section of their website devoted entirely to resources relevant to the storm. As needs changed, the pages of the site were modified. Currently the site has fourteen pages devoted to hurricane-related topics. Beyond that there are

pages that focus on topics related to basic needs, like housing, food, utility assistance and much more.

If your organization is not listed on NJ 2-1-1, please click [here](#) for information on how to get listed.

Need help? 2-1-1

Are we giving your clients the right information?

- Increase your visibility
- Reach your target audience
- Get better quality referrals
- Save time and frustration
- All at NO COST to you!

Update your record!

NJVOAD UPDATE!!

NJVOAD held our quarterly membership meeting on 12/8 at the Alliance Center for Independence (thanks to Luke and Carole for being such great hosts!) We had a wonderful turnout and a full agenda. Details are included in the minutes [HERE](#), but here are a few highlights...

- Welcome to our newest Board members: Joe Geleta, Maria Nikolatos and Anthony Pluchino!
- NJVOAD has rolled out a new strategic plan. Please visit the NJVOAD.org website (for more information on the plan).
- Save the Date for NJVOAD's Spring Conference - 4/13/15 at the National Conference Center in East Windsor. If you are interested in helping with the planning for this exciting event, please email sarahj@nj211.org or bobb@nj211.org.
- Four working groups are forming to review lessons learned from Sandy, and membership is open to any interested parties. **Please email khiggs@njvoad.org if you would like to participate in any of these groups: Construction / Rebuilding, Disaster Case Management, Donations and Volunteer Management, Relationship Building and Advocacy.**

FROM THE ISC ACTIVE SHOOTER WORKING GROUP...

Active shooter incidents can be unpredictable and evolve quickly. A number of guidance documents are available to help people prepare for, and respond to, an active shooter incident. This document was originally created as a resource for federal agencies and departments to enhance preparedness in federal facilities, but the ISC Active Shooter Working Group responded to multiple requests to modify the document for wider use.



Please find attached the [Planning and Response to an Active Shooter: An Interagency Security Committee Policy and Best Practices Guide.](#)

For more information, please visit the DHS active shooter preparedness [webpage](#). If you have any suggestions or wish to share with DHS how you used this document, please contact Lindsey Blair via e-mail at lindsey.blair@hq.dhs.gov, or Bernard Holt at bernard.holt@hq.dhs.gov.

FEMA INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE...



FEMA INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DECLARATION CRITERIA OPEN FOR COMMENT

FEMA announced it is seeking public comment on proposed changes to regulations describing FEMA's Individual Assistance declarations criteria. FEMA is asking for comments on the Federal Register Notice "Factors Considered When Evaluating a Governor's Request for Individual Assistance for a Major Disaster" by January 11, 2016.

FEMA has proposed to revise its regulations to comply with Section 1109 of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 which requires FEMA, in cooperation with state, local, and tribal emergency management agencies, to review, update, and revise through rulemaking the Individual Assistance factors FEMA uses to measure the severity, magnitude, and impact of a disaster. Full details can be found [HERE](#).

STAY CONNECTED



Try it FREE today.