



NJVOAD

New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
Cooperation - Communication - Coordination - Collaboration

NJVOAD Recovery Conference Call Minutes 8/26/16 at 10am

Present: Arnold (Val) Valentin (Catholic Charities), Brenda Beavers (Salvation Army), Dennis Dura (DCF), Karl Neiderer (NJCAR), Ben Haygood (HCDNNJ), Alayna Berg (LSNJ), Mike Prasad (Red Cross), Keith Adams (ERD), Lori Ross (FEMA), Marion O'Neil (PSEG), Mark Smith (SBP), Rachel Ianieri (CHLP), Kelly Higgs (NJVOAD)

The call began with a moment of silence for those in Louisiana, California, Italy and other locations where people are recovering from and/or responding to disaster.

Governmental Partners:

FEMA: Lori reported that Region II is providing disaster survivor assistance training. Several FEMA Region II employees have been deployed to LA to support the recovery efforts.

DCF: Dennis is rolling out a course on active shooter training and has offered to make it available to NJVOAD members at the 2017 Conference. He also informed the group that DCF has a professional training center in New Brunswick that may be a potential location for the NJVOAD Conference. Dennis will be joining the NJVOAD Conference Planning Committee. Brenda asked about the current forecast models on the tropical activities in the Atlantic, and Dennis reported that the storm headed for Florida appears to be weakening, and NHC cancelled plans to investigate further.

Faith-Based Partners:

Catholic Charities: Val reported that Catholic Charities reached out to former DCMs to potentially provide support in Southern Louisiana, and eight have responded with interest. Maria, Director, is due back on 9/1 and Anthony who is deployed to N. Louisiana is due back 10/1. They are currently maintaining 127 Sandy cases with 4 DCMs and are fully funded through 12/2016. They have some funds for direct financial assistance for rental through a CCUSA grant. They are advocating for a grant to help with chair lifts.

Brenda inquired about costs for lifts: \$4000 for interior chair lift and \$5-7000 for platform chair lifts to be used outside. Val also promoted PDA's Compassion Fatigue & Resilience on 9/19 at Visitation Church in Brick and 9/21 at Morning Star Presbyterian Church in Bayville. Registration information will be in the NJVOAD newsletter.

ERD: NJVOAD Board met a few weeks ago. ERD, is working in multiple locations and continues to be a presence supporting Sandy through 2016.

The Salvation Army: Brenda reported they have 50 Sandy cases remaining with some being presented to Northern Regional Unmet needs table. TSA is very involved in LA and several of their own buildings were impacted by the flooding. They are also involved in response work in California and Italy.

Partners:

PSEG: Marion reported they are planning to launch an employee resource group for first-responders in January 2017. DHS is interested in coordinating meeting of utility companies at ROIC to learn about triage work, and Marion is looking to build traction for this among utility companies.

Red Cross: Mike reported that ARC is busy in LA. 32 people from NJ have been deployed including 11 people virtually deployed. Largest ARC operation since Sandy – Level 5. Peak sheltering was 10,000 with 2,000 people remaining in sheltering as flood waters recede. ARC is estimating a \$30 million dollar investment. They are also supporting Blue Cut fire in California and staging assets in SC in anticipation of Invest 99. Volunteer opportunities: seeking virtual case workers in NJ to do case work over the phone. Participated in panel at RISC meeting representing ESF 6 partners. Focus was on Gotham Shield exercise scheduled to begin in April 2017.

LSNJ: Alayna reported they are still going strong assisting Sandy victims with civil and legal needs. They are open M-F 9-5. They are looking for partners to do more outreach (they serve the entire state).

NJCAR: Karl is the new Program Manager to NJ Cultural Alliance for Response – a network of cultural organizations, institutions and agencies (libraries, museums, PACs, performance) working collaboratively to preserve and protect these assets in a disaster. They are establishing a relationship with NJOEM to put cultural institutions on the map using GIS technology to better respond to the specific needs of cultural organizations, especially those with valuable collections in need of protection. They work out of DEP in Historical Preservation Office.

HCDNNJ - Ben shared information on a Housing resource event in Hudson at NJCU on 9/15 from 11-2. He also has info on FRM properties for Sandy-impacted families – 90 day priority for Sandy impacted survivors.

SBP: Mark reported they are developing an AmeriCorps program to support recovery in LA. SBP staff and volunteers have been deployed to assist in LA.

CHLP: Two more Sandy recovery workshops in Little Egg Harbor 8/31 and Middletown 9/7 – see the full informational flyer at: [http://nj211.org/pdfs/Sandy Recovery Workshops Aug Sept.pdf](http://nj211.org/pdfs/Sandy_Recovery_Workshops_Aug_Sept.pdf). Workshops are being presented jointly by VLJ, OCLTRG and CHLP. CHLP continues to serve Sandy-impacted people in Atlantic, Cape, Ocean and Monmouth Counties.

NJVOAD Update: Kelly reported there is a membership meeting on 9/14 at 10am in Milltown. Disaster protocols have been developed and will be reviewed at this meeting. Conference planning for 2017 has begun. NJVOAD continues to support VOAD/COAD strengthening and has developed training resources to support ongoing learning and engagement. September is National Preparedness Month, and NJVOAD has created a resource sheet for members and partners to distribute to encourage individual and family preparedness. Assessment information is being compiled to report on Sandy non-profit recovery efforts.