



Conference Call Minutes, NJVOAD

Friday, March 18, 2016

10:00 AM

Present: Kelly Higgs (NJVOAD), Betty Israel (Salvation Army), Keith Adams (Episcopal Relief & Development), Linda Hardy (VISTA), Joe Geleta (NJDHSOEM), Ellen Korpar (A Future with Hope), Anthony Pluchino (Catholic Charities), Maria Nikolatos (Catholic Charities), Cynthia Campbell, (VISTA), Themba Johnson (NJVOAD), Ben Haygood (Housing Community Development), Lori Ross (FEMA), Candace Crane (United Way), Teresa Holmes (Affordable Housing Alliance), Kevin McGee (St. Bernard Project), Meghan Sullivan (Disaster and Terrorism Branch), Mike Prasad (American Red Cross), Ken Asaab (Arab American Civic Organization), Russ Hendrickson (NJDHSOEM)

Statewide Partners

DHSOEM - monitoring the upcoming storm.

Disaster and Terrorism Branch – there are a series of trainings coming up where they will be presenting including the Voices of September 11, NJVOAD Conference and the NJ Emergency Preparedness Conference in May.

FEMA - has officially relocated to the World Trade Center but will continue to keep their NJ footprint. There are a number of disasters in other parts of the country including Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana. They may be deployed out to these areas to assist where needed.

Faith Based Partners

Salvation Army – The current program is funded thru the end of June. Continuing to work through the case management function and trying to close as many cases as possible. The Salvation Army continues to see that people are having issues with builders and permits. They are continuing their work with support groups, case management and house blessings.

Catholic Charities – Continues to have funding thru end of June and is still conducting case management until that time.

A Future with Hope – is actively taking on new clients for case management and construction, and they plan to continue at least thru 2016.

Episcopal Relief and Development – program ends in December. The Direct Client Assistance Program is ramping down this month but will officially end in June.

Non Profit and VOAD Partners

American Red Cross – continuing the Gap Funding Initiative which is an add on project through RREM. They are encouraging LTRG's to transition into their COADs as they move from recovery phase into preparedness phase. The ARC continues with their Home Fire Campaign which includes smoke alarm installs in high impact areas. There are also continuing to build out evacuation shelters with staffing with partners. Groups are welcome to help at these shelters but should contact Mike Prasaad directly.

Arab American Civic Organization – continues to work with the homeless in Patterson during the frigid months.

Housing and Community Development – there will be an Open House for affordable housing for renters in Atlantic City on April 8th from 3-7pm at the Atlantic Cape Community College.

April 8, 2016 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Atlantic Cape Community College, Cafeteria

1535 Bacharach Blvd., Atlantic City NJ

(<http://www.atlantic.edu/about/directions.htm>)

more information, visit www.acdevelopment.org or call 609-347-5404.

There will be 2 paid internship programs, VISTA and Community Scholars Program - contact Ben at 609-815-6820 for more information.

United Way Middlesex – working in Middlesex County and providing ongoing funding to support Case Management, construction and tangible goods through Catholic Charities of Metuchen.

St. Bernard Project - funded thru 2016. They continue to recruit volunteers and take on new clients.

Affordable Housing Alliance- They are continuing to service clients and generating new clients that do not have DCM's. They have 2 upcoming workshops, Foreclosure (3/29), Fraud (3/30)

Foreclosure Prevention Workshop



Learn About Your Options!

Are you recovering from Hurricane Sandy and having problems making your mortgage payments?

Are you in danger of missing a mortgage payment?

Have you lost your job?

Do something before it's too late...

SEEK HELP NOW...

HUD - CERTIFIED COUNSELORS WILL BE AVAILABLE

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

WHEN: MARCH 29, 2016

WHERE: 171 FIRST AVENUE

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS, NJ 07716

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (doors open at 6)

TO REGISTER CALL

732.982.5072

UNDERSTANDING THE NEW RREM FRAUD POLICY

Topics to be discussed include:

- ❖ The difference between Fraud and Contractor Dispute
- ❖ Making a formal RREM Complaint
- ❖ Division of Consumer Affairs
- ❖ Understanding the roles of the Housing Advisor and Project Manager
- ❖ Grant Award Calculation
- ❖ Litigation

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Where: 2700 Allaire Rd., Wall, NJ 07719
(Wall Twp. Library)

Time: 6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Registration is required for attendance.

NJVOAD Updates

Working Groups – they continue to go well and we are seeing increased participation with these groups. The conversations are meaningful and impactful to our community.

Assessments Due - - if you received an email regarding assessments, these are now due. These assessments will help to provide us with the most comprehensive data about the recovery.

NJVOAD Conference is on April 13th – we are excited that the conference will be taking place with FEMA Region 2 Administrator, Jerome Hatfield as our Keynote speaker. Get your tickets now as last year's conference was sold out.

HELPNJNOW.ORG – we have added in the Google crisis map as a resource in the “gray skies” mode on the website. This will broaden the info/resources during the gray skies mode. We will have a table set up at the conference so that you will be able to interact it with it during real time.

VOADs/COADs – are on target to meet our goal of having a VOAD/COAD in all of our 21 counties. There is contact information for every county on the NJVOAD website.

Next NJVOAD call is Friday, April 22nd

1-800-320-4330 pin#225748