



NEWSLETTER

Support Alliance For Emergency Readiness

CREATING A **SAFER** SANTA ROSA

www.safersantarosa.org

27 December 2011

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. - Aesop

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR BOARD:

At the next annual meeting (April) the new board will be announced. Elections will take place in the February/March time frame. Some current board members will re-run. We have open positions for:

Government:

Non-profit:

Business:

Faith based:

Email me if you want your name listed as a nominee for a board position. I will need your name, contact information, and which position you wish to fill. Please include the name of the organization you will be representing. **Please step forward and self nominate. We need volunteers to make this a successful organization. Obligations are limited to about 4 meetings a year, one of which is the annual meeting. THANK YOU to all who have already stepped up!!!**

NEEDS, REQUESTS, DONATIONS

We can do no great things -- only small things with great love. --Mother Teresa

SPECIAL INVITATION

SAFER Santa Rosa in cooperation with BRACE in Escambia invite you to attend an informational meeting with community leaders to learn about the Gulf Long Term Follow-Up Study (Gulf STUDY). The Gulf STUDY is currently being conducted in our area to learn about possible health effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Study investigators, including Dr. Dale Sandler, Chief of the Epidemiology Branch at National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, will share information on the study and answer your questions.

Wednesday, January 18

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

<LOCATION TBD> **Somewhere in Navarre probably**

*Please RSVP to tragusa@deveney.com or 504.330.2202

The Gulf STUDY is currently enrolling participants in Florida and welcomes your feedback and suggestions on how best to connect with workers and volunteers in our area and to encourage their participation in the study. Participating in this study will give the response workers and volunteers a chance to share their experiences during and after the oil spill clean-up. We hope that you or a representative from your office will be able to attend.

For more information on the Gulf STUDY, please visit <http://nihgulfstudy.org>

Make the CALL: Our Health. Our Community. Our Future.

1-855-NIH-GULF (1-855-644-4853)

The intent is to get people that were working on the beach to participate in this study.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Here is the additional information promised with an additional call for you to participate in an upcoming meeting with a representative from the Florida Division of Emergency Management and a number of disaster casework and case management organizations serving Northwest Florida. The attached documents and email below provide information about the current draft of a Florida Disaster Case Management Plan. Prior to beginning to develop local disaster case management plans that will align with the Florida Draft Plan BRACE and SAFER Santa Rosa, the COADs serving Escambia & Santa Rosa counties, want to meet with local response and recovery organizations to test the validity of a key planning assumption upon which the Florida Draft Plan is based. That is the reason we believe it is vital that you join us for the meeting. If your organization (non profit or faith based) does post-disaster case management, please contact Brenda Roland at brsvpsantarosa@mchsi.com so we can get everyone on the same sheet of music.

Meeting details are:

Monday, January 23, 2012
Afternoon (Time To Be Determined)
Escambia County Public Safety
Room 523
6575 North "W" Street, Pensacola, Florida



DCM Local
Implementation Partic



FL DCM Fact Sheet
11-01-2011.pdf



Florida Disaster Case
Management Base Pl

POINT IN TIME SURVEY

EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless needs volunteers to help get an accurate count of homeless in our county. Please spread the word and help out if you can.

I have attached the agenda for the Dec 12th meeting and have hi-lighted in red action items to be completed by the next PIT meeting scheduled for Dec. 20th -10 am at the ECOH office.



Point in Time Meeting
December 11th.docx

"The 2011 count revealed that on any given day in Escambia and Santa Rosa County 621 men, women, and children are homeless. Veterans represented 30% of the homeless population counted. Over 499 counted were between the ages of 18 to 60. With 72% counted as male."

Serene Keiek, Santa Rosa County Coordinator, **EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless**
O: 850.436.4646 C: 850.255.5585

COATS FOR KIDS

United Way of Santa Rosa County (UWSRC) and Woodbine Cleaners have partnered with Soft Rock 94.1, WXBM 102.7, the Santa Rosa County School District and Central Ministerial Fellowship to run the Coats for Kids coat drive for children and adults in Santa Rosa County. The community will be asked to donate new and gently used coats to help the community keep warm this winter **from Nov. 15 to Jan. 31**.

"After speaking with Dr. Karen Barber of the Santa Rosa County school district and with representatives from local clothing closets, we've decided to revive our Coats for Kids program to fulfill the need for coats this season," said Marianne Back, UWSRC Community Projects Coordinator. "We will furnish coats for school children identified through the school system, give coats to families and individuals in need and help stock clothing closets across the county through this drive."

UWSRC is seeking volunteers, churches, businesses and civic groups to partner with the drive. Funds donated will be used to purchase coats.

To donate coats or get involved, call (850) 623-4507 or email marianne@unitedwaysrc.org.

HOMELESS YOUTH

Homeless kids? It is hard to imagine, but it is true—140 between Santa Rosa and Escambia! We do not have the statistics for Okaloosa and Walton County. Many teenagers are? couch surfing.? They stay wherever they can and bathe in school locker rooms. Did you see the

movie, the Blind Side? This is a wandering the streets waiting for another Leigh and Sean Tuohy to step up and help them be all they can be. Do you have room in your home? Can you help a teen, a future leader finish high school?

Families Count is partnering with other community organizations to try to find host homes for youth, so they have the opportunity to finish school, find careers, be successful, and contribute to their communities. We have begun identifying youth in your area who are in need of host homes to provide stability for youth who are trying to finish high school. For example, we currently need a home for a 17 year old female who is in the 11th grade and trying to finish high school. Do you know of someone who would be willing to provide a host home for child in your community? Besides full-time host homes, we are also looking for Co-host homes in which two families work to provide stability for the youth and support each other and respite homes to allow homeless youth to stay temporarily.

Host families are required to complete home suitability inquiries of the home and adult family members. This includes a home visit with the Families Count Host Homes Coordinator, criminal background checks and drug screening. Once approved the Host Home Coordinator will facilitate a meeting between the host family and the youth and will continue to provide support and monitoring to help work out any issues that arise. Biological families are expected to provide financially for the youth to the extent that they are able and maintain all of their legal rights and responsibility as parents. Families Count will provide assistance with accessing all alternative resources for health care and other needs that are available.

We would love to talk with interested individuals or groups who may be interested in supporting successful outcomes for Santa Rosa, Escambia, Okaloosa, and Walton County youth.

We've always known it takes a village to raise children, so be a partner and join our Village!!! Please see attached flyer for details.



Youth Count Flyer -
host homes email.doc

INFORMATION

When you cease to make a contribution you begin to die. - Eleanor Roosevelt

FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR ROLE IN SUPPORTING AN AGING POPULATION

The Center on Aging

at the University of West Florida will present a workshop for
Faith Based Organizations and their role in supporting an Aging Population

Friday, February 10, 2012 in the UWF Conference Center

The morning event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Presentations will include:

- Panel discussion of faith-based organizations with established senior support programs in Northwest Florida.
- The role of faith based organizations and disaster preparedness from a BRACE perspective – Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies.
- Remarks from the Bureau Chief of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, Larry Baxter.

Plan to attend. Details will be sent after the New Year.

PANDEMIC PLANNING PODCAST

Continuity Insights Podcast 004: Pandemic Preparedness

The use of vaccines such as Tamiflu, lessons learned from recent pandemics and the emergence of H5N1 are among the topics covered in the December podcast

<http://editionsbyfry.com/Olive/ODE/CIN/Default.aspx?href=CIN%2F2011%2F12%2F01&pageno=13&view=document?EmailAddr=danielh@santarosa.fl.gov>

FEMA PRIVATE SECTOR TIP OF THE WEEK 12/19/11:

Pack extra blankets, food, first aid kits, flares and water for long road trips in severe cold weather. www.ready.gov/winter.

Also check out the FEMA Private Sector academia resources on the new School and Campus Awareness and Preparedness Web Page:

http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/school_campus_awareness.shtml

DISASTER RECOVERY TIP #51: AGILITY'S 2011 VIDEO RECAP

It's hard to believe 2011 is coming to an end. On the disaster recovery front, it has been a historic and wild year. As of today, there have been 98 presidentially declared disasters affecting 45 states and territories. With an onslaught of twisters, floods, snow, drought, heat, wildfires, and even earthquakes on the east coast, the US eclipsed the record for billion-dollar weather related disasters. As the year comes to a close and we get ready to ring in the New Year, we find value in reflecting on the events that helped shape us over the past 12 months. [Click here](#) to watch as Agility's President and CEO, Bob Boyd provides a recap of the year and well wishes for a prosperous 2012

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING SITES

-Residents Urged to Recycle Materials Year Round-

Santa Rosa County residents are urged to start the New Year "green" by recycling their live Christmas trees. Trees dropped off by Tuesday, January 31 at the five recycling areas around the county will be chipped and offered as free mulch at Clean Community System in Milton at a later date to be announced.

When dropping off trees, please place the trees in the designated area identified by signage. Do not place trees in front of the recycling containers. Trees can be disposed at (Maps available online at www.santarosa.fl.gov/recycle):

- Quintette Recycle Area at the Five Points Intersection
- Pace Patriot Boulevard next to Pace Volunteer Fire Department
- Tiger Point recreation area in Gulf Breeze, east of Walmart
- Jay Transfer Station, on Transfer Station Road

With more recycling choices available in Santa Rosa County than ever before, recycling is an easy New Years resolution to make for 2012. Citizens can recycle glass, metal, plastic containers, paper and cardboard with curbside collections by their garbage collection service, taking items to one of the 26 recycling drop off sites located throughout the county, or hauling the items to the Central Landfill or Gulf Breeze and Jay transfer stations.

Residents are also reminded that recycle areas are not disposal areas for furniture or household garbage that is not sorted, recyclable material. Please do not dispose of carpet, furniture, toilets, sinks, vinyl flooring, or wicker furniture in the recycle bins. Not only can people be fined for illegal dumping, it can cause the site to be closed or relocated, which can be a great inconvenience to those that are using the site as intended. A list of all Santa Rosa County recycling points and acceptable materials can also be found on the county's website at:

www.santarosa.fl.gov/recycle

WHOLE COMMUNITY DOCUMENT RELEASED BY FEMA

This document was released last week. Open it or download it at

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=4941>

and **read page 14. Be proud of your community and get involved!**



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Whole_Community_D

FEMA KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE AMERICANS TO RESOLVE TO BE READY IN 2012

As 2011 - one of the most active years for disasters in recent history - comes to a close and Americans get ready to ring in a new year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency is encouraging all Americans to *Resolve to be Ready* in the by making a new year's resolution to be prepared for emergencies.

As a recent report by the National Climatic Data Center highlights, 2011 has seen more billion-dollar natural disasters than any year on record. This year alone, the U.S. experienced its first hurricane landfall since 2008, the most deadly series of tornadoes since the 1950s, significant earthquakes and severe flooding - hazards that impacted every region of the country. All of these events have served as important reminders that disasters can strike anytime, anywhere, and being prepared is one of the most effective things we can do to protect our homes, businesses and loved ones.

Today, FEMA kicked off its annual campaign, *Resolve to be Ready* in 2012, which urges Americans to make preparedness a priority during the holiday season by making a new year's resolution to be ready for disasters or by thinking about preparedness tools for last minute gift ideas.

"One of the most important lessons we can take away from this year is that disasters can impact all of us, no matter what part of the country we live in," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate.

"While we can't control where or when they might hit, we can take steps in advance to prepare for them - efforts that can go a long way toward protecting our families, homes and business. Resolving to be Ready in 2012 could be the most important pledge you make this year."

By making a resolution to take a few simple steps in advance, Americans can minimize the impact of an emergency on their families, homes or businesses. To take the pledge, visit www.ready.gov/resolve or www.listo.gov, which includes free information, checklists, and guidelines about how to put together a kit, make a plan, and stay informed.

Resolve to be Ready in 2012 is a nationwide effort to increase awareness and encourage individuals, families, businesses, and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies in the New Year. This effort is led by FEMA's Ready Campaign in partnership with Citizen Corps and The Advertising Council. For more information, visit Ready.gov and CitizenCorps.gov or follow the campaign on Twitter using the hashtags #ready2012 and #resolve.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFERS MONTHLY SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WEBINARS

Small business owners have an opportunity to get tips on business continuity planning in 2011 through a series of free webinars hosted by the U.S. Small Business Administration and Agility Recovery Solutions. Dates and topics for upcoming free webinars are as follows:

Dec. 20 – “Management obligations during Disaster Recovery”

More preparedness tips for businesses, homeowners and renters are available on the SBA's website at <http://www.sba.gov/content/disaster-preparedness>

FACEBOOK

SAFER is on Facebook, find us and become our friend ;-) We are up to 306 people! Invite friends. **Thanks for helping us break 300 before the end of the year.**



Use of barricades policy: Free to parades in Santa Rosa County that are sponsored by a chambers or government entities (Christmas parades, Mardi Gras, 4th of July etc...) that are free and open to the public, with the understanding that the user is responsible for transportation of barricades, AND banners advertizing sponsors MUST be put on barricades. Others wanting to use the barricades must provide transportation and rent barricades at a cost of \$5 per barricade. Additional fees may be applicable if barricades are not returned within 7 days of pick up/delivery. Barricades will cost \$8 each if delivery is required. Average rental price for barricades is \$9-\$13 each through other vendors. SAFER barricades are a bargain.

OPPORTUNITIES

There is no better exercise for your heart, than reaching down and helping to lift someone up. - Bernard Meltzer

LOCAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Visit the state training web page to see all the Florida Division of Emergency Management sponsored training in the state. On this site you will learn what training is offered, where it will be conducted, how long the training will last, who the point of contact for the training is, and any other special considerations like prerequisites for the course. Remember when you are looking for classes, we are in region 1. Go to the following web page

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/TrainingCalendar/index.asp>

CITIZENS LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

The next Citizens Law Enforcement Academy starts January 26th and runs through April 12th. It is from 6-9 p.m. on THURS. nights only for a 12 week period. Citizens will learn firsthand about our agency and what each division does. They will get demos by the K-9 Unit, SWAT Team, etc. It is a great opportunity to learn about local law enforcement and have fun at the same time. They can go to our website at www.santarosasheriff.org and click on the article on it on the home page. This will bring up the application, which they can complete and send to Cindy Sarver at csarver@srsso.net.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY / NEIGHBORHOOD EXERCISE SERIES

On January 28 neighborhood, community and faith based organizations across the country will have the opportunity to assess their capabilities in preparing for and responding to an Influenza Pandemic by participating in the [Formidable Footprint Pandemic Exercise](#).

During the past year teams from across the United States have been participating in the internet based series of Formidable Footprint exercises. These exercises have provided participants with the opportunity to assess their capabilities to respond to various disaster threats.

Pandemic Exercise – January 28 2012

Exercises have also been scheduled for the following scenarios:

Earthquake – Flood – Hurricane – Tornado – Wildfire

The Formidable Footprint exercise series has been developed in accordance with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) protocols. The objectives of the exercises are for CERTs, Neighborhood Watch Programs, Neighborhood Associations, Community / Faith Based Organizations, Citizen Corps, Fire Corps and others to work as a team to become better prepared for the next disaster their community may face.

There is **NO CHARGE** for participation in any of the Formidable Footprint exercises.

For additional information or to register for the up-coming Tornado Exercise please access the following web site today: www.FormidableFootprint.org

Please Share This Important Disaster Exercise Opportunity With Others

NEWS (blue is new)

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. --Margaret Mead

State of Florida Mass Care and Emergency Assistance Capability Level Guide

<http://floridadisaster.org/training/esf6/documents/FLA%20Mass%20Care-EA%20Capability%202011.pdf>

Weather Alerts On-the-Go, Coming in 2012

<http://news.yahoo.com/weather-alerts-coming-2012-214703322.html>

Business community joins forces to prepare for disaster, emergencies (Washington)

<http://www.vashonbeachcomber.com/news/135116208.html>

Lessons of the Deepwater Horizon

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/email/url.php?eid=24244>

Social Media - The Path Ahead

by MARY LILLEY Wed, December 21, 2011

Over the past few years, the use of social media has grown in record numbers, and various studies have shown that users are increasingly relying on social networks as a leading source of disaster information. In light of these findings, some emergency management agencies have established an “online” presence to disseminate and collect information during everyday operations as well as in times of emergency. However, emergency management agencies use several different ways to capitalize on the technology now available. Although establishing social media accounts for the purpose of monitoring information and maintaining situational awareness is useful, some jurisdictions are taking those same accounts to the next level in the areas of information dissemination, information collection, and overcoming staffing challenges.

Social media is now emerging as a primary mechanism for disseminating information to the general public prior to, during, and after an incident. In Mecosta County, Michigan – to consider but one example – the benefits of using the technology to disseminate information to news outlets, county officials, and damage-assessment personnel became apparent following severe flooding earlier this year (in April). The county’s emergency director, James Buttleman, used his cellular phone to capture photographs and video images of damaged roads and culverts throughout the county; he then uploaded the images to the county’s social media pages. Shortly thereafter, the Buttleman photos became known as the most reliable source of up-to-date information on flood damage almost anywhere in the county. By sharing the images and videos of flood damage online, the county was able to expedite the information-sharing process. County officials, damage assessment personnel, and the media obtained real-time updates on the impact of flooding throughout the county – and that saved time for the emergency director himself, because he could direct organizations and individuals to the county’s social media pages for flood information rather than emailing and/or phoning each person or organization individually.

Mapping the Crowd, Monitoring the Impact

Many emergency management agencies also have recognized how easily, and how quickly, social media can be used to collect information. In fact, some jurisdictions are already leveraging the power of crowd-sourcing to capture real-time mapped disaster information from the public. Following the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, volunteers from around the world organized and assisted with response operations by using free software developed by Ushahidi, a nonprofit company that uses crowd-sourcing for information collection and mapping purposes. Similarly, New York City (NYC) officials used Crowdmap – a free program developed by the Ushahidi creators – to track damage caused to the city by Hurricane Irene earlier this year. The Crowdmap program not only allowed NYC residents to post additional information about weather conditions and weather-related service disruptions – e.g., downed trees and cable lines, power outages, and property damage – but also gave city officials the time needed to monitor Irene’s impact on the entire metropolitan area on a continuing basis.

It is recognized that the demands and expectations for maintaining a social-media presence during an incident can become an overwhelming task for public information officers to manage. To address that concern, one jurisdiction – Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, N.M. – has devised an innovative way to mobilize volunteers for support during an incident. More specifically: An emergency management coordinator, Jeffery Phillips, in that jurisdiction established a volunteer group of “trusted agents” – grouped into a so-called Virtual Operations Support Team (VOST) – comprising emergency managers and other technologically skilled area residents capable of supporting social media operations during a major incident.

The VOST concept also was tested during the September 2011 Shadow Lake Fire in Oregon, when members of the team were “virtually deployed” to provide support to the national incident management team responding to the fire. The VOST members not only created accounts for the fire response and disseminated essential information (through Facebook, Twitter, and a blog), but also addressed various rumors and misinformation that might easily have made response operations even more difficult. In short, VOST provided the National Incident Management Team with a capability that had previously not existed.

Today it is already apparent that emergency management agencies throughout the nation have only just started to scratch the surface of social media’s capacity to support preparedness, response, and recovery operations. The dissemination of information during the 2011 floods in Mecosta County, the use of crowd-sourcing to gather information in real time, and the development and implementation of the VOST concept to provide support during a wildfire incident all reflect the various creative ways in which a growing number of political jurisdictions are continuing to break new ground as they venture ever deeper into the world of social media.

Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency's national online network of lessons learned, best practices, and innovative ideas for the nation's homeland security and emergency management communities. She received a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Duke University.

Final report finds several faults in Gulf oil spill

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/story/2011-12-14/gulf-oil-spill-bp/51928228/1?loc=interstitialskip>

BP Faces More Citations in Gulf Spill

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203501304577084362755312858.html?mod=hats_now&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews

Social Media for Emergency Managers Can't Start When the Emergency Does

http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20111110_4195.php

Survey Shows Disconnect Between Professional, Citizen Views of Terrorism

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Survey-Shows-Disconnect-Between-Views-Terrorism.html>

FEMA Blog, Launching the FEMA Think Tank -- a Forum to Facilitate Discussion in the Field of Emergency Management

<http://blog.fema.gov/2011/11/launching-fema-think-tank-forum-to.html>

Would You Pass the Panic-Proof Test?

<http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/paleofuture/2011/11/would-you-pass-the-panic-proof-test/>

Remember: All Disasters Are Local, Says FEMA Deputy Administrator

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Remember-All-Disasters-Are-Local-Says-FEMA-Deputy-Administrator.html>

What Big-Box Retailers Can Teach Government about Disaster Recovery

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Big-Box-Retailers-Teach-Disaster-Recovery.html>

Eric Holdeman's Blog, Learning from Leaders

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/emergency-blogs/disaster-zone/learning-from-leaders-112611.html>

CDC Warns of New Swine Flu Strain

<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/health/2011/11/25/new-swine-flu-strain/>

Social Media 4 Emergency Management, the Brick Walls

<http://www.sm4em.org/2011/11/the-brick-walls/>