



NEWSLETTER

Support Alliance For Emergency Readiness

CREATING A **SAFER** SANTA ROSA

www.safersantarosa.org

31 Dec 2012

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

NEEDS, REQUESTS, DONATIONS

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

"You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give". -- Winston Churchill

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS; POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

Basic Details:

- Who: EscaRosa Coalition On the Homeless
- What: Annual "U Count" Point-in-Time Homeless Survey
- When: January 23, 2012 10 am till January 24, 2012 10 am
- Where: Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties
- Why: Volunteer opportunity to help count homeless

Media Contact:

- John Johnson (850) 439-3009 Executive Director

The EscaRosa Coalition On the Homeless (ECOH) is looking for volunteers to assist with the annual 2013 "U Count" Point-in-Time Homeless Survey. The "U Count" Survey will be conducted over a 24-hour period, beginning 10:00 am Wednesday, January 24, 2013, and ending at 10:00 am Thursday, January 25, 2013.

The ECOH is charged with counting homeless individuals in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. The purpose of the "U Count" Survey is to determine the needs and extent of our local homeless population including sheltered and unsheltered men, women, and children. We can then match their needs against the services offered in the community. This process will enable us to fill gaps and address unmet needs. Additionally, Florida is ranked one of the highest in homeless veterans. As our military men and women leave the service, the 2013 count is especially important as it will provide us with information we need to better serve them.

Volunteers are asked to serve as active participants in the counting process. No specific experience is required to serve as a volunteer (training will be provided), but compassion and a desire to help individuals who are homeless are essential. We will need a minimum of 150 volunteers to serve a two-to-four-hour shift at some of our area soup kitchens, churches, food pantries and other locations where homeless gather.

Several mandatory trainings will be offered for those wishing to participate in the survey process. On-Line Volunteer registration is available at www.ecoh.org. The registration deadline is January 15, 2013.

In conjunction with the Annual "U-Count" on January 24, 2013, EscaRosa Coalition on The Homeless (ECO) will be holding their first annual U-Count Homeless Services Day to provide homeless individuals and families the services and benefits they need, all in one place, on one day. Volunteers will be on hand to help secure temporary housing, sign people up for veteran or public benefits, provide employment counseling and access to medical care, give haircuts, a hot meal and more. The event will take place at our main office, 2601 West Strong Street, Pensacola.

If you would like to help make this event a success please send donations to: EscaRosa Coalition On the Homeless, P.O. Box 17222 Pensacola, FL 32522, or by PayPal at www.ecoh.org. Please place on the memo line: "U-Count" Homeless Services Day.

Supplies are also needed for the "U-Count"-Homeless Services Day from business and individuals to help those in need. A few items that we need are:

Socks, gloves, chap-stick, small LED flashlights, duffle bags and backpacks, ponchos, candles, toilet paper, personal body products, men's clothing and blankets.

Who Can Help: People from all professions and walks of life are encouraged to serve as volunteers.

- City/County employees
- Police and fire agency employees-active and retired
- College and university students/faculty
- Employees of shelters or other service providers
- Military personnel-active and retired
- Faith-based community members
- Service or other civic organization members
- Anyone with a heart for this special population who wants to help them get the assistance they need to achieve self-sufficiency.

Serene Keiek EscaRosa Coalition On the Homeless Project Manager
850-232-9548 *"Working to prevent and eliminate homelessness"*

"A HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS"

Donations Needed to Provide Housing for Homeless Families for the Holidays

In an effort to draw more attention to the need for supportive housing for Veteran Families, the owners of the Howard Johnson/Day's Inn have agreed to partner with EscaRosa Coalition on The Homeless and The Women's Empowerment Center Pilot Project, to donate rooms for homeless families during the holidays at the Pensacola Inn on Hwy 29 in Escambia County, Florida. Homeless Veteran and nonveteran families will be provided emergency housing from December 21, 2012 to January 21, 2013.

The Women's Empowerment Center Pilot Project hopes to be ready to commence operation of their transitional housing program with a full array of supportive services by January 21, 2013 and that these families will be able to transition directly to that Pilot Project. The Women's Empowerment Center is a Project created by the Monument to Women Veterans Inc. in cooperation with Poe In Action, Inc. and the EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless, Inc., for the purpose of preventing and ending the homelessness of our veteran families. The Women's Empowerment Center Pilot Project has been designed to be easily duplicated and taken anywhere across the nation to help homeless veterans.

For the past several months the Center for Strategic Military Excellence (CSME), who has developed an integrated approach for Veteran centered care and founded the Monument to

Women Veterans, Inc. , has been meeting with several non-profit organizations, George Hawthorne from Diversity Program Advisors, Inc., and Jay and Nash Patel, international leaders in the hotel/motel industry, with LHS, Inc. to develop plans for an effective supportive housing program that will help aid the goal of the Department of Veteran Affairs to end homelessness among our veterans by 2015. It is hoped that not only will our local businesses help support this project, but also HUD and VA since all have a vested interest in ending homelessness.

The Pensacola Inn will be adding additional rooms for more families as funding permits. EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless, Monument to Women Veterans, Poe In Action will identify eligible families and solicit a hosting fee from local businesses, organizations and individuals who want to help a veteran family for 30 days. We need your support and donations to provide a homeless family "A Home for the Holidays." Please contact: EscaRosa Coalition on the Homeless - [www,echo.org](http://www.echo.org) – 850-439-3009

Janis Wilson, Secretary, Monument to Women Veterans, Inc. mwveterans@gmail.com
850-341-1399

FREE MATTRESS FOR CHILDREN - ASHLEY FURNITURE

Ashley Furniture Home Store project- A Hope to Dream. Founded in 2010, A Hope to Dream seeks to provide less fortunate children a mattress set. Referring a child for consideration to receive a mattress set is where Ashley Furniture needs your help. A Hope to Dream can only help a child to get a good night's rest if a caring person refers a child (ages 3-16) in need. Complete an application online, the link is below. The application will be reviewed by a selection committee. Recipients will be notified and given 30 days to respond. Unselected applications will be kept for one year and will be reviewed for consideration at the next selection.

Participating stores in Florida are: Altamonte Springs, Brandon, Daytona Beach, Jacksonville, North Jacksonville, Kissimmee, Lakeland, Orange Park, Orlando, Pensacola, Pinellas Park, Tallahassee, and Wesley Chapel.

Please share this information liberally.....a good night's sleep is important for all dimensions of growth, health, and mental well-being!!!!.....don't we know!!!! Information:
<http://www.ashleyfurniturehomestore.com/events/AHopeToDream.html>

Application:

<http://www.ashleyfurniturehomestore.com/events/AHTDReferral.aspx>

TRAUMA INTERVENTION PROGRAM

http://www.tip-ser.org/Heroes_with_Heart/index.html

Plan to join us for a special evening to honor men and women that make a difference in our community. This event recognizes law enforcement officers, firefighters, hospital personnel, and other first responders nominated by our volunteers for going above and beyond the call of duty in 2012. Recipients of the Heroes with Heart Awards are unsung heroes who, at this event, are given the public recognition they deserve.

Where: Hurlburt Field Soundside Club, Mary Esther, 107 Kissam St., Hurlburt Field, FL, 32544

Time: 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

What: Silent Auction, Dinner, and Award Presentation

We are still seeking silent auction items, and would greatly appreciate anything you could provide! Silent auction item donors will be recognized on a list of sponsors displayed at the gala, by announcement during the evening, and will also be listed on our sponsor recognition page online. Donations may be tax deductible, as TIP is a 501(C)(3) organization. Check out our donated items on the Silent Auction Sneak Peek tab!

Don't miss this exciting event.....Check out our **Purchase Tickets** tab and make plans to attend now!

INFORMATION

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

TABLE TOP EXERCISE

This is part of the Business Continuity Initiative (BCI) please consider participating with your business.

BRACE has set up a table top exercise, that local businesses are encouraged to participate in right from their office, that test their disaster preparedness. It will provide questions and scenarios that each business should try to answer and hopefully will stimulate thought on what other items businesses need to prepare in the event of disaster. Every business should understand the statistics:

- Of all businesses that close in the aftermath of a disaster, approximately 43% never re-open. Of those that do re-open, approximately another 29% will close for good within two years.
- Statistics show that 60% of businesses that lose their business data will fail.

Greg Strader from BRACE is passing along the invitation to anyone that is willing and interested in participating. Please pass it along to any of the ESF 18 partners or businesses that you feel would gain a benefit. BRACE is paying for this out of the CERT and Citizen Grants that they secure each year and are offering this at no charge to the business community. People can read about the exercise at the link below and it will provide instructions on registering.

<http://www.drc-group.com/project/biz-escambia.html>

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Strader.

Greg Strader Executive Director (850) 444 – 7136 GStrader@BeReadyAlliance.org

This is on the 24th of January, if any business, non profit or church would like to participate in this exercise at the EOC on our big screens, let me know. Although registration says 9am-4pm my experience says this is a 3 hour exercise (or less) so please consider participating with key staff at your own place of business or here with us in emergency management.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CAPACITY BUILDING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

As Superstorm Sandy demonstrated, catastrophic emergencies can overwhelm the response capacities of local jurisdictions. Increasingly, communities and counties are reaching out to nonprofit mutual aid and corporate partners in order to improve their capacity to respond to emergency situations.

Our next webinar on January 9 at 12 PM, will feature several case studies on successful public-private partnerships utilized to foster emergency response capacity at the local level. We will also discuss the use of technologies to improve the community's ability to catalog the assets required to respond to all hazard emergency situations.

The webinar will last 30 minutes with 15 minutes for questions and answers following the presentation. Please join us for this timely and relevant webinar.

[Register Now!](#)

<http://www.emergencyvisions.com/news-events/webinars/>

Date: January 9th, 2013 Time: 12 PM ET
Duration: 30 minutes

SHOPPING LOCALLY IN MILTON JUST GOT EASIER

<http://www.mainstreetmilton.org/> will tell you all about Milton and there is an app you can download to help you shop locally.

KEEP YOUR HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FIRE SAFETY CAMPAIGN BEGINS DECEMBER 1

Santa Rosa County emergency service agencies are teaming up for the sixth year to promote fire safety during the month of December with the "Keep Your Holidays Bright" campaign. While a joyous time of year, cold weather, holiday decorations and festivities can create serious fire dangers. Fire fighters hope to reduce the number of fires in Santa Rosa County by promoting simple, life-saving holiday safety tips each day, December 1 through the 31.

In addition to the daily fire safety tips, Santa Rosa's Keep Your Holidays Bright campaign centers around a Christmas tree located in the Santa Rosa County Administration Complex on Caroline Street, decorated with electric candles. Each time firefighters respond to a working residential fire or large wildfire causing fire damage, a candle will be "extinguished" and replaced with a card noting the basic details of the fire. In the first year nine candles were extinguished on the safety tree, three in the second year, six in the 2009 campaign, four in 2010 and six in 2011.

According to the United States Fire Administration, 76 percent of fire injuries affecting civilians occurred in our homes. Fires occurring during the holiday season claim the lives of over 945 people, injure 3,825, and cause over \$1.7 billion in damage. Nationally, cooking is the leading cause of residential building fires in December, accounting for 41 percent of fires, followed by heating fires at 28 percent, open flame fires at nine percent, and incendiary/suspicious fires seven percent.

Each fire department in Santa Rosa County including Allentown Volunteer Fire, Avalon Fire/Rescue, Bagdad Volunteer Fire, Berrydale Volunteer Fire, the City of Milton Fire, East Milton Fire and Rescue, Gulf Breeze Volunteer Fire, Harold Volunteer Fire, Holley-Navarre Fire District, Jay Volunteer Fire, Midway Fire District, Munson Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Inc.; Navarre Beach Fire, Pace Fire/Rescue District, Skyline Fire and Rescue District, Florida Forest Service, Santa Rosa County Emergency Management and Lifeguard Ambulance Service are working together to promote holiday safety.

Daily Fire Safety Tips (Corresponds with Escambia's Keep the Wreath Green Campaign):

Dec. 31 Don't drink and drive, have a designated driver or call a friend.

RESERVE YOUR BOOTH SPACE NOW FOR THE ANNUAL HEALTH & BUSINESS EXPO

The Navarre Chamber will host their Annual Health & Business Expo on Saturday, January 26th, 2013, from 9 am - Noon at the Navarre High School, 8600 High School Blvd.

The theme for the 2013 Expo is "Showcasing the Heartbeat of Navarre". The Chamber hopes that businesses and organizations will use the theme to decorate their booth space, offer Valentine's Day specials, as well as show off what they have to offer the Navarre area.

The Expo benefits both consumers and business owners. There is always a steady stream of people of all ages in need of health screenings, a new doctor as well wanting to see what kinds of goods and services are available in the Navarre area.

The event will feature local small businesses, community and non-profit organizations, and health related businesses in Navarre and the surrounding area with interactive booths and activities. Event details are in the final planning stages, but businesses are encouraged to reserve their booth space early to ensure availability and to select their preferred booth location. Booth space and sponsor opportunities are limited but available for both Navarre Chamber and future-Navarre Chamber members.

The Navarre Chamber Health & Business Expo is free to the public, and the attendance usually averages 1,200 attendees.

A Reservation Form, Sponsor Information, and a Layout of the Exhibit Halls are attached and/or you can log on to www.navarrechamber.com or call the Chamber at 939-3267.

TWITTER

SAFER Santa Rosa is on Twitter.

FACEBOOK

SAFER is on Facebook, find us, and become our friend ;-). We are up to 484 people! Invite friends. **Let's keep growing this communications venue. Invite other Santa Rosans to participate.** Invite your Santa Rosa friends to join you on the SAFER Facebook page.



Use of barricades policy: Free to parades and other events in Santa Rosa County that are sponsored by a chambers or government entities (Christmas parades, Mardi Gras, 4th of July etc...) or non profits, that are hosting events that are free and open to the public. 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*

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*

15 Disaster and Crisis Apps for iPhone and iPad

http://blog.missionmode.com/blog/15-disaster-and-crisis-apps-for-iphone-and-ipad.html?qoback=.gde_1471_member_192934190

Space Weather Basics, 2nd Edition

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=901

Wiki launches Accessibility Toolkit to empower people with disabilities to use social media in emergencies

http://emergency20wiki.org/20121210/wiki-launches-accessibility-toolkit?qoback=%2Egde_133264_member_194429877

Senior citizens prepare for natural disaster (Florida)

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/boynton-beach/fl-boynton-senior-citizen-readyfest-20121212,0,162752.story>

Episode 4, Disaster and Preparedness: Should I Stay or Should I Go?- Video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yD_FSV7i3Bs&feature=youtu.be

Be Prepared For Emergencies While Traveling- Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDEsfgwGwwY>

Emergency 2.0 Wiki

http://emergency20wiki.org/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

Experts: Flu spreading faster than usual

http://thechart.blogs.cnn.com/2012/12/03/flu-season-ramping-up-early-experts-say/?hpt=hp_t3

Disasters are unavoidable but planning can lessen their effects

<http://news.nurse.com/article/20121203/NATIONAL01/112030047#.UMEVQAWNNcB.facebook>

Emergency Response for People who have Access and Functional Needs: A Guide for First Responders <http://terrorism.spcollege.edu/SPAWARAFN/index.html>

The Red Guide to Recovery: Resource Handbook for Disaster Survivors

<http://www.theredguidetorecovery.com/>

Tips for Effectively Communicating with Protected Populations During Response and Recovery

<http://www.dhs.gov/publication/tips-effectively-communicating-protected-populations-during-response-and-recovery>

Contacts Are Key in Emergency Management

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Contacts-Key-Emergency-Management.html>

Health in Aging, Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults Website

<http://www.healthinaging.org/resources/resource:emergency-preparedness-for-older-adults/>

Zombies and Preparedness: Five tips for using metaphors in exercises and outreach

<http://freeresources.lucienanton.com/2012/10/zombies-and-preparedness-five-tips-for-using-metaphors-in-exercises-and-outreach.html>

"Mommy, I'm Scared." Ways to Comfort Children during Disasters

<http://redcrossdallas.blogspot.com/2012/10/mommy-im-scared-ways-to-comfort.html>

Woeful Success Rate in Citizen Preparedness Suggests New Approaches is Necessary

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Woeful-Success-Rate-Citizen-Preparedness.html>

Emergency Managers' Best Practices for Evacuating Communities

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Best-Practices-Evacuating-Communities.html>

Most U.S. Small Businesses Back Up Data as a Precaution, but May Not Be Sufficiently Prepared for a Crisis

http://finance.yahoo.com/news/sage-survey-most-u-small-130000505.html;_ylt=A2KJ3CbCNRZQgB0AaYHQtdMD

Why Aren't Americans Listening to Disaster Preparedness Messages?

http://www.rand.org/about/people/u/uscher-pines_lori.html

10 Ways for Businesses to Be Hurricane Ready

<http://bclc.uschamber.com/blog/2012-06-07/10-ways-businesses-be-hurricane-ready>

The Role of Business in Disaster Response Report

<http://bclc.uschamber.com/document/role-business-disaster-response-report>

Small Businesses Fall Short on Disaster Preparedness

<http://www.businessnewsdaily.com/2621-small-businesses-natural-disasters.html>