

NORCAL VOAD MINUTES
Tuesday, February 10,2009
American Red Cross Building
3901 Broadway, Oakland

Attendees: Lidia Armas, **CAL EMA-FEMA VAL** Ollie Arnold, **Eden I&R**, Coleen Bell; **Oakland Fire-OES:** Brian Bolten. **Volunteer Centers of Cal.;** Ken Cavallero, **Salvation Army;** Franci Collins, **SCNC ARC;** Charlie Crosby, **Noah's Wish;** Rodger Doncaster, **Sonoma ARC;** Theresa Gonzales, **CAL EMA;** Wally Hogge, **Church of LDS;** Mary Ann Johnson, **CAL EMA;** Alexander King, **Sonoma Co. VOAD;** Helen Knudson, **LSS;** Katrina Limon, **CAL EMA;** Sandra McKenzie, **CAL-EMA;** Melinda McLain, **United Church of Christ;** Margaret Melsh, **Consultant;** Nancy Nielson, **LSS;** Curtis Parker, **ARC;** Almon Shen, **Tzu Chi Foundation;** Tessa Shvedoff, **ARCBA;** Greg Smith, **State OES;** Elizabeth Thompson, **Marin Co. HHS;** Don & Gert Vos, **CRWRC;** Jay Wilkes, **United Way BA;** Olivia Zakin, **Tzu Chi Foundation.**

Those that joined us on the conference line (Call number is 1-800-320-4330 Pin 219219#) were Liz Gibson, **FEMA HQ.;** Marlena Edwards, **Admin. For Children & Family (ACF),** Karen Johnson, **Nevada OES;** Bao Le, **FEMA,** Carolyn Moussa, **Calif. Volunteers;** Chris Piper, **NCORD;** Bill Rodstron and Bruce _____; **Humboldt Co. VOAD;** Kae Ross, **HHS, ACF;** Chuck Varady, **CA Southern Baptist**

1. The meeting was called to order by our president, Tessa Shredoff. She asked for those joining on the conference call to identify themselves and then there was a round of introductions around the table.

2. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS—**
We had a special teleconference presentation put on by Liz Gibson, FEMA, Senior Program Manager for Disaster Case Management.
What is Disaster Case Management? It is a partnership between the provider and the client. The plan assesses, organizes, coordinates, and monitors the services and resources to address the unmet needs.
DCM is not a new concept, but traditionally the managers were unpaid volunteers who gave of their time and services to assist the disaster victims. The ARC and UMCOR have had training development, and then we were hit by Sept. 11 and Katrina. This forced DCM to develop into a new concept. The Post-Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006 allows the President the ability to provide case management services and financial assistance to state and local agencies that are helping disaster victims.
The State DCM Pilot Program was implemented in the Katrina area from June 1, 2008 to March 1, 2009 and will be evaluated for potential future programs. They will evaluate the process, the financial outcome, and the proposed objectives.
For more information contact : Liz Gibson liz.gibson@dhs.gov or 202-212-1122 or Bao Le bao.le@dhs.gov or 202-212-1132.
A second teleconference presentation was by Kae Ross from Administration for Children and Families (AFC). She addressed their Pilot Program of Disaster Case

Management. Their definition is to make a timely approach to assess ALL disaster related needs and to work with the client to implement a recovery plan. The Pilot Project's key components are (1) to integrate all existing programs, (2) to add programs to fill in the gaps, (3) to deploy quickly, (4) and to be scaled to fit any size disaster. They want to present a holistic approach to ALL needs. They will monitor and evaluate the progress continually at all levels.

The Pilot was put to the test in Hurricane Gustav in September, 2008. It was followed twelve days later by Hurricane Ike. This called for immediate deployment of case managers. Preliminary findings show that help was on the scene much quicker and more special needs were addressed. DCM and LTRO are a great team. All the players assemble in a 'roundtable fashion' and pull everyone together to provide the needed resources.

For more information contact Kae Ross kaee.ross@acf.hhs.gov or Sherah Alaimo salaimo@catholiccharitiesUSA.org

3. BUSINESS ITEMS:

- a. The minutes of the Dec. 8, 2008 VOAD conference call with NVOAD staff were accepted.
 - b. Al Shen handed out a financial report which showed a balance of \$3,529.71 on hand as of Feb. 10, 2009. He also had the invoices for the dues for 2009 available for the agencies in attendance. He clarified that some local VOADs have a fee of \$35, whereas state members have dues of \$100..
 - c. Tessa formally introduced us to our new FEMA VAL , Lidia Armas. She is presently trying to get a handle on the status of the So. Cal. Fires. She is also involved in the Aid Matrix program. She is located in Mather and also provided an email with the NVOAD Directory.
 - d. NVOAD Conference for 2009 is being held in Salt Lake City, Utah on May 18-22. Tessa encouraged members to attend and to let her know if financial aid was needed
 - e. SUASI has changed its name to UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative). This group was looking for a VOAD rep in two areas. The following people agreed to be reps—Volunteer Management—Margaret Melsh, Coleen Bell , and Brian Bolten and Community Resilience—Jay Wilkes and Tessa. A schedule of all of their steering committee meetings can be found on their website—bayareasuasi.com
 - f. Margaret Melsh reported on the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program. They are seeking federal funds to enhance preparedness in urban areas with an emphasis on regional planning and either fixing present plans or making new ones to meet the normal needs that arise during a disaster.
4. NorCal VOAD meeting on May 7 being held in Vacaville.
- a. Lura Cayton from CWS will be there for training in LTRO.
 - b. It was agreed that the event will probably be handled by eventbrite.com with a registration fee of \$15.00 to cover the expense of lunch and other incidentals. Melinda McLain will help with registration.

5. We were given a draft of the NorCal VOAD Response Protocols to check over. VOAD depends on the 4 C's (Cooperation, Communication, Coordination, and Collaboration) to get things started and going. Preparedness training is very helpful and makes it clearer as to when, where, and how VOAD responds. This is utilized in more than just federally declared disasters..
6. County VOAD reports:
 - a. Sacramento region –Valerie submitted a written report for us.
 - b. Sonoma Co—Alex King is the new chairperson. He is trying to coordinate volunteer individuals and groups. They meet every other month.
 - c. Santa Clara Co.—CADRE—Franci C. announced an upcoming event entitled “Together We Do Better”.
 - d. Contra Costa & Alameda—Sandra McKenzie was their representative..
7. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Gert Vos, secretary

Next regular meeting will be held on May 7, 2009 in Vacaville

Check soon at www.calvoad.org for registration and more details