

ALABAMA STATE–COMMUNITY RECOVERY TASK FORCES

Health & Social Services Task Force

September 29, 2011

ATTENDEES

NAME	AGENCY & INFORMATION	NAME	AGENCY & INFORMATION
Bea Forniss	ADECA	Aisha Hassan	ADECA
Sue Barrett	Family Guidance Center	Jeff Cothran	Selma MRC
Kara Watts	N/A	Tom Ellison	MRC Project Help
Bill Grimes	HHS	Jeremy Donald	Jones Group
Kim Craven	Calhoun MRC	Kristin Kizziah	FEMA LTRC
Veronica Gordon	HHS	William Greim	HHS
Russ Black	ADSS	Chris Cunningham	FEMA LTRC

SUMMARY

Organizational meeting to discuss training as related to this task force

ACTION ITEMS

- **Think of ways to have financial literacy training hosted in the communities**
- **Find out if the training provided requires or has a 501(c)3 component**
- **Find someone with experience in VITA**

AGENDA ITEMS

Financial Literacy Training

- Last meeting we discussed the possibility of combining the volunteer income tax assistance that has a financial literacy component which would be provided at no cost
- This training provides financial literacy and financial building
- We need to look at ways for this training to be hosted in the communities
- Find out if this training requires or has a 501(c)3 component
- Community foundations had some financial literacy programs that were active before and after the disaster
- Regions bank may already be a partner for this
- There is an IRS program called VITA
 - Anyone that has experience with this program please let the Task Force know
 - This can be done in all types of locations such as family resource centers, churches, and senior centers
 - This program has to take place really quick if we want it to happen, Feb. is to late
 - VITA needs to be on the ground Jan. 1
 - Need to start on the 1st of November to get involvement
- Look at IRS publications

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- When a consumer comes in for VITA assistance the IRS Money Smart is much more through work
- Money Smart program needs to get off the ground, it can be tailored to VITA
- VITA would be the portion that would draw people in

Project Rebound

- Issue we are seeing is people believe they 'do not need a shrink'
- 146 teams serving throughout the state, have been approved for regular service program
- The media campaign has been ruled out at this time
- Gene Chiznick and Nick Saban will still do pro-bono help
- When the teams go out into the communities they go to the individuals
- So far the teams have served about 14,000 people/ families which is determined by every person/ family they spend 15 minutes or more talking to
- The teams and individuals go out and talk to groups
- One idea has been to create disaster recovery support groups
- Lisa Turley is the contact he email is lturley@jbsmha.com
- Each office is different for example the Anniston office has 6 staff members
- We need to be linking people together and doing follow-ups so we know we were still meeting all their needs
- At this time project Rebound does not cover all 43 of the declared counties

Medical Reserve Corps

- Elmore has a 33ft. mobile unit deployed to Hackleburg on May 1st and is still there; the unit has 16 physicians available for rotation
- Medical assistance is what they offer
- Usually have 12-15 volunteers to take vitals
- Have been organized since September 2008
- MRC has a total of 4 mobile units and 4000 members
- MRC covers 38 counties and had 1800 deployed, started with the Geiger storm
- Do things such as ensure Chemo treatments
- The biggest issue is medication
- Most units are 33 foot but they have two smaller units one is 23 foot and 24 foot
- Youth MRC are up to age 21
- The Pleasant valley group has assisted in the local level, and they did not lose any medical facilities so they are helping
- One main issue is tetanus shots during clean up and chain saw accidents
 - This has and continues to be a big issue
 - Debris removal will only remove on curb now
 - Snake bites are another issue because snakes have moved into the wood piles
 - Some are in areas where there is no resources for anti venom

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- The state is involved as the Coordinator for the MRC
 - When the local MRC's get a call they forward to the State Coordinator
 - There is a great working relationship here
 - The requests go through ADPH
- The UAB School of Medicine is committed to the MRC

Other Issues

- VAL will still be getting involved, they could not be here today
- We are working to do a community needs assessment
- Calhoun County is planning a Health Fair for a health assessment
- HHS is still a resource on Grants
- We need to ensure seniors are getting the contact they need