

Hernando County Community Organizations Active in Disaster COAD Meeting Notes #65

Monday, February 27, 2023 @ 9:30 AM via Zoom



WELCOME – United Way of Hernando, Angie Walasek
(40 participants)

Brief Success Highlights

- 211 Tampa Bay Cares, Kip: The first 1,000 hard copies of Hernando's Senior Wellness Directory are being printed & delivered to the UWHC office. (Digital copy attached) Agencies who expressed interest in receiving will be contacted when available: DOH, Red Cross (3), HPH, Jericho, PHP, EM
- St. Vincent de Paul, Ed: A big congratulations to Food Pantry Director Tim Rumptz for his upcoming retirement! He'll be missed & those are some big shoes to fill.
- United Way, Mindy: United Way was able to successfully house a deaf homeless couple that have been on the streets for 2 years. Stable housing will now allow the husband to also receive the appropriate procedure needed, due to having a stable environment to heal. This was a great referral from our friends at Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services.
- American Red Cross, Sharon: Received my 20-year pin for volunteering with the Red Cross.
- Jericho Road Ministries, Bryan: Had a success turnout at their Annual Jericho Celebration Dinner.

COUNTY UPDATES

Department of Health – Community Health Needs Assessment – Key Findings

- United Way & Dept of Health: Angie shared slides compiled from WellFlorida on highlights from recent findings, health outcomes & behaviors in Hernando, Social Determinants of Health, forces of change discussion, trends – factors – events, and next steps with identifying priority areas for the 3-year plan. Next Planning Meeting TBD, but encouraged to participate!

Homeland Security - Resources for Organizations and Service Providers

- Resource document attached for organizations serving LGBTQ+ including trainings, course offerings (active shooter, action plans, & prevention)

Sleep In Heavenly Peace

- (Flyer attached) providing beds to children directly impacted by Hurricane Ian.

Emergency Management

- Erin Thomas welcomed Hernando's new EM Director Mr. David DeCarlo. Dave welcomed the group and shared his appreciation of the COAD's mission. He also expressed interest in enhancing Emergency Management's community outreach efforts, offering opportunities to educate groups as well as table top initiatives.
- Erin & Angel provided SAVE THE DATES for the following: Thursday, April 27th's Disaster Table Top Exercise (invite only); Hurricane Preparedness Week is May 1st-7th; Saturday, June 3rd Hurricane Expo @ CK8 9am-12pm *Free for non-profits to have table*

RESOURCES & UPDATES

Supplies – Partner Needs (toiletry bags & children’s books available)

- EM, Erin: knitted hats, mittens, sweaters could be used for our homeless during cold weather. Nobleton Community Center and the Lutheran Church in Brooksville may be great partnerships.

Shelters & Housing – Partner Updates (cold weather sheltering, PIT Count update)

- People Helping People, Kendra: the first planning discussion on additional cold weather sheltering for PHP was had with Sgt. Matt Lillibridge from HCSO Community Policing Unit. Next steps TBD.
- Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, Amber: Amber Tucker is the Housing Specialist with Mid Florida Homeless Coalition mfhc015@gmail.com and newest COAD rep. Point in Time Count collected data is still being entered into Clarity (April is the deadline). More to come. Kendra from PHP expressed concern in Tomi Steinruck's departure from the organization and referenced the county losing/return grant dollars, ultimately asking what PHP can do. Without being able to identify the funding source referenced, Amber explained that CV funding, gov is no longer provided to us. Normal ESG funds are approximately \$2M and \$350k for all 4 counties. St Vincent de Paul CARES applied for available funding and oversees Hernando. All Rapid Rehousing Funding would have to be applied for directly by the organization. Please read through emails thoroughly when opportunities are presented for Hernando funding. Qualifications are outlined and trainings are usually available.
- Dawn Center, Shannon: DC's emergency shelter is close to full with 6 beds currently available. Residents in need should call the helpline for appropriate screening. Dawn Center is applying again for Transitional Housing Program grant due to how successful it's been. April 15th will be the Dash for Dawn 5k at Tom Varn Park @ 4pm. Vendor tables available.

Employment – Partner Updates

- St Vincent de Paul, Tim: Food Pantry Director position wanted. 6 days a week. Needs to be compassionate, yet professional.
- CareerSource: (not present) but March's Pasco Hernando [Job Listing attached](#).

Emergency Assistance – Partner Updates & Trends (EFSP Phase 40, [Unite Us](#) referral portal)

- United Way, Angie: FEMA's Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) Phase 40 has been announced for Hernando County - \$57,571. This overseen by Hernando's Local Board and for organizations providing direct services for served meals, other food, mass shelter, other shelter, rent/mortgage assistance, and/or utility assistance. Application will be released soon. Existing LROs should prepare their Final Reports in preparation for this new Phase release. EFSP Hernando Admin can be contacted with additional questions, Angie Walasek Angie@UnitedWayHernando.org

Mental Health & Substance Abuse – Partner Updates (9-8-8, Mental Health First Aid)

- 211 Tampa Bay Cares, Kip: A reminder that 988 is the new National Suicide & Crisis Prevention call number and is a federal program. 211's call center is a sub recipient for West Central FL for these calls. Average pick up time is approximately 22 seconds. If it were to reach 60 seconds, will bump to next service center. Average talk time is approximately 20 minutes. There were 166 calls in January for Hernando County. DOH, Ashley: Asked if there were stats to share for their chat / text feature? Kip: Not at this time, but reports will most likely enhance over time.

- NAMI, Tina: March 3rd Faith Net at Spring Hill United Church of Christ; March 23rd Mental Health First Aid Training; (flyers attached) also offering youth mental health first aid, Stop the Stigma presentations. Successful Lip Sync Battle! Staff will be attending a Narcan Training.
- Hernando Tobacco Intervention Partnership, Dale: Students Working Against Tobacco were able to get an ordinance passed for tobacco/vape free parks and beaches through the BOCC
- Hernando Community Coalition, Jenn: Narcan Training staff trainings available on how to properly administer. 3/1 will be the next Coalition Meeting from 10:30am-12pm. The "Dose of Reality" opioid campaign within the schools has been successful. Student vaping is at an all time high. Outreach materials for students and families are available.
- Baycare, Sandra: LSF's Human Traffic Symposium will be coming up on June 15th (flyer attached) Click here to register: <http://htsymposium.com>
- Vincent House, Madison: Participation has gone up after the holidays. Focusing on recovery through workforce. Currently working with the team on prepping for a luncheon.

Food & Distribution – Partner Updates & Trends (RIDE UNITED referral form)

- St. Vincent de Paul, Tim: Food Pantry is seeing inflation issue still gradually increasing. Serving approx. 6-10 homeless a day. Farm Share is coming through with a lot of food (just not necessarily the popular items everyone wants).
- People Helping, People, Kendra: Monthly food distributions are being completed through Feeding Tampa Bay at the HELP Center the last Wednesday of the month. January served 150 cars (some doubled up families) and February was 104 cars. Interesting trends.

Childcare & Schools – Partner Updates

- Early Learning Coalition, Melinda: Wanted the group to know about ELC's CCR&R Child care Resource and Referral a free confidential service that helps families with guidance on finding childcare, child development, community resources, etc. Feel free to refer your families to ELC 727-233-8291. Webpage for CCR&R intake <https://elcph.org/families/>
- Students & Families in Transition, Shanika: Pointed out the large influx in families losing housing. Also SFT will be hiring for a new position, the Unaccompanied Youth Specialist at the high school level. Hosted a successful Poverty Simulation on Feb 3rd.

MEMBER INPUT, UNMET NEEDS, & OPPORTUNITIES

-Marla, Premier BOD: Premier Community Health Care In Hernando and Pasco, takes insured, NON-insured, Under insured, slide scale, and homeless for Primary care, Dental, Mental Health, and Women's Health. Call 352 518-2000 and they will ask what you need and transfer you to the correct department. In Hernando County they are located in the two Health Departments, but they are not the Health Department.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 27, 2023 @ 9:30am IN-PERSON at Emergency Management

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am