

Hernando County Community Organizations Active in Disaster COAD Meeting #67 NOTES

Monday, April 24, 2023 @ 9:30AM via Zoom



WELCOME & PURPOSE – United Way of Hernando, Angie Walasek

38 participants

Brief Success Highlights

- **CILNCF, Kevin:** Received Florida [AgrAbility](#) grant for farming
- **CareerSource, Christina:** Will be offering Summer Trades training program for youth (juniors & seniors) starting June 5th. Available for construction and IT, in a manufacturing setting (4 different areas). **(flyers attached)**
- **People Helping People, Kendra:** Thanks to a partnership with City of BVL's Parks & Rec, they will be expanding their Weekend Blessings & Senior Blessings program in the summer. Collaborations also taking place with Boys & Girls Club and The Y youth programs.
- **Children's Advocacy Center, Amy:** Mid Florida Community Service's mobile food distribution had a gentleman helping distribute food after previously getting financial assistance from MFCS. #PayingItForward
- **Student & Families in Transition, Shanika:** "We had a successful Poverty Simulation training with about 92 students at HHS on Friday. Thank you to the volunteers that came out to help!"

COUNTY UPDATES

- **Emergency Management – Dave DeCarlo:** The hurricane forecast for the season (June 1st- Nov 30th) has been released, and activity is slightly below average – with 13 named storms and 2 major hurricanes predicted. Possibility of El Nino in the Pacific. Burn Ban is in effect in Hernando County, however, we are scheduled for rain this week. Under extreme drought context. June 3rd Hurricane Safety Expo @ Challenger K8. Free vendor space for non-profits. A reminder for partners with ESF functions, there will be a mass casualty EOC exercise this Thursday from 9am-3pm.
- **Department of Health – Jennifer:** Jennifer Phelan will be filling Nina Mattei's old position with DOH and county preparedness efforts. Jennifer.Phelan@flhealth.gov May's CHIPP General Membership Meeting will be Tuesday, May 16th, 2023 @ 9:00am-10:30am at DOH on Forest Oak. RSVP by clicking here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VY57BP2>
- **211 – Kip:** Senior Directory, just received a new supply and will be distributed upon request. Contact Kip Corriveau via E-mail kipc@211tampabay.org 727-453-0003. United Way will be a point of distribution. A reminder to take a look at the resources included. All were pulled from the 211 Hernando health & human service database. A digital copy can be found [online](#).

COAD SPOTLIGHT

- **"Ready Rating" Presentation by American Red Cross, Steve Thompson - Disaster Program Manager (see attached slides)**
 - Visit www.ReadyRating.org to develop an internal action plan
 1. Join Ready Rating
 2. Measure your preparedness level
 3. Start improving using your Next Steps Report

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4. Gain access to Emergency Action Toolkit
5. Protect your Organization, Staff, Clients, and Community!

United Way, Angie: Angie challenged all members to take the assessment. We will revisit and discuss areas for improvement during May's meeting.

RESOURCES & UPDATES

Supplies

- **United Way, Angie:** More 211 Senior Guides are available, along with toiletry bags for homeless outreach, and children's books
- **Veda:** Request calls have already come in from residents seeking Hurricane Prep/Supply Kits. United Way will serve as a collection site for a Hurricane Supply Drive Item List - Batteries, Flashlights, etc **(see attached flyer)** EM encouraged Veda to contact them regarding supplying bottles of water & tarps NOW for current unmet needs.

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

- **NAMI, Tina:** Offering weekly Grief Support Groups, Youth Support Group (13-17 yrs old) and peer specialist 6:30pm on Tuesday Nights. Saturday morning Zoom support groups available for parents with youth who are struggling and may need support. WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) Training on May 4th & 5th. Family to Family are now hosting classes at Temple Beth David. **(see attached flyers for all)**
- **People Helping People, Kendra:** HELP Center is hosting AA meetings Monday-Thursday, and soon Fridays.
- **United Way, Angie:** Semi-Annual Dementia Care Seminar for caregivers, June 29th @ Northcliffe Church. www.UnitedWayHernando.org/2023-dementia-care-seminar Please continue to advocate for [988](tel:988) (the number for the suicide and crisis prevention hotline)

Employment

- **CareerSource, Christina:** We offer employment and training assistance. Current hot topic is Summer Trades for Youth **(flyer attached)**, IT and CDL Training with our WIOA Adult program and Job Fair/Workshop at Jerome Brown Center coming soon on May 10th. The clothing Drive was a success, Career Closet and job fair Tuesday, April 24th from 10-12 in Brooksville at Jerome Brown Center. Saturday, May 13th, Youth Job Fair (Flyers will be attached.) Email contact for your clients is Resume@careersourcepascohernando.com or my contact is CSowers@careersourcepascohernando.com and 352-251-7166. Main phone is 352-200-3020.
- **Dawn Center, Shannon:** Will be joining the May 10th job fair for 4 full-time positions currently available. Provides in-house training.
- **Pinellas County Urban League, Warren:** Senior Training Program provides volunteers or trainees at no cost to your organization. This is federally funded and seniors who are looking to contribute their skills in a workplace environment are indeed paid. Free labor to

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organizations, individuals are usually 60+ years of age and can work anywhere from 10-20+ hours a week. Contact wthomas@pcul.org or even refer through CareerSource*

Emergency Assistance

- **United Way, Angie:** DEADLINE THIS FRIDAY for FEMA's EFSP Phase 40 Application. Open to agencies providing served meals, other food, mass shelter, other shelter, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance. Over \$57,700 was awarded to Hernando. www.UnitedWayHernando.org/EFSP-Phase40 (flyer attached)
- **St Vincent de Paul CARES, Samantha:** Prevention dollars available (30% AMI) for Hernando & Citrus Counties. Contact samantha@svdpsp.org

Shelters & Housing

- **People Helping People, Kenda:** Hernando Homeless Initiative conversation, facilitated by Mid Florida Homeless Coalition's Barbara Wheeler will take place May 16th from 3-5 @ the Chamber (see attached flyer)
- **Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, Amber:** PIT numbers have been compiled. About 650 on the count, will know the exact number by Friday. In Hernando in March, 183 households were captured as homeless/11 veterans, 229/ 14 veterans, and 13 households became homeless in March. Need more assessment hubs in Hernando County. Please reach out to Kristy mfhc08@gmail.com
 - **St. Vincent de Paul, Joyce:** Available to do assessments at SVdP 54367france@att.net
- **LSF, Paul:** Responsible for drug court and housing - having a really hard time finding affordable housing. Encouraged households who are able to rent out rooms to do so, to reliable tenants.
- **United Way, Angie:** Newest [ALICE](#) Report, including 2021 point-in-time data, will be launched Wednesday, April 26th. Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. Encouraged to incorporate findings into your work.

Food & Distribution

- **St. Vincent de Paul, Ed:** # of families served last month is up 2%. Food Pantry has experienced a shortage of peanut butter, spaghetti & sauce and anti-itch cream and deep woods OFF for the homeless. We put out a call for donations through our conferences. Food Shortage + Inflation isn't a great combination.
- **People Helping People, Kendra:** Also low on peanut butter - even when we try to purchase it! Mobile distribution is always held on the last Wednesday (4/26) of the month at 10:30 am at the HELP Center on Kass Circle. Partnership through Feeding Tampa Bay.
- **UF-IFAS, Nancy:** Made note of the peanut butter need for their annual October drive efforts

Child Care & Schools

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Monday, April 24, 2023 @ 9:30AM via Zoom

- **Students & Families in Transition, Shanika** – Please feel free to share our information so that we can continue to get the word out about the academic rights and services students are entitled to when they experience a loss of housing. Currently has about 960 students qualified in the program.”

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 22, 2023 (date moved due to holiday) @ 9:30am via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 11:03am