

**North Carolina State Disaster Recovery Task Force
Nonprofit and Volunteerism Recovery Support Function (RSF 7) Meeting**

Fusion Room, Frontier Building
800 Park Offices Drive, Morrisville, NC 27709

March 12, 2020
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Meeting Minutes

In attendance

Lead: John Robinson, President, NCVOAD (not present)

Staff: Amanda Martin and Ruseena Johnson, NCORR

Andy Shoenig, Rural Forward NC (NC Inclusive Disaster Recovery Alliance)

Participating by teleconference:

Al Foote, Cumberland County DSS

Jeanne Tedrow, NC Center for Nonprofits

Briles Johnson, NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (NC CVCS)

Phil Triplett, State Voluntary Agency Liaison

Margaret Conrad, Resourceful Communities

Welcome, Introductions, and Overview of Agenda

Amanda Martin called the meeting to order and welcomed members. Everyone in room and participating by telephone introduced themselves.

Amanda provided brief overview of Agenda

- Announcement of new president for Lead Agency NCVOAD – John Robinson
- Amanda Maternity Leave
 - Marlina Byrne will assist with this RSF
 - Due to the current public health crisis many meetings will move from in person to remote meetings
 - Does anyone have any suggestions on how to meet or who can assist with Zoom meetings?
 - Resources: **NC CVCS has WebEx that we can use if needed; Center for Nonprofits has Zoom capabilities**

Data Management Work Group Update – Al Foote

- The work group initially sent out links to review the two different vendors. Next, they sent out the survey that was discussed in the last meeting. The survey ended 2-28-20 results have not yet been shared with the work group. The current timeline for final decision is planned for prior to April 14th NCVOAD meeting.

Review of Action Items on Diversity and Inclusion Scoping Discussion

- Two Fold Project
 - 1. Add non-profit organizations to State Emergency Response Team so that they can better understand how resources and communications flow and build relationships between local organizations and state.
 - 2. Fact Finding: Which communities are we missing with emergency recovery information? Why are we missing these organizations? Do we need to modify processes to increase capacity to reach these groups? A few demographics previously identified include: faith groups, elderly, LGBTQ, POC, poverty, disability
- We need at least two volunteers to facilitate the process for each aspect of this project.
- PART 1: Due to this crisis, Emergency Management will begin building relationships with organizations within the community with whom they had not previously interacted. Perhaps we can revisit in late May or early June as some of this will happen organically.
- PART 2:
 - The group discussed not waiting until after the crisis to begin fact-finding. Suggestions include tapping into the NC Inclusive Disaster Recovery Network, hosting academians to provide guidance on how to reach these organizations/communities, making use of Insider's graduate students that can assist with fact finding, and others that have experience and/or networks
 - **Andy will send his notes as well as a summary of Betsy Albright's research to the group. In addition, he will send a list of community partners and academians that may have helpful information/feedback.**
 - Several diff approaches:
 - Conversation/invitation to a shared phone call from people who have been involved in disaster recovery that may be able to share in the answer to the question: what would someone in a particular neighborhood/community want someone working in disaster recovery to know?
 - **Margaret and Andy agreed to reach out to people that can discuss this topic with us**

Connecting Volunteer/Nonprofit Orgs with State/Local Emergency Management

- Data management work group discussion about having presence at NCEM Association conference. They will continue to pursue getting on the Fall Conference schedule
- ECU hurricane conference – opportunity to be present and educate local officials about the role that Nonprofits/VOAD/LTRGs can play in recovery. Something interactive than just giving VOAD their own room
- Very interested in getting work of Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs) involved with NCEM.

Updates from Members

- NC Inclusive Disaster Recovery Network (Insider)
 - Insider has collaborated with the NC Community Foundation on a grant program that received over 40 applications, disbursed over \$25 million dollars with at least 10 organizations receiving \$5000 each. The recipients are organizations that complete disaster recovery work in the community but may not have disaster in their title. There will be a Press release published about this.

- Rural Forward is moving virtual in an effort to minimize unintentional transmission of disease to the rural communities and/or staff.
- Action Team of Insider: working to pre-register vendors/contractors with the state so that they are already in the system whenever needed for disaster recovery. This effort is led by the NC justice center including Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) and workforce boards.
- Insider is discussing means of including diversity concerns during buyouts. This RSF is invited to join the discussion.
- Action Team also worked to coordinate public comments for the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) comment period that just closed and put together infrastructure for information sharing to include more diversity and inclusion for Partners in Community. If you are interested in joining this effort let Andy know.
- Rural Forward facilitated a panel about disaster funding featuring Golden Leaf, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and NC Community foundation. This panel also discussed covid-19.
- SBA has done a disaster declaration for small business, has come out on the federal level. We will pass this on to the Business Workforce group during their meeting next week.
- Center for Non Profits
 - Converting disaster recovery workshop to webinars, in process of completing disaster recovery toolkit, available to everyone
 - In communication with funders to look at needs of NPOs during this covid-19 tempest. The organization is communicating with funders about what they recommend can be done in the philanthropic community. They are also working to create a centralized hub of information so that NPOs can share with others what they are doing and continue to have tips for orgs to move remotely so that they can learn from one another. May send out a 2-3 question survey in the next few days to get a sense of what the pain points are for various orgs. Please help spread the word. Preparing to go 100% remote.
- Cumberland Disaster Recovery Coalition / NC Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NC VOAD)
 - Cumberland Disaster Recovery Coalition (CDRC) has been asked to take more of a response role with the Corona Virus in regards to organizing the local community.
 - NCVOAD is looking to see how to do quarterly meeting without putting people at risk by having a giant meeting in one place. They will discuss best method to transition to a teleconference for next week's meeting.
 - CDRC is concerned that UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) shutting down will have a negative impact on the communities volunteer base. Also concerned about disease prevention/containment when bringing in volunteers to assist with recovery.
- State Voluntary Agency Liaison
 - No updates
 - Staff is staying informed on covid-19 and limiting travel. They are also concerned that disease prevention and containment will cause a conflict as well as reduction of available volunteers.
- Resourceful Communities

- In the middle of small grant cycle. Researching how to transition to virtual meetings. They have a workshop coming up now and one planned Monday for small farmers.
- Any insight on virtual meeting capabilities, funding resources, other please share with her group.
- NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Services
 - They are working on a travel plan for state employees and non-essential workers.
 - They are reaching out to faith-based groups to provide information from CDC about the virus.
 - At the moment their office is not completely remote and is still available for anyone who needs it
 - It was noted that it is good that they are reaching out to the faith-based communities, as this is a critical method of communication for rural areas and some of our communities that don't receive information through traditional methods.

Next meeting will include updates from Marlena, Andy and Margaret and discussion from the Data Management Work Group.