

Jacksonville Against COVID-19 Membership Meeting

Call notes for Friday, September 4, 2020

Jacksonville Against COVID-19 Purpose is to bring together nonprofit organizations, businesses, and governmental agencies to deliver hope and foster more effective preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery for the people of Duval County as needed in times of disaster, through:

- **Cooperation:** creating a climate of cooperation, information sharing, and meeting together;
- **Coordination:** encouraging a common understanding and providing a liaison with city-county government officials, as well as resource management with the community;
- **Collaboration:** sharing the work, ideas and insights together as equal participants united by common goals;
- **Communication:** publishing and disseminating information; and
- **Preparedness:** increasing mutual awareness and encouraging effective disaster-related training, policies and procedures.

Meeting notes (50 participants):

Hurricane Laura Response: John Sapora welcomed everyone. As we enter peak hurricane season this month, the variety of coordination and response to Hurricane Laura that devastated 16 Louisiana counties and parts of Texas and Arkansas is a good example of what we in Northeast Florida might face in the event of a major storm. Review some of the Louisiana resources at <https://gnoinc.org/initiatives/hurricane-laura-recovery-resources-and-donations/> and <https://www.redcross.org/about-us/news-and-events/news/2020/red-cross-response-to-hurricane-laura.html>

Storm Preparedness: Tom Hill, Government Liaison with American Red Cross, presented a 120-hour countdown for organizations to consider when preparing for a storm. (See attached slides). Preparedness must occur at both the individual and organizational level, and planning for loss of power and access to facilities should be done sooner rather than later. Post-storm, organizations should consider what role they can play in recovery, including being a distribution point for disaster relief kits, providing a place for individuals to charge cell phones and equipment, food preparation, and volunteering at reception and recovery centers. The JAC will continue to develop its volunteer and donations management plans so that we are prepared to support emergency management when the time comes. Plans will be developed in alignment with CDC guidance for COVID-19. Additional preparedness resources are available at <http://www.jaxready.com> and <https://nonprofitctr.org/research-resources/resources-for-disaster-and-emergency-planning/>.

Agency Roundtable Reports

Elizabeth Paulson, JEA: JEA sent 30+ trucks to Hurricane Laura impacted areas to help restore power in an act of mutual aid. Normal operations have resumed as of July 9. In partnership with the City of Jacksonville, 10,000 VISA cards for \$200 each were distributed in July. As of August 24, 9,507 customers

that received the cards had made a payment to JEA. JEA continues to work closely with emergency financial assistance partners.

Mary Pat Corrigan, Sulzbacher Center: Sulzbacher and other partners are working with the Department of Health to promote childhood immunizations as well as the flu vaccine to avoid overwhelming the healthcare system with what can be prevented. In response to questions about the COVID vaccine and how it will interact with the flu vaccine, the answer remains to be seen. But the push is to get flu vaccines early. COVID vaccine trials are still in recruitment phases.

Lori Anderson, Beaches Council on Aging: Senior centers and facilities at the beaches have been able to partner with Walgreens to provide immunization events for the flu vaccine. In regards to storm preparedness, plans for seniors that need transportation assistance have been developed and are ready for implementation should there be a need for an evacuation order.

Brian Baer, The Elevated Studio: The CDC and Department of Health and Human Services have announced the issuance of an Order under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act to temporarily halt residential evictions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. The order, which is in effect through the end of the year, supersedes any state executive orders. Tenants must submit a declaration form to their landlord certifying they have been negatively impacted (sample form attached). It is important to encourage tenants to make a good-faith effort to pay what they can. Many landlords are willing to work with tenants.

Jeff Winkler, United Way: In follow-up to Brian's comments, Jeff noted that he has heard from emergency financial assistance partners that landlords are accommodating payment plans and reduced payments. The latest federal order gives a reprieve for a few months but the "cliff" is still there, with many families at risk of eviction when the order expires.

JALA Eviction Resource: Jacksonville Area Legal Aid provides a helpful eviction lawsuit defense resource - <https://www.jaxlegalaid.org/2020/08/06/new-online-tool-helps-floridians-respond-to-an-eviction-lawsuit/>

As we advocate for our clients and friends facing eviction, John recommends this article by Denise Scott of LISC that describes a potential social and economic catastrophe in the making

- <https://nonprofitquarterly.org/federal-action-could-still-head-off-an-eviction-wave-but-time-is-running-out/>

PPE Resource: FEMA and the Department of Health have started to go back to organizations whose previous mask orders were unfulfilled to see if there is still a need. *We were advised after the meeting this is not for new orders, but rather those whose requests were not previously fulfilled.* To keep ordering and delivering as efficient as possible, the JAC is encouraging organizations to order directly using the attached form if they need 500 or more. If you need less than 500, email contact@artfullygreen.org by COB Tuesday, September 8 and we will see if we have enough to do a bulk order.

Regional JAC Workgroup: John Sabora and Raelyn Means have been participating in a regional workgroup hosted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council to facilitate communication and

cooperation among the various VOADs and JACs in our region. We hope this will foster opportunities for shared training and education.

Hurricane Irma Anniversary: Raelyn Means noted that next Friday, September 11, is the third anniversary of Hurricane Irma’s impact to Northeast Florida. As we consider the various phases of the disaster management cycle, it’s important to remember the recovery phase may last for years and overlap with other phases for other events. Hurricane Irma recovery continues through the NFLTRO Home Repair program as well as other efforts through City and State programs.

COVID-19 Survey Response: Raelyn Means shared the results of the recent COVID-19 response survey. Key themes of partnership, connection, and information sharing were prevalent in the write-in responses. To help foster relationships, Raelyn will distribute in the coming days a membership contact list. Organizations that haven’t registered as members can do so at any time. There is no cost to join.

Upcoming Trainings

Legal Services of North Florida recently announced their Disaster Webinar Series during October and November. Many of the topics are relevant to the broader community.

October 1st at Noon – [History of Legal Aid Response to Disaster](#) with Leslie Powell Boudreaux, Executive Director, Legal Services of North Florida and Andrew VanSingel, ABA Standing Committee on Disaster Response and Preparedness

October 8th at Noon – [Disasters and Consumer Protection](#) with Laura Boeckman, North Florida Bureau Chief, Consumer Protection Division, Florida Attorney General

October 15th at Noon – [Representing Homeowners after a Natural Disaster](#) with Alys Cohen, National Consumer Law Center and Lynn Drysdale, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid

October 22nd at Noon – [Disaster Housing Renters](#) with Tom DiFiore, Bay Area Legal Services and Natalie Maxwell – Three Rivers Legal Services

October 29th at Noon – [Disaster Public Benefits](#) with Cindy Huddleston, Florida Policy Institute, Anne Swerlick, Florida Policy Institute, and Daniel Rowinsky, Legal Services of Greater Miami

November 5th at Noon – [FEMA Appeals](#) with Tracy Figueroa with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

November 12th at Noon – [FEMA Recoupment](#) with Laura Tuggle, Executive Director with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services

November 19th at Noon – [Disaster Legal Hotlines](#) with Linda Anderson Stanley, Director, Disaster Legal Services, ABA Young Lawyers Division

Disaster Preparation & Ongoing Learning Opportunities

2020-21 Storm Preparedness and Response Guide: the annual JAXREADY Guide highlights life-saving information for residents in all types of disasters. Most residents will receive the Guide via the US Mail but you can download and distribute electronically at <https://www.coj.net/jaxreadyguide>.

Special Medical Needs Registry: City Emergency Preparedness Division has a special medical needs registration to aid in assistance or shelter evacuation in the event of storm or other disaster. Each client

must re-register each year to remain in the system. For more information, visit <https://www.coj.net/specialmedicalneeds> or call (904) 255-3172.

Hurricane Supply Checklist: household storm preparedness is the first step in staying safe and creating resilient communities. Here is the latest Florida Department of Emergency Management checklist for preparing your household for storm season. Remember “**the first 72 is on you**”, meaning your household needs to be able to survive for at least three days without assistance from relatives, neighbors or emergency responders. <https://floridadisaster.org/planprepare/hurricane-supply-checklist/>

FEMA Emergency Management Institute: The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers self-paced courses designed for people who have emergency management responsibilities and the general public. All are offered free-of-charge to those who qualify for enrollment. <https://training.fema.gov/is/> Consider creating a FEMA SID and taking the following courses to help build personal disaster skills and community knowledge:

- IS-100.c – Introduction to the Incident Command System (2 hours)
- IS-700.b – Introduction to the National Incident Command System (3.5 hours)
- IS-800.d – National Response Framework, An Introduction (2 hours)

Jacksonville Against COVID-19 Membership Calls:

The Jacksonville Against COVID-19 will hold its membership meetings on the **first Friday of the month at 10 am**, with the next meeting on **Friday, October 2**. Joining by computer is encouraged whenever feasible – chat information is included in the minutes.

<https://zoom.us/j/3952340642>
Meeting ID: 395 234 0642
Call-In:
646-558-8656,3952340642# US

JAC organizations need to be ready to share information about needs and available resources, so please join our calls and email us at contact@artfullygreen.org. Information will be distributed to the JAC contact list as needed in between calls.

Jacksonville Against COVID-19 contact information:

contact@artfullygreen.org
(904) 235-7919
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