

**NATIONAL MASS CARE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Thursday, November 7, 2013 4:00 PM Eastern**  
**-Via Teleconference Call-**

In attendance: John Madden – NEMA, Michael Grimm – FEMA, Major Carol Busroe – Salvation Army, Eddie Blackmon – Southern Baptists, Dr. Lisa Kaplowitz for Don Boyce – HHS, Patrick Crawford- Feeding America, Ron Prater-Big City EM, Daniel Stoecker – National VOAD (departed after call to order, James McGowan stood in)

Absent: Gregg O’Ryon-Red Cross;

Amy Mintz called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm

Review and Approve August 27, 2013 Meeting

Meeting outcomes presented by Mike Grimm as follows:

- Set course for implementation of NMCS
- Identify primary areas of focus for study and coordination
- Identify and charter any work groups needed for specialized research and development
- Develop timelines and milestones for coordination and alignment with work groups, other organizations and agencies, and Congress

Other areas discussed include:

- Health care needs during emergencies, opportunity to align council with different organizations.
- How to plan national mass care exercises
- Share best practices
- Improving national shelter system, technology

Progress to Date

Mike Grimm presented efforts and examples that are done in coordination with NMCC:

- 1) IAEM- presentation on Sandy Recovery Project and National Mass Care Strategy. Outreach to get others interested and involved in the NMCS and Council work groups.
- 2) National Mass Care Webinar Series (proposed by Mark Tannenbaum-FEMA) - Proposed action plan, to promote a series of webinars. The main thread is best practices, different circumstances that relate back to the strategic goals. The series would be launched by the NMCC leadership, linking future goals to current exercises and disasters that states are facing, contribution of NGOs, state preparedness, whole community, and legislative changes, all of these relating back to strategic goals. The notion is to reach a wide range of emergency managers.

**Council Action: Mark to forward proposal on to Council Members for review and constructive feedback on webinars in the next week or two.**

- 3) NSS Meeting (Amy) Reached out to states (10-15 representatives) to develop strategy for common operating structure that supports holistic response for National Shelter System. Focus on local and state level needs.
- 4) Post Disaster Children Reunification- This is a good example of a document that shows the collaboration between multiple organizations. Whole community approach to responding to catastrophic event where multiple children have been separated from family. Objective of document is to build framework to determine processes, roles and responsibilities of states,

encouraging stakeholders to build upon current relationships. Next step is socializing the document, and focusing on preparedness efforts.

**Council Action: Council members and partners are encouraged to share new document via website and email distribution.**

#### 2014 Working Group Structure Update

Amy Mintz presented the discussed working groups:

1. Health and Mental Health in Shelters
2. Technology to Support Shelter Operations
3. Family Reunification
4. Legislative/Advocacy Priorities
5. Mass Care Exercises

Discussed function of each work group, how to implement structure, and the role of council members. Work groups would be subject matter champions for each of the 5 functional areas, encouraging everyone to share information at the National Mass Care Strategy website and implementation of best practices, to increase the outreach network for the dissemination of documents, webinars, and for gathering input on the formation and focus of implementation recommendations.

Council would identify leadership (Chair) for each working group, selects chair and affirms mission and goals for 2014. Each of the 5 Working Group Chairs will report to the Council. Council Members will recruit additional stakeholder members for each workgroup from among the civic, private and governmental sectors, as appropriate. Council Members can also choose to designate participation in a Working Group. Need to find champions out there that can be a part of these working groups. Idea of hosting a leadership forum with Department of Justice and others was shared.

**Council Action: Council generally agreed on plan for establishing working group, but will first share with their constituencies and report back by November 19 (Deadline extended to after Thanksgiving. Official date will be e-mailed out) with comments related to revisions or clarification. No comments will infer concurrence, and Council will move forward in December with action to articulate Working Group missions, identify Working Group Chairs, and initiate a membership recruitment strategy.**

#### Announcements

Encourage everyone to look at Mass Care Strategy website. Beth manages the website.

Think of how to create communities of practice through social media.

#### Next Meeting

**Council Action: Next teleconference meeting to be scheduled for 1Q 2014.**