

FIRE RECOVERY SUMMIT NOTES

Summit Objectives

Understand and draw upon the collective resources of other citizen-led fire recovery efforts, to strengthen local effectiveness and community rebuilding.

Identify gaps and priorities –and methods of addressing them – of particular concern to citizen led groups in the coming 12 months

Celebrate Successes and invigorate energies of paid and volunteer team members working on fire recovery and community building

Get to know colleagues working in other communities

1 SESSION

Area specific updates: Highlights and challenges.

SDCRT

Rennslerville Brush Removal pilot in progress SVP partner

County wide –Unmet needs – Extensive partnerships – case work driven.

Chirs Crotty – Publicity and media “Week of Giving” started

Anniversary celebration “Moment of Silence in works”

Insurance/rebuilding/ replacement of homes

Alt location for salvation army trailer/HQ found

Rels w/ insurance companies issue: brush clearing and policy sales

Need data on insurance denials and Fairplan

Standard house plans in place cooperation with county is good

Potential for dispute over manufactured/pre fab-homes

New York Times will be doing a national story on the issue of underinsurance

“Folks hitting the wall” – Mental health issues not only for people in need but for volunteers and caseworkers. Mental health issues start to come up 8-36 months after initial disaster FEMA extensions needed.

Schools see students

Clean up and debris removal in Ramona

Keeping service clubs involved, need to be recognized and thanked.

Itinerant/migrant families potential for getting left behind.

Ramona community facing a challenge reaching students in schools re: Mental Health, accessibility is the issue with the school administration.

Renters/non-land owners concerns

Mental health services especially for kids a particular challenge.

Travel trailers through private money made available to 36 families.

Need to create profiles and site evaluation for those that cannot rebuild by themselves.

SD County is working the SD CRT to help with master plan.

REBUILDING MOUNTAIN HEARTS AND LIVES

Mountain Community comes together quickly – Many active service Groups/ property owners/ C of C?/ Churches (where do you worship)

Quick assembly of core group

Office space/fire station

Regular meetings from start

Problems do better.

Board of supervisors get involved from get-go problem if they don't commit

Early funding for infrastructure operations, immediate needs

Gathering info on those affected – contact info, electronic database format

Look beyond those with greatest need narrow definition – must have wide definition of community

Contribution of early dedicated resource people (e.g. Bert and Joe)

County is not taking into consideration Renters and undocumented people in recovery efforts.

Define the recovery continuum –what practical stages survivors go through

Early assembly of all elected representatives at same table

Early or advance identification of disaster recovery liaison from legislative and executive offices

Strong insurance committee drawing on outside resources but anchoring w/ local citizens

Anticipate physical/social/cultural/demographic changes likely to result from fire (e.g. Newer or Fewer students in schools – Formation of Redevelopment agencies- eminent domain)

Pull in local citizen expertise (contractors – builders – trades people – landscapers – psychologists – tech people like Kevin)

Find previous models and ADAPT to local needs

Resource identification – find funds early on into the process

Identify/enlist “high network” individuals – devise methods for continuously re-enlisting volunteers

Allow for catharsis someone or some group to yell out

Permanent space as fire recovery HQ. place w/ people to talk to and learn from and turn to

Long Term Recovery staff to stay in local area.

Care for the caregivers/ volunteers - elevation of mental health/ physical health

Ending the “I’m not responsible for that” syndrome among agency and elected officials

Identify the key liaison committed to inter-agency cooperation

Figure out what exactly needs doing and tell elected officials

Overcoming inertia to community engagement via creative intervention and education

“the cavalry ain’t coming”

2nd SESSION

MEDIA

How can the issues of sustained fire recovery remain at the forefront?

Establish and maintain contact with writers/editors

Press Releases

Establishing a press conference call

“Playing up” competing media providers

Unified media relations and activities across regions

LEGISLATIVE

Advancing relationships with local elected officials

Educate and inform elected officials. What do you need that elected officials can help with?

What’s happening that elected officials need to know about?

Figure out whom in government working on constituent cases?

Establish liaison relationships ASAP – department heads, elected officials

Create peer pressure up with large constituent action.

INSURANCE

Strategies for navigating the insurance maze and identifying priorities

Deadlines – getting the word out – extensions

ALE planning for FEMA 6 month extension

Litigation

Closed Claim Re-Openings

Extension hrs – CARE – UPH

Are lawsuits useful as leverage?

RFA's

Status Replacement Policies

Correct CPA info to people on Tax liabilities

Truth in policy revisions Marshall and Swift

General public awareness of underinsurance

Legislation in progress SB 1855

www.twiceburned.org (tracking)

escalating premiums

Non-renewal

Litigation support

Insurance claims for people who have received charitable help

Legislation prohibiting undervaluing of loss – low balling

RICO Act prosecution for misrepresentation (Elliot, Spitzer, Spagat)

Market profile of insurance consumers/evaluation of market power vs. industry customer retention \$50 to keep customers \$280 to get a new customer.

Insuring new builds

Resolving issues of construction insurance

FUNDING

Sustaining our local citizen led efforts.

Best Case – Worst Case – Bottom line

Urgency in budgeting for operational sustainability (Must be done now)

Funder education critical

Budget Categories

Special Projects

Marketing and Outreach

Create Development plan to figure out where to go for funding

Emphasize systems change with nationals

Collective Date for impact case to funders

Stay good standing with a donor

Keep connected with donors

Business plan – Get it done

Establish Honorary board – light duties exploit names

Meet with reps of elected officials

CDBG dollars

POSSIBLE COORDINATED ACTIVITY

Sustaining our local citizen led efforts

Data collection across regions

Policy task force – structure –past possible claims support network

Cross group publicity/media

Joint published “how-to” and approach to process materials

Organizing citizen led groups

Publishing joint construction materials

Inform the faith-based models with new models

Get George to publish a book/DVD video

Joint fundraising

Jointly produce data gathering technology

Dedicated conference calling for regular briefing/update/data sharing (utility)

Health of –citizens –care givers –health funders

Where is the network for isolated incidences (future fires)

Mechanics for SBA low interest loans

Code upgrade –where is it being applied? Where not?

How to Workshop on all activity areas

Media work strategy for continuous engagement

Central library digitized (see FEMA Possible)

WORKGROUP SIGN-UP

How can we continue producing results and rebuilding communities using the power of citizen led collaborative efforts.

Cross Group Media Relations and publicity dialogue

Chris Crotty
Laruen Kay
Teresa M.

Church – Citizen group disaster Recover dialogue

Anne Subia
Ira Maser
Ben

Policy/Legislative Action

Tom Rogers
Teresa Manley
David Jones

Insurance Claims Support Network

George K.

Amy B.
David J.
Andy Knutson

Funding/Funders/Philanthropy involvement disaster response

Valerie N – Pre planning
Ruth P.
Paul V.
CCF
Alan Sorkin