

# DEVELOPING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Establishing a Community Organization Active in Disaster (COAD)



# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Disaster Response Overview
- COAD
- Committees for St. Charles



Government Responds  
to

*Disaster*



# DISASTER STRIKES



Local Response  
Voluntary Agencies



# Local Government Damage Assessment





Local Government



County Government

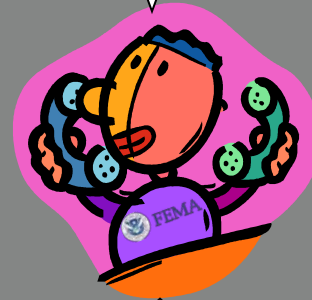


State Emergency  
Operations Center  
(EOC) Activated



State Capitol

PDA Request

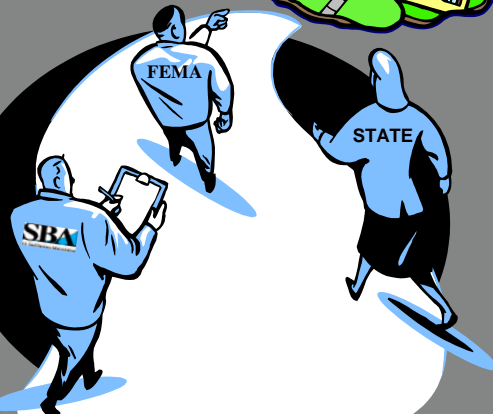


Local Government Rep

Small Business  
Administration (SBA)

State Government Rep

Preliminary Damage  
Assessment (PDA)



# Joint Assessment

Also known as a PDA

(Preliminary Damage Assessment)

**Federal**

FEMA and SBA

**Local**

**State**



# Presidential Disaster Declaration

## Disaster Recovery Programs



**Infrastructure**

**Businesses**

**Individuals and Families**





# For the Record:



- FEMA programs CAN provide financial assistance (Loans or Grants) to verified uninsured disaster losses
- FEMA does NOT provide intensive one-on-one case management, counseling, goods, or services not mandated by law
- SEMA CAN provide long-term recovery support, technical guidance, coordination of agencies, and information referral services (including to other government assistance agencies)
- SEMA does NOT provide direct assistance to disaster survivors



# Collaboration The Secret to Success



# Goals of Collaboration Groups

- Enhance Communication, Cooperation, Coordination and Collaboration
- Enhance community's ability to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate
- Alleviate the suffering caused by disasters
- Coordinate human services in disaster
- Develop plans, train and exercise for disaster operations



# Types and Levels Of Coordination Groups

- **NVOAD** National Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster
- **VOAD** (State) Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster
- **COAD**

Community Organizations Active In Disaster



# What is a COAD?

COAD stands for **C**ommunity **O**rganizations **A**ctive in **D**isasters

- A COAD is an organization, based within a community or geographic area, that is composed of representatives from public, private and not for-profit agencies.
- A COAD will enhance the community's ability to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from disasters thus ensuring that human needs inherent in a disaster situation are evaluated and addressed.

# COAD Guiding Principles



- All disasters are local events. Success is achieved when the community takes responsibility for all phases of emergency management.
- The best time to develop networks (i.e. COADs, VOADs, etc., and create relationships is prior to an event, but not always possible.
- State VOADs, coordination groups, state and federal organizations should serve as role models, providing guidance and support to emerging community efforts.
- Strong partnerships are essential to maximize strengths and avoid suppression or omission of any organization or group.
- Community leadership, public and private, should be utilized in planning, directing and implementing the disaster recovery.



# COAD Guiding Principles

- Citizens should be viewed as valuable volunteer resources to accomplish important tasks necessary for the community's recovery.
- Essential functions that may be required for community recovery include volunteer coordination, donations management, case management, education, advocacy, spiritual care, mass care, mental health, information and referral, funding, and organizing the structure of the recovery group.
- Adjoining jurisdictions should establish relationships to assist one another in the sharing of expertise and resources to support all phases of emergency management in the region.
- Recovery efforts should be flexible enough to accommodate the needs of diverse cultures, lifestyles, and special needs.
- Recovery is a process that continually evolves



# A COAD can respond to the following:

## ■ Types of Disaster Operations

- Single family emergency
- Community
- Multi-county
- State
- Federal agency declared
- Declared or non-declared disasters
- National
- International





# Organizing the COAD Structure

- Community Resources are the foundation
- Phases of Emergency Management
  - Mitigation
  - Preparedness
  - Response
  - Recovery
- Local All Hazards Planning is Essential
  - Vulnerability assessment
  - Demographics



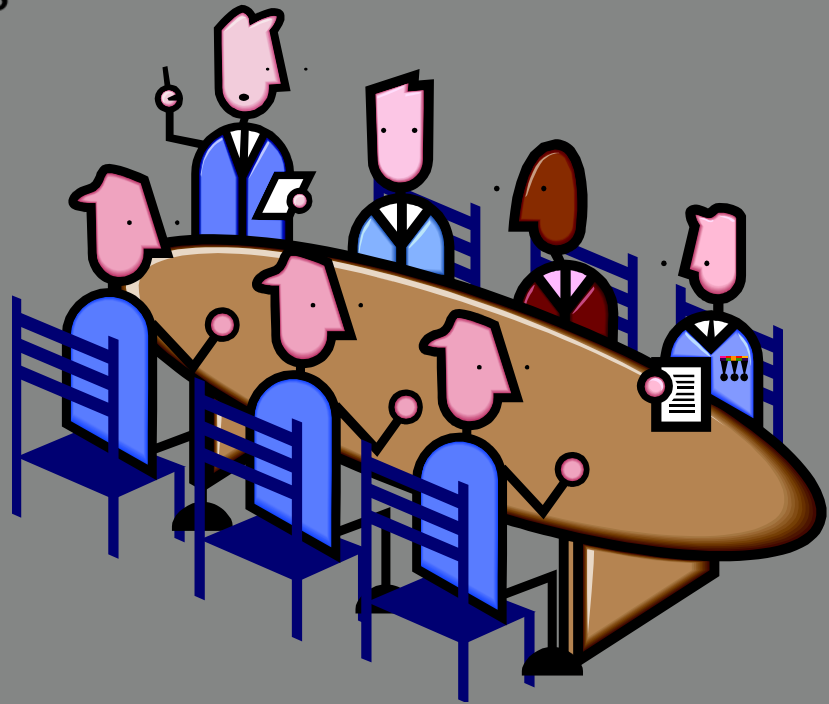
# Organizing the COAD Structure

- Operational Organization
  - Organizing in preparedness and mitigation phase (non-disaster)
  - Organizing in response and recovery phase (disaster/event)
- Identify and liaison with existing involved groups such as Citizen Corps, ministerial alliances, etc.
- Key Agencies and Their Roles
  - NVOAD, VOAD, Faith-based, other voluntary and civic organizations, Emergency Management, and Citizen Corps

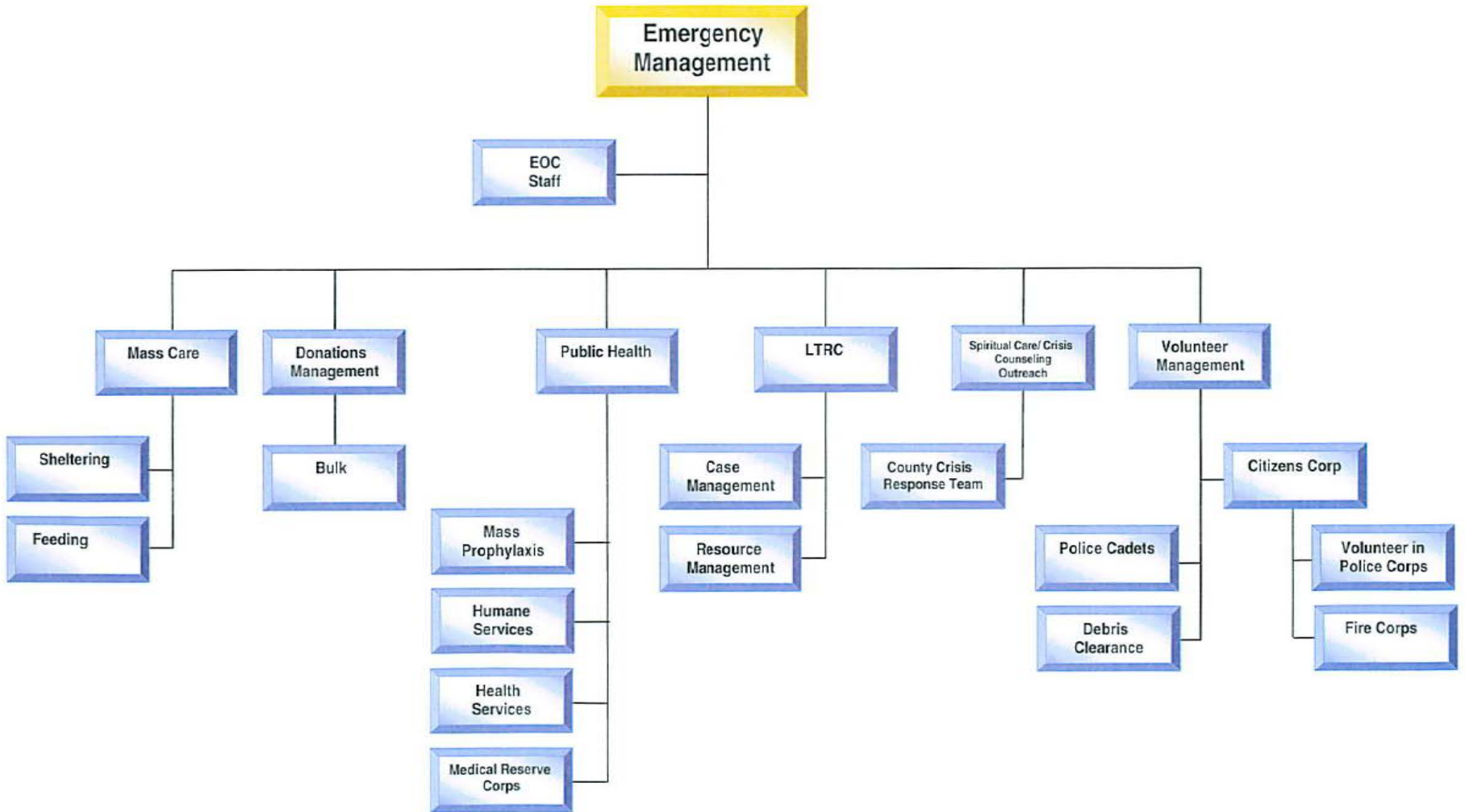


# What Agencies Should Come to the Table?

- Community Organizations
- Faith-based Groups
- Voluntary Organizations
- Civic Clubs
- Social Service Agencies
- Local Businesses
- Emergency Management



# St. Charles County COAD



# Organizing the COAD Structure

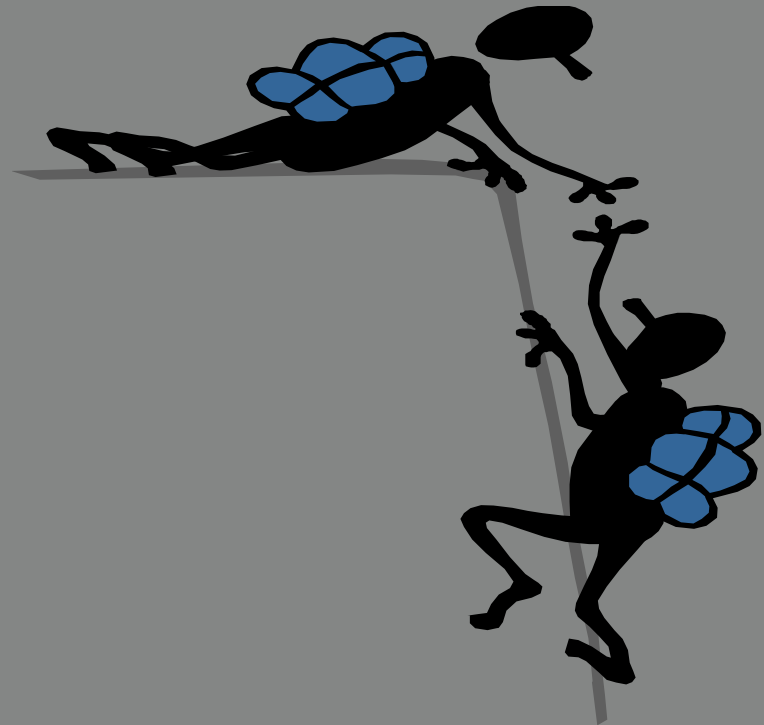
- Essential Interagency Coordinating Functions
  - Coordinated donations management
  - Coordinated volunteer management
  - Single information/referral
  - Single client access, etc.
  - Mass care
  - Spiritual care
  - Debris clearance
  - Special Needs population
  - Other



# St. Charles County COAD

## Committees

- Mass Care Committee
  - Sheltering
  - Feeding
- Bulk Donations Management
  - Warehousing
  - Bulk Distribution
- Public Health
  - Sheltering
  - Humane Services
  - Health Services
  - Medical Reserve
- LTRC (Long-term Recovery Committee)
  - Case management
  - Resource Development
- Volunteer Coordination Committee
  - Citizen's Corps Council
  - Volunteers in Police Corps.
  - Debris Clean-up
  - Police Cadets
- Spiritual Care/Crisis Counseling/Outreach

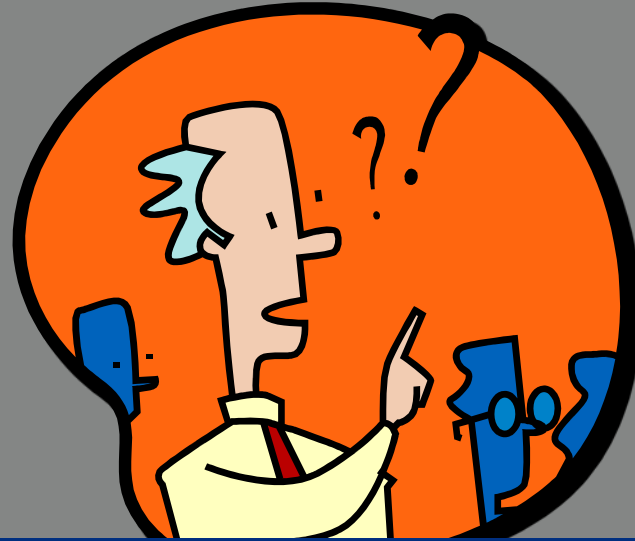


# References



- For a comprehensive wealth of resource manuals, forms, and advice, ask for “FEMA Region VII Disaster Assistance Resource Information & Independent Study Courses” CD
- For more information on SEMA:  
<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/semapage.htm>
- For more information on NVOAD:  
<http://www.nvoad.org>





Questions?

