

FEMA Region 2 — serving NJ, NY, PR, and the USVI

ESF-6 Bulletin

Volume 3 – Winter 2017

Happy New Year to all of our Region II ESF-6 partners! 2017 is off to a great – and busy! – start. We’ve got a lot going on already and we’re looking forward to working with you all again this year.

This spring our biggest focus will be on Gotham Shield 2017 (GS 17), a national level exercise that will test our capabilities to respond to and recover from an Improvised Nuclear Device (IND) event. The response and recovery portions of GS 17 will take place in April and May, respectively. If you’re interested in learning more about GS 17, email FEMA-Exercise@fema.dhs.gov.

In late spring/early summer, we will be hosting our second annual partners’ day event. This event, which will build on last year’s “State of the Region” and incorporate your ongoing feedback, is designed to increase coordination and collaboration among our ESF-6 partners. For more information or to provide feedback, email seth.golbey@fema.dhs.gov.

As always, thank you for all that you do and for your continued commitment to strengthening ESF-6 capabilities and partnerships in Region II.

–FEMA Region II Individual Assistance

Welcome our newest team members!



Sacha Caraballo-Vega joined FEMA on 2006 as a Disaster Assistance Employee. On June 12, 2016 Sacha was appointed as Emergency Management Program Specialist for the Individual Assistance Section at the Caribbean Area Division.

Ashley Francis joined FEMA on July 10, 2016 as a Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Branch Director and will be supporting FEMA Region II with DSA training, planning, and capacity building at our NYC office.



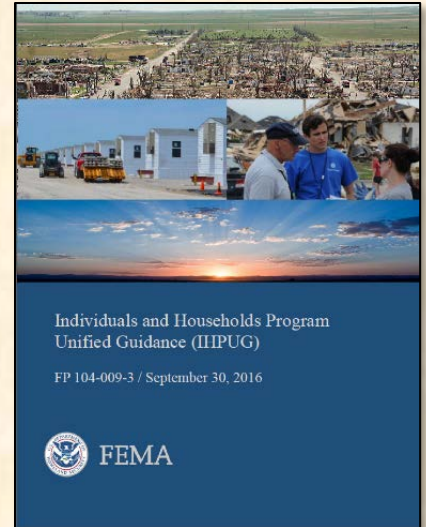
Program Spotlight

Individuals & Households Program Unified Guidance (IHPUG)

On September 30, 2016, FEMA released the Individuals and Households Program Unified Guidance (IHPUG), which provides FEMA employees, emergency management partners, political leadership, and the public with a single, comprehensive reference containing policy statements and conditions of eligibility for all forms of Individuals and Households Program (IHP) assistance. The IHPUG, as well as FEMA IHP policies that are not superseded by the new guidance, can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/ihp-unified-guidance>.

The IHPUG will:

- Replace all stand-alone IHP policies and policy statements currently located in FEMA documents and standard operating procedures (SOPs);
- Catalog lessons learned from disaster operations and the Agency's decisions as they relate to the Individuals and Households Program; and
- Increase consistency, collaboration, and the sharing of knowledge between FEMA and state, local, territorial, and tribal governments, and other entities who assist disaster survivors.



ESF-6 Monthly Conference Call

On the second Thursday of each month, FEMA Region II's Individual Assistance Branch hosts an informational ESF-6 conference call. The call is open to Region II partners from local, tribal, state, and federal government and voluntary agencies (VOLAGs) with an interest in mass care, emergency assistance, housing, and human services missions. Each call features a subject-matter expert presenting on a current topic of relevance to the ESF-6 mission.

Calls are from **1:30-2:30PM** (please note the NEW TIME) and include time for questions, announcements, and open discussion. Call **800-320-4330, PIN 403773**. Adobe Connect session information will be made available in advance of all presentations. Call topics are subject to change.

January 12 th	TBD, FEMA Region II Logistics <i>Commonly Used Shelter Items (CUSI), Push Packages, and Staging</i>
February 9 th	TBD, FEMA Region II <i>FEMA Rental Assistance</i>
March 9 th	TBD, FEMA Region II <i>Overview of the Federal Emergency Support Functions (ESFs)</i>

To be added to the distribution list or to provide suggestions for future calls, please email: Iris.epsenhart@fema.dhs.gov. Presentations and documents from previous calls can be found at: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/r2esf6calls/>

Partner Spotlight

Glen Karpovich – HHS Administration for Children and Families



The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response (OHSEPR) promotes the resilience of vulnerable individuals, children, families and communities impacted by disasters and public health emergencies, and provides expertise in human services preparedness, response and recovery through policy, planning, operations and partnerships.

Each HHS Region (which align with the 10 FEMA Regions) employs a Regional Emergency Management Specialist (REMS) who works closely with FEMA, states and territories, and other ESF-6 partners. Glen Karpovich, who has been the Region II REMS since 2007, has supported multiple disasters including Hurricanes Irene, Lee, and Sandy.

During disaster, OHSEPR works with ACF-supported human services programs and grantees to ensure continuity of service delivery, improve outcomes for client populations, and meet surge requirements for new disaster-caused needs.

For more information on ACF Emergency Response and Recovery programs and services: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/program-topics/emergency-response-recovery-0>.

Emergency Preparedness

Put a Freeze on Winter Fires

The risk of having a home fire increases during the winter months from December through February.

To help teach the public about winter fire hazards and ways to prevent them, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) are teaming up to promote “Put a Freeze on Winter Fires.” Each week during the campaign, USFA will share helpful, practical tips to help us make our homes and families safer.

Follow #wintersafety on Twitter [@usfire](https://twitter.com/usfire) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/usfire

For additional fire safety and prevention information, visit the U.S. Fire Administration at www.usfa.fema.gov.



Sandy Recovery

NYC Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable

New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) continues to convene the Unmet Needs Roundtable, now four years after the onslaught of Hurricane Sandy. The UNR provides emergency cash assistance, recovery grants, loans and discounted/tax-free building supplies to eligible survivor households. Assistance is targeted to ensure and sustain survivors' long-term recovery.



Starting in September 2016, following the closing of the New York State Disaster Case Management Program, NYDIS began operating a resource referral line and disaster case management of Sandy impacted individual families with unmet needs—until all remaining recovery resources are exhausted. The work is being funded by a grant from the NY State Office of Children and Family Services. Any Sandy impacted New Yorkers still in need of assistance may contact Eric for an unmet needs assessment at 212-669-6100.

The UNR also continues to provide critical assistance to Build it Back-registered households who need to temporarily relocate because of construction or elevation work on their homes but lack the means to do so without assistance. The UNR covers broker fees, deposits, and insurance, paired with monthly rental assistance and a \$2,000 moving voucher from Build it Back.

Contact a counselor at 646-757-2886 or NYDIS at <http://nydis.org/> for more information.

Upcoming Trainings

L489 Management of Spontaneous Volunteers in Disaster

The American Red Cross Jersey Coast Chapter will host FEMA's [*L489 Management of Spontaneous Volunteers in Disaster*](#) on **Friday January 27, 2017 from 9am-5pm**.

This 8-hour course is designed for emergency managers and voluntary organizations who are responsible for managing spontaneous volunteers during disasters and will introduce participants to the skills and planning considerations that are required to manage large numbers of people who are not affiliated with an experienced relief organization but who want to help.

By participating in this course, attendees will be able to:

- Identify issues and challenges in the management of spontaneous volunteers;
- Identify the elements of a spontaneous volunteer management plan;
- Identify best practices for the management of spontaneous volunteers in disasters;
- Develop and implement a spontaneous volunteer management plan; and
- Explain the role of the Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) and virtual VRC in the transition from response to recovery.

To register for this course or for more information, please email julie.blanciak@fema.dhs.gov.

Applications Open for Integrated Emergency Management Courses

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) conducts Integrated Emergency Management Courses (IEMC) throughout the year and across the country. The 4-day training course is designed specifically for communities, providing both lecture and exercise-based training focused on response operations for a disaster or emergency that could happen in their area.

IEMC courses simulate realistic crisis situations that emergency operations center personnel and community leadership/elected officials may encounter during disasters or other events. Also, the course enhances the skills of participating officials and provides a forum to evaluate the effectiveness of their specific emergency policies, plans, and procedures to protect life and property. The course's target audience includes: state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) government personnel; their SLTT elected and appointed officials; supervisory, operations, and emergency support personnel; nonprofit organizations; the private sector; law enforcement personnel; firefighters; attorneys; public information officers; planners; and more.

IEMC classes are principally delivered at FEMA's EMI at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland; however, delivery may also occur in the community. If your jurisdiction is interested in applying for the program and obtaining information on the application process and its timeline, please visit <http://training.fema.gov/iemc/>. The deadline for [applications](#) is **February 1, 2017**.

If you have any questions concerning the IEMC Application process, please contact the Integrated Emergency Management Staff at 301-447-1381 or via email at FEMA-EMI-IEMB@fema.dhs.gov.

Initiatives

Core Advisory Groups (CAGS) Improving Response One County at a Time

The recent occurrences of disasters have prompted notable professional attention, including ever more capable federal, state and local offices of emergency response devoting their energies to the care of lives and properties. The concept of tapping the capabilities, while meeting the needs, of the whole community has begun to prevail. Following the same course, FEMA Region II has been pioneering a number of activities to promote inclusive emergency management.

Recent disasters have shown that people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs have not always received the kind of assistance they require. Notification about evacuation plans and the location of shelters is often lacking, for example. Likewise, shelters that were open to the general public have not been accessible by people with disabilities due to locked doors or dilapidated access ramps; public transportation capable of accommodating wheelchairs was limited; and power outages have made it impossible for the elderly and people with disabilities to use elevators to get to shelters, obtain medicine, obtain food and water, or keep medical appointments.

continued...

continued...

These shortfalls are due to emergency managers not being sufficiently familiar with the particular needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. In response, Region II's Disability Integration team has been conducting Core Advisory Group (CAG) meetings. The idea behind the meetings is to include people with disabilities in the emergency planning process so that emergency managers become personally familiar with their requirements.

FEMA Region II's Disability Integration team which includes Jim Flemming and Kathleen Madigan have visited 23 counties in our Region to date; which have formed CAGs. Each CAG has tapped into the crucial idea of acquainting emergency managers with the particular needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. In this fashion, the capabilities of the whole community are brought to bear during a disaster, while all its needs are served.

If you are interested in learning more about Core Advisory Groups, please contact Jim Flemming (James.Flemming@fema.dhs.gov) or Kathleen Madigan (kathleen.madigan@fema.dhs.gov).

Partner Resources

Key National Response Documents Updated

The third edition of the National Response Framework (NRF) and an updated ESF #6 Annex were released in 2016. The NRF provides context for how the whole community works together and how response efforts relate to other parts of national preparedness. It is one of the five documents in a suite of National Planning Frameworks. Each Framework covers one preparedness mission area: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response or Recovery. <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/117796>

The National Response Framework is a guide to how the Nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. It is built on scalable, flexible, and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System to align key roles and responsibilities across the Nation. <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/117791>

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services coordinates and provides life-sustaining resources, essential services, and statutory programs when the needs of disaster survivors exceed local, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area government capabilities. <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/25512>

We'd like your feedback

Please feel free to pass this Update along and share it with friends and colleagues. You can send your comments and suggestions — or your request to be added to or deleted from the mailing list — to lori.ross@fema.dhs.gov.