

Community Organizations Active in Disaster

Their Roles in Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery



Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council

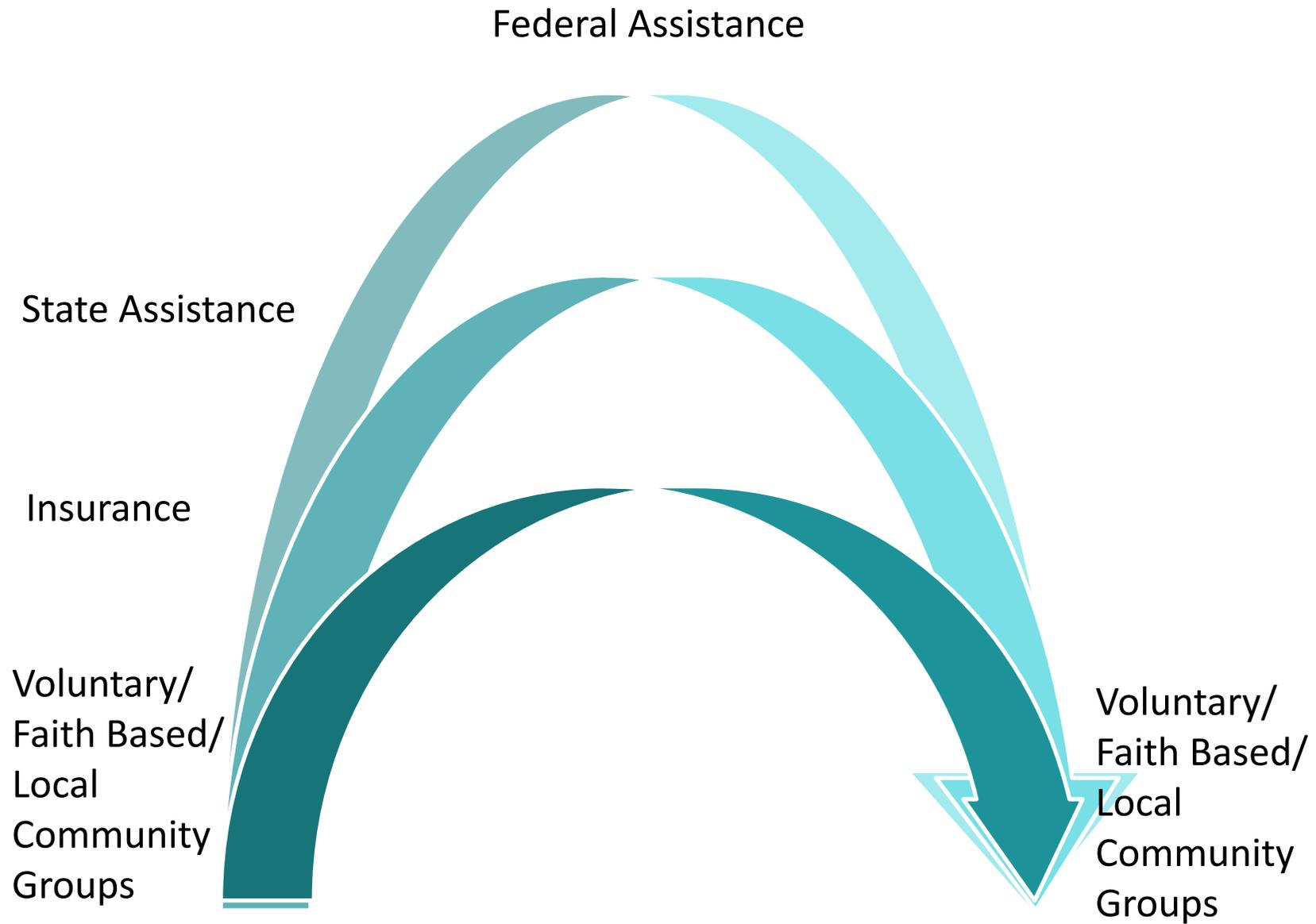


We are a umbrella organization of 70+ organizations that brings together faith-based, voluntary, private and government organizations active in disaster services. We serve as a forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle – preparation, response, recovery and mitigation – to help disaster survivors and their communities.

www.iavoad.org contact@idhrc.org

Why a COAD?

Disasters Begin
and End Locally



Community Organizations Active in Disaster

A **COAD** is a community organization, based within a county or geographic area, made up of representatives from public, private, volunteer and nonprofit agencies and organizations who may be active in **all phases of disaster**: mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Their mission is to strengthen area-wide disaster coordination and enhance the community's ability to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate.



Long Term Recovery Group

A long term recovery group (LTRG) is a cooperative body that is made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business and other organizations working within a community to **assist individuals and families as they recover from disaster.**

Goals

COAD

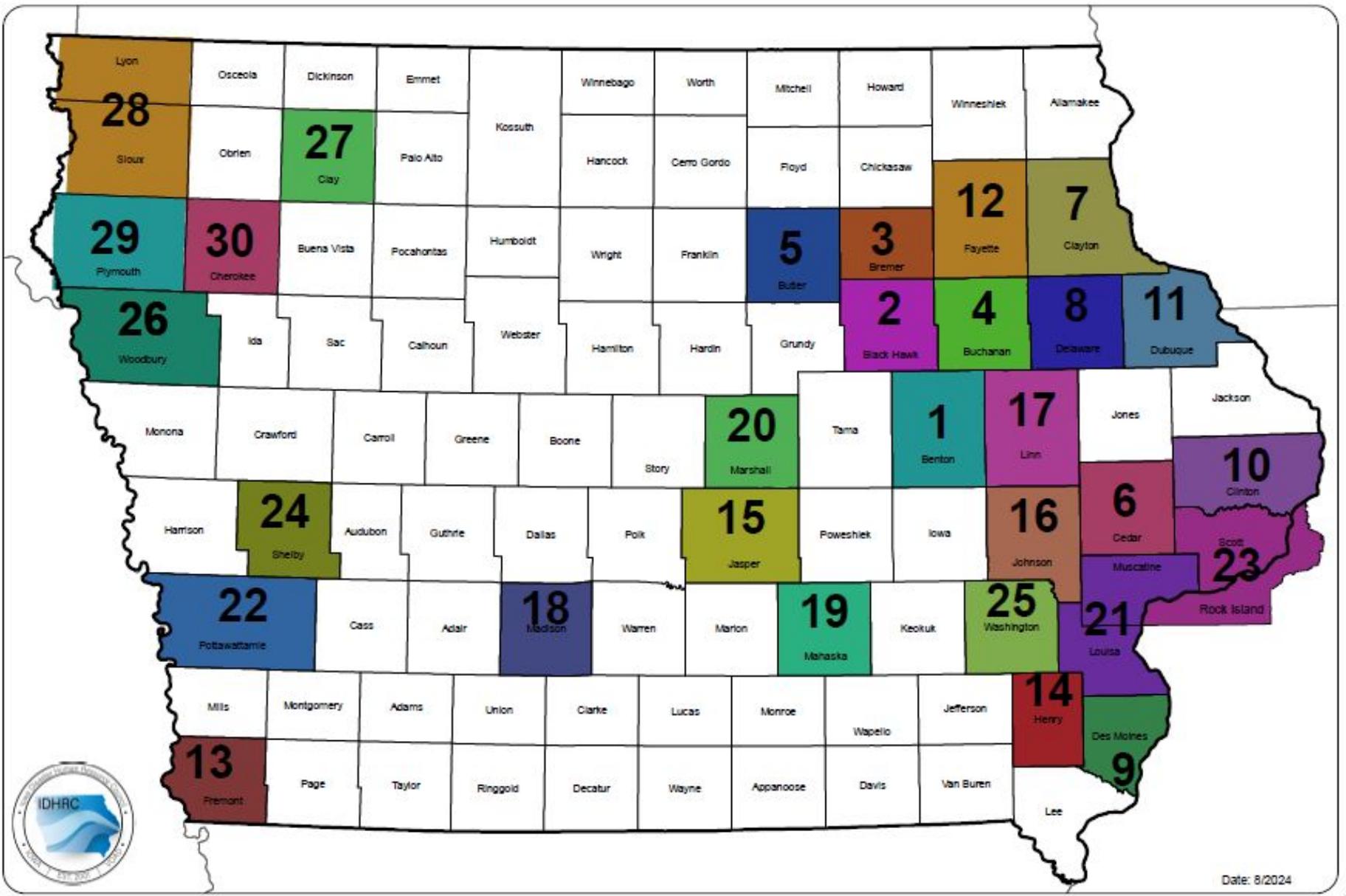
- ✓ Establish Communication, Cooperation, Coordination and Collaboration
- ✓ Enhance the community's ability to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate
- ✓ Alleviate the suffering caused by disasters
- ✓ Develop a coordinated approach to resources and human services
- ✓ Develop plans, training, and exercises for disaster operations

LTRG

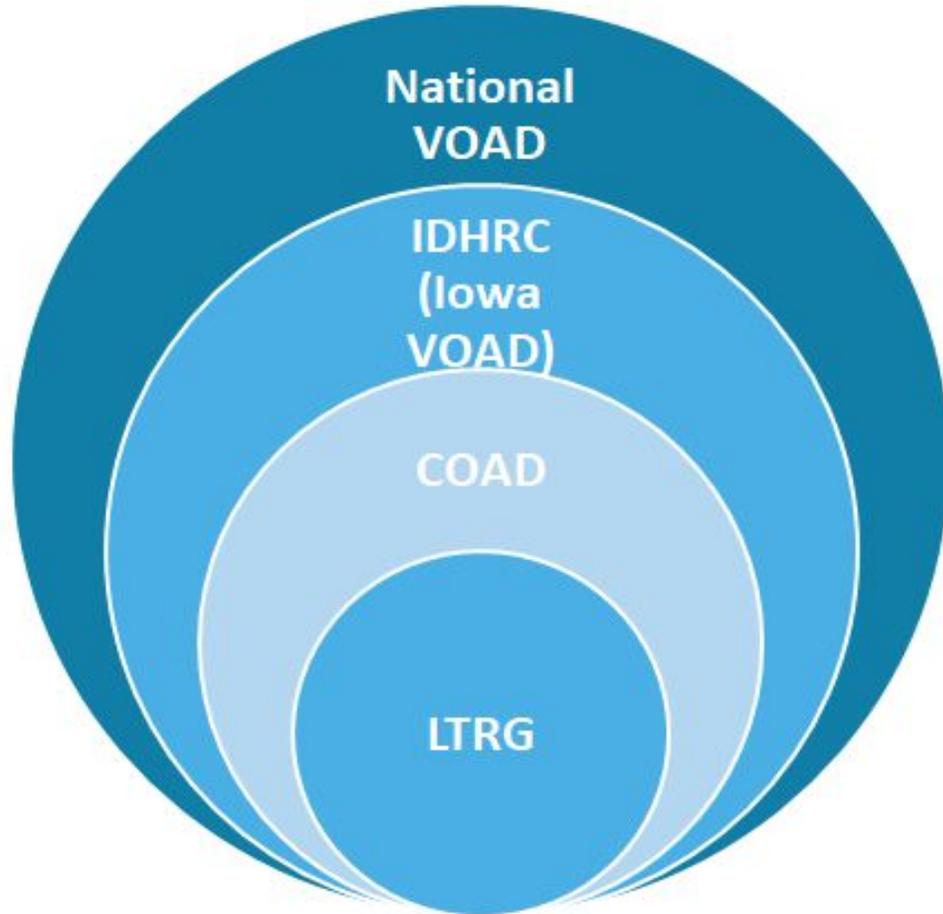
- ✓ Identify families unmet needs
- ✓ Locate resources to meet needs
- ✓ Develop a plan to meet needs
- ✓ Verify the needs and resources
- ✓ Coordinate with partners to support clients until they achieve recovery

>>Disaster Specific <<

Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) & Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) Map



Across the Spectrum

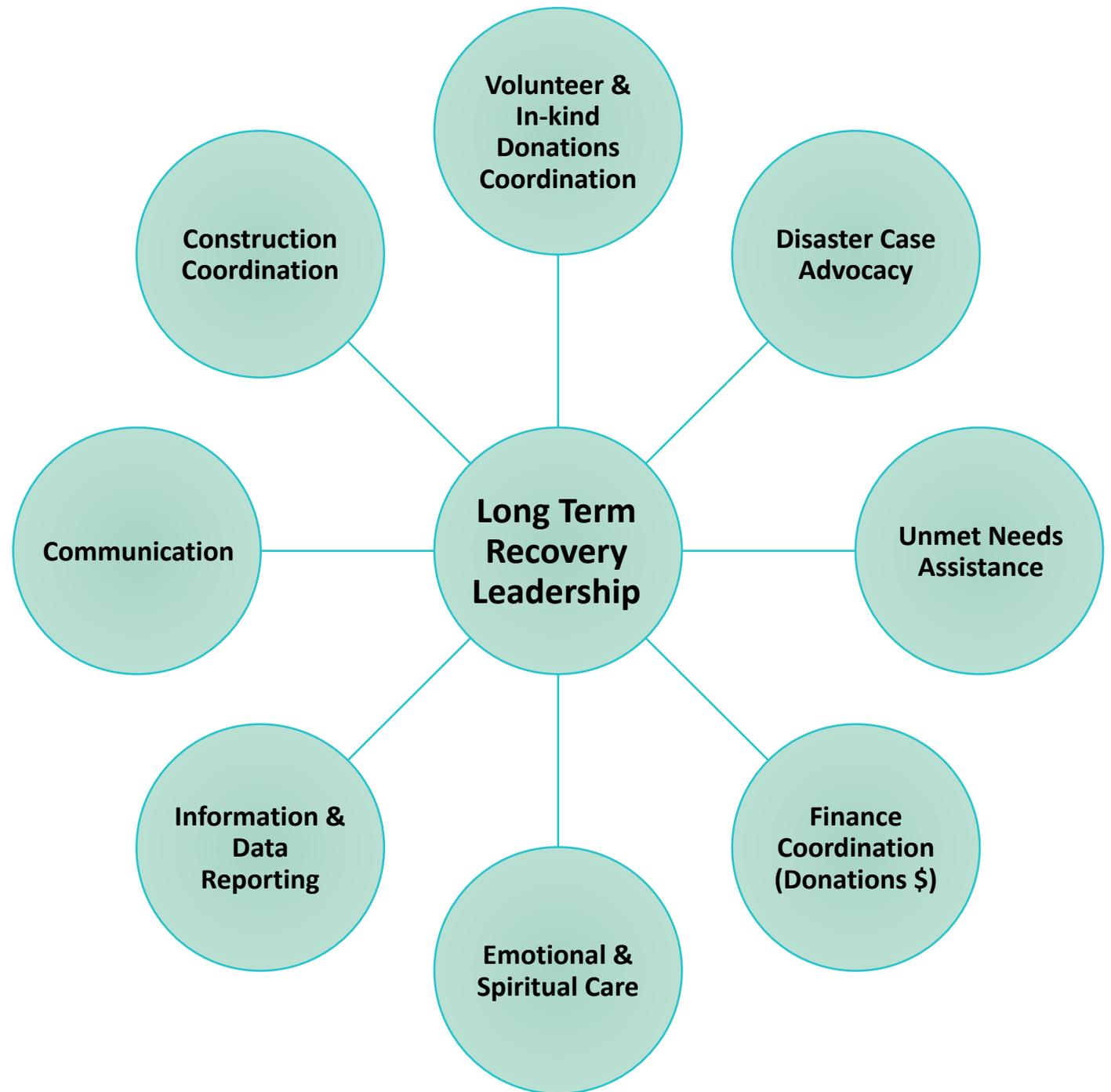


- ✓ Coalition of organizations
- ✓ Geographic region
- ✓ Focused on disaster
- ✓ **Coordination**
- ✓ **Collaboration**
- ✓ **Cooperation**
- ✓ **Communication**

When forming your COAD.....

Build your structure to support your LTRG

LTRG Sample Focus Areas



Recommended Focus Areas

LTRG (Recovery)

LTRG Leadership; Communication;
Information & Data Tracking

Volunteer & Donations Management
Construction Coordination

Disaster Case Advocacy
Unmet Needs Assistance

Emotional & Spiritual Support

COAD (Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Mitigation)

Administration & Communication

Donations Management (*Warehouse, Coordination and Distribution*)

Volunteer Coordination

Mass Care (*Feeding, sheltering, and clothing of disaster victims*)

Emergency Assistance (*Debris Removal, Emergency Home Repair, Multi-Agency Resource Center*)

Financial/Resource Assistance (*Unmet needs and disaster case advocacy*)

Emotional, Mental and Spiritual Care

Tips for integrating LTRG planning into your COAD

- Identify potential LTRG structure ahead of time (ie. COAD will function as LTRG, LTRG will be a separate committee)
- Build your COAD structure to support your LTR
 - Membership representative of your community – vulnerable populations (ie older adults, youth and children, those with language barriers), full geographic area, decision makers and helpers
 - Identify areas EMA is looking at the COAD/LTRG to provide
 - Determine focus areas to maximize COAD's capabilities
- Identify who will take the initial call from EMA if a disaster were to happen tomorrow

Who Should be at the Table?



Sample of Member Organizations

- Amateur Radio Club
 - American Red Cross
 - Animal Shelters
 - Area Agency on Aging & other older adult services
 - Youth & child care programs
 - Community Action Association
 - Civic Groups: Elks/Lions/Rotary
 - Disability resources
 - Ethnic Community Based Organizations
 - Food Banks and/or pantries
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Hospitals/Clinics
 - Houses of Worship
 - Iowa Legal Aid
 - ISU Extension & Outreach
 - Local businesses
 - Local newspaper/radio/television
 - Mental Health
 - Public Health
 - School Districts
 - The Salvation Army
 - United Way and Community Foundations
 - Volunteer Center
- Local Emergency Management
- Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council

Benefits of COAD Engagement

- ✓ Quicker Response
- ✓ Learn and Improve – Apply the lessons learned
- ✓ Build trust BEFORE disaster
- ✓ Reduce duplication
- ✓ Identify and fill gaps
- ✓ Broad, unified communication
- ✓ Situational awareness
- ✓ Force multiplier

= Resilient and strong communities

COAD link to Emergency Management

Emergency Management provides:

- ✓ Guidance and general direction – preparedness, response, and recovery
- ✓ Activation
- ✓ Needs – where and when to respond
- ✓ Coordination with emergency response and recovery plans
- ✓ Exercise

COAD provides:

- ✓ COAD's capabilities and limitations
- ✓ Structure, leadership and communication process
- ✓ Documentation of volunteer hours and donations received = County reimbursements

COAD and Preparedness

- Build relationships before the disaster, through meetings and conferences, with other COAD/VOAD organizations, community and government agencies
- Share information on resources organizations provide
- Develop organizational response plans
- Provide input for community and government response plans
- Coordinate training and exercises for member agencies
 - Activation process, long term recovery activities, Volunteer Reception Centers, Multi Agency Resource Centers
 - Identify gaps and resource needs
- Promote individual and organizational preparedness plans
 - Faithful Readiness Workshops, continuity of operations planning

COAD and Response

- Communication link between emergency management and member organizations
- Meet to share information and coordinate activities
- Coordinate disaster response of member organizations
 - Mass Care – sheltering, feeding, pet care, emotional and spiritual counseling
 - Volunteer Management
 - Donations Management
- Provide point of contact for emerging organizations
- Coordinate short term individual and family assistance

COAD and Recovery

- Provide long term recovery assistance
 - Work closely with member agencies and local Emergency Management to develop long term recovery strategies and resources
 - Coordination, collaboration, communication and cooperation with the community
- Maximize resources of faith based and voluntary organizations at the local, state, and national level
- Align with county Recovery Support Functions (RSFs)
- Maintain connections with the IDHRC

Contact Information

Kate Honer

IDHRC Executive Director

Director@idhrc.org

Contact@idhrc.org

Julie Stephens

IDHRC COAD/LTR Committee Co-Chair

Linn County Public Health

Julie.Stephens@linncountyiowa.gov

Lori Williams

IDHRC COAD/LTR Committee Co-Chair

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management

lori.williams@iowa.gov

