

Flint Community Partners Water Recovery Meeting Notes March 3, 2016

Introduction

- Doing lots of report outs
- Break out meetings of workgroups optional today
- If any updates in logos/information about organization, let Dave Gutierrez know (david.gutierrez@redcross.org)
- Jamie Gaskin, United Way
 - Resources available
 - 25,000 bus passes
 - In packs of 250
 - Can be checked out to organizations
 - For water and nutrition
 - Good360
 - National organization that leverages in-kind donations from around the country
 - For example, asked for diaper donations
 - If we need baby wipes, hand sanitizer, good place to ask
 - Put agency information, storage capacity, & requests on document being passed around
 - If you are part of a group that needs resources, grants can be written for supplies (other than water)
 - United Way has raised money for crisis
 - 1.7 million dollars
 - Long term commitments
 - Released funds into community—Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Red Cross, County Health Department, MTA
 - Hand warmers for canvassers, copies for Latino community
- Peter Plum, United Methodist
 - MSU Veterinary School wants to test dogs for lead, looking for venue by south side of Flint
 - If anyone has a place in the next week or two that is free, please contact Peter (plum@miareaumc.org)
 - They plan to do approximately 200-250 dogs

Workgroup Reports

- Resource Recovery
 - Points of contact: Kara Ross & Chrissy Cooper
 - Focus on water & nutrition
 - Meet Tuesday mornings at 9 am at Food Bank
 - Feel free to join or email
(kross@feedingamerica.org, ccooper@ccsgc.org)
 - Planning on starting local community pods
 - Looking for locations in flat lots or parking lots
 - Possibly tied in with faith based organizations or stand alone
 - At least one year water sites to replace fire stations
 - Starting hubs in community, ideally 9, but at least 5 dispersed in area
 - Hubs can accommodate
 - Food, nutrition, mental health
 - Housing for water and other supplies
 - Ideal for locations to have docks for deliveries
 - Looking for hubs to be longer term than pods
 - Want this work to be done by community organizations that have been around for decades
 - Hubs will focus on overall wellbeing of community, integrate goals of other workgroups
 - Large portion of population not responding or utilizing 211
 - Working to uncover ways to reach this population
 - Establish local groups to visit shut-ins
 - Work with other groups to identify who needs help and who hasn't been reached by door to door or 211
 - Discussion happening about state/federal liability for pods
 - Discussion happening about who is in charge of water, how long
 - Employment/work experience
 - Having jobs at pods
 - More exposure to general public to offer jobs to Flint residents with Michigan Works
 - Action
 - Getting more door to door grassroots groups communicating together at the same table
 - These groups still scattered

- Many independents working in community but action needs to be organized
- Communications Workgroup (Jamie-Lee Venable, Jamie Gaskin)
 - Not about developing content, about disseminating content that comes from other workgroups
 - Have identified misinformation, mistranslations
 - Working to create web platform
 - Took a poll for name: flintcares.org
 - Working on who will host/own/maintain site
 - Site will serve as repository for listing where resources are
 - All information will be vetted by workgroup
 - Ensure translations are correct, multilingual, videos for deaf community
 - Thursday meeting attendees can place group information on site as a source of trusted information
 - Created 5 task groups within workgroup
 - Different publications beyond website
 - Advertisements, constant messages
 - Vetting information
 - Infrastructure
 - Providing information for state website (helpforflint)
 - Lots of families don't have access to digital technology
 - Create information hubs within hubs that are created for distribution
 - Need for conflict resolution in a venue outside of hubs
 - Be prepared to respond to concerns/anger
 - Ties into providing mental health support
 - Need to reach people who are isolated, homebound
 - Need to welcome other groups into community partner meetings
 - Break walls, welcome other groups
 - Personally invite other groups you know of to Thursday meetings
 - Meetings not limited to one agency/entity—all need to be involved!
- Education Workgroup (Mike Moorman)
 - Goal is to get best message out to broadest audience

- Making sure we have tier one information to provide
- Myriad of information from all sectors
 - GISD posts this on website
 - Still some conflicting information between agencies
- 30 day priority
 - Developing FAQs for parents & families for dealing with impact of lead on kids, using most credible sources we can find
 - Need to reach broader community as well as parents and children
- 60 day priorities
 - Measure community's knowledge and needs
 - Survey
 - Finding there is still a great need for filters and testing kits
 - Identify implications of line replacements, long term impacts of exposure
- 90 day priorities
 - Develop simple messages with best and most updated information
 - Communication workgroup can then disseminate these messages
- Physical Health (Tamara Brickey)
 - Public health focus overlaps with many other workgroups
 - Everything affects health—challenge is to find a way to work closely with other groups
 - Currently working with health/medical/education matrix created by community partners
 - In line with recovery matrix
 - Outlined needs in community
 - Working with a 1 year/5 years/10 years timeline
 - Adding timeframes to goals
 - Majority of attention is on population ages 0-6, can now give attention to other groups in need that are still a priority (i.e. adult population)
 - Physicians in community not always sure where to direct adults and seniors
 - Resiliency in community

- False narrative being painted of Flint
 - Everyone has been a victim, but are not forever victims
 - Many are feeling victimized, not being given clear instructions about how to take care of their families
 - Goal of group is to frame action with empowerment and supporting resiliency of community
 - When national spotlight is gone and funding dwindles, need to focus on sustainable efforts
- Mental Health Workgroup
 - Flint Community Resilience Group
 - Several subgroups
 - Stress management (for overwhelmed providers)
 - Faith based group
 - Data and gap analysis group
 - Psychological first aid group (for first responders, people without clinical training)
 - Vulnerable Populations group
 - Access group
 - GHS, Catholic Charities providing services
 - Working on building capacity
 - Working on Medicaid expansion
- Coordination Workgroup (Tony Lasher)
 - Consists of points of contacts in workgroups and state partners
 - Works to make sure communication between groups is working
 - If group gets stuck on particular issue, these meetings can facilitate larger discussion/collaboration
 - Meet every Tuesday at 2 pm at Red Cross building
 - All workgroups share 30/60/90 goals in meetings
 - Outreach teams
 - Representation from each of workgroups can form 1-3 outreach teams
 - Teams can go strategically out into community to share information and updates
 - Identify 2-4 people to be part of these outreach teams within each workgroup

- This group is not a deciding body—facilitates discussion

Questions & Comments

- Water faucets
 - Plumbers & pipefitters union received faucet donations
 - Replacing faucets in homes as needed
 - If faucet donations wanted, can be put on Good360 list
 - Flintplumber.org, 211 has information about requesting a faucet and installation
 - Need to have follow up, especially for the elderly, homebound, or other individuals who don't have digital/telephone access
- Communication and Education—integrating efforts to reach adult populations
- Communications & data gap analysis request: anyone doing data collection please speak with point of contact person in mental health group
- Michigan Works: case managers need information about how to find job applications
 - Press release about employment opportunities for Flint residents
 - Go to Michigan Talent (state site for job openings), see Facebook account for Michigan Works as well
 - Michigan Works building also has physical copies of information
 - Positions available:
 - Support team leader
 - Administrative specialist
 - Delivery staff (loading water)
 - Truck drivers (Food Bank)
 - Not jobs—work experience
 - Individuals need to qualify for a federal jobs program
 - Accepting applications until positions are filled
 - Starting staffing with higher positions, working way down from there
 - Need to widely publicize these positions
- First Presbyterian Church
 - Requests from celebrities to get involved with crisis beyond just sending water

- Hoping to host an event in the summer (possibly at Atwood Stadium) with sports celebrities to do activities with children, have informational resources for parents
- If anyone has had celebrities reach out to you, can possibly collaborate for this event
- Contact: Kim Skaff (kskaff@fpcf.org)
- Currently being distributed at fire stations:
 - State flyers on pregnancy, pets, maintaining filters
 - Translations available online (helpforflint.com)
 - Hmong, Mandarin, Arabic, Spanish currently available
 - Detroit Free Press has printed 18 page information packet

Government Partners Updates

- Tom Weber (state/volunteer agency liaison)
 - Still finalizing transition plan for fire stations
 - Want to get facilities that are better logistically situated to distribute from
 - FEMA working with state on planning for pods
 - Working on two sheet handout for potential pods about logistical/tracking requirements and liability expectations
- Jason Gamble (FEMA)
 - FEMA's roles and activities
 - On January 16 president declared emergency for Genesee County
 - Authorizes FEMA to provide filters/water/test kits for 90 days (ending April 14)
 - Focal point of logistics operation is state staging area near Detroit, receiving commodities from other FEMA locations
 - Have personnel supporting HHS efforts
 - Working closely with Recovery Resource Workgroup to support distribution plan that is being developed to transition to 9 new locations
 - Potential locations are mapped out
 - Earl Zuelke (FEMA)
 - HHS designated as lead federal agency
 - FEMA supporting HHS with complex, long term issues

- Federal agencies working under their own authorities and programs, need to work with state and local counterparts
- Tony Voirin (Federal Health Coordinating Officer)
 - Lead coordinator for federal government for anything not related to commodity supplies
 - HHS, EPA, FEMA, USDA, other departments providing support
 - Public health service officers worked with mental health group
 - Working with physical health group
 - Medicaid waiver allows for an additional 15,000 people to be enrolled in Medicaid
 - Head Start Program—broadening access and enhancing services
 - Support county health on rash investigation
 - Funding to federal health centers
 - Funding to USDA fresh fruits & vegetables program, adding more Flint schools to program
 - Working with communications group
 - Full transparency over communication content and timing
 - Working with education group
 - Make sure they have access to what federal government is saying
 - Working with coordination group
 - Getting feedback from different groups
 - Contact: anthony.voirin@hhs.gov
- Diane Russell (EPA)
 - EPA here to get usable/drinkable water to people's homes
 - Focusing on getting system back up and running
 - Communicating with community
 - **Planning an open house for Saturday, March 12, 10 am – 5 pm**
 - Booths from various agencies (federal, state, local)
 - Provide information about current situation of drinking water system
 - If anyone has a lead about a location for this event please send email: russell.diane@epa.gov
 - Working with Red Cross partners to have fliers going into distribution centers

Reminders/Announcements

- **Flint People's Hearing**
 - March 5, Quinn Chapel AME Church, 2101 Lippincott Blvd, 4:00 p.m.
 - Organized by Michigan Faith in Action and Flint Rising
 - Excellent opportunity to go out and hear voice of community
- For workgroups
 - Send dates of next workgroup meetings to Tony Lasher
 - Outreach teams
 - Workgroups should bring plans for their outreach teams to Tuesday coordination meeting
 - Need to go where people are
- Any group doing door to door distributions, please let Chrissy Cooper know (ccooper@ccsgc.org)
 - Need to get under one roof
- Two upcoming opportunities (flyers available)
 - Thursday, March 17, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Ebenezer Ministries (2130 Center Rd., Flint 48509)
 - Panel discussions with community members, children
- Thursday, March 10, UM Flint North Bank Center, 432 N. Saginaw St., 4:30 p.m.
 - Panel including Dan Kildee, Nayyirah Sharriff, and Val Washington
- Michigan Works
 - Need to keep checking about work experience positions
 - Positions will continue to roll out on website
- MSU app
 - MSU researchers have developed an app to provide relevant information
 - Available for Android and Apple iOS
 - Can be found on empowerflint.org