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NEWSROOM

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

MEETINGS AND AGENDAS

E-NEWSLETTER

EVENT CALENDAR

April 10, 2013

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April 24 luncheon meeting set to equip faith-based organizations for hurricane season

A luncheon meeting designed to equip faith-based organizations for the upcoming hurricane season will take place on Wednesday, April 24, from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Sarasota County Administration Center, Emergency Operations Command Center, sixth floor, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. There is no charge for the event, and registration begins at 11:30 a.m.

A group of local experts will present the most current strategies for emergency preparedness to help ensure that churches, synagogues and other faith-based organizations have an effective response for their communities.

Sarasota County Emergency Management Chief Ed McCrane will provide an overview of Sarasota County Emergency Management and a glimpse into this coming hurricane season, which officially begins on June 1. Sarasota Police Chief Bernadette DiPino will discuss security and community safety; Rev. Marion R. Sortore of Charlotte Harbor Trinity United Methodist Church will speak about the importance of identifying your role, based on her experiences during a flood event that impacted her church community; and Mindi Rohan of Volunteer Community Connections and Daniel Compana of Face Ministries will discuss how people in the community can get involved.

Volunteer Community Connections is the lead organizer of this event. Sponsoring organizations include Sarasota County government, Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), the Sarasota Community Alliance of Sarasota County and the Sarasota Ministerial Association. Lunch is being provided by Symphony Salvage, a distributor of wearable items to needy children and families globally.

The Sarasota Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) is a network of community organizations working together to promote the efficient, streamlined service delivery and coordination throughout the four phases of disaster: preparation, response, recovery and mitigation. The Sarasota COAD continually prepares for any type of hazard response, which may include pandemics, terrorism, natural disasters, mass casualties and others.

The COAD was created after Sarasota County participated in the response and recovery effort following Hurricane Charley. The COAD member organizations engage community leaders in discussions to document the lessons learned. They also look for ways to foster partnerships and streamline response and recovery processes to support Sarasota County Emergency Management if -- and when -- a weather-related or other type of disaster hits Sarasota County.

To register for the April 24 meeting or for more information about disaster volunteer needs, call Volunteer Community Connections at 941-953-5965 or email info@vccflorida.org by Monday, April 21.

For more information about the Sarasota COAD, visit the organization's website at www.sarasotacoad.org

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