



# Centralina Regional Resilience Collaborative Workshop

## Meeting Notes

### Meeting Information

November 15, 2023  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.

### Meeting Attendees

- Christina Danis, Centralina
- Kate Fersinger, Centralina
- Benj Korson, IEM
- Jeanne Bunting, IEM
- Katie Canady, IEM
- Dietz Miller, IEM
- Andrew Ansley
- John Crew, NCEM HAZ mitigation Manager
- Chelsea Helton
- Robert Graham
- Ian Crane
- Jason Burnett
- Kaine Riggan, BREC
- Rodney Diggs
- Sara Scheirer

### Work Recap

- Compile list of attendance in future meetings,
- Starting annual review process of annual resilience roadmap

### NCEM Update

- Kaine and Chris brought in as partners after working in a vacuum. We want to support the state in the path to resiliency.
  - o They will discuss where we are with FEMA BRIC and Grants, and contracts to be updated in the 5-year update process.
- **Kaine**
  - o 33 construction projects from LOI to full application
  - o 11 building and capacity grants
  - o 7 projects that were not selected last year are up for selection again this year.
    - FEMA gives feedback on why projects were not funded. This gives opportunity for improvement.



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- Flood mitigation and assistance LOI is open until December. This will fund projects and capacity building. This contains everything leading up to construction. This is a \$2million dollar state allocation selected by state panels.
  - Allows individual processes to continue. Difference between FMA and BREC is that FMA is directly tied to the National Flood insurance programs.
  - Grants Letter of Interest Form - NCDPS.gov/BRIC has templates that allow businesses to request information from FEMA.
  - Get an LOI in by December 1<sup>st</sup>
- Centralina is proactive in holding workshops.
- **Chris Crew (NCEM)**
  - Map of NC that shows numerous organizations in counties and different regions.
  - 2005 we took over a project to consolidate 156 Hazard mitigation plans that are now 32 Regional Hazard mitigation plans.
    - Any participating community needs an approved and adopted plan.
    - NC is the only state with 100% county coverage approved at the time.
  - **13 regional plans covering 50 counties will be expiring before November 2025.**
    - There are 4 plans that will affect Centralina plans.
    - 18 months before expirations, planning meetings start occurring with stakeholders to begin the process of renewing plans.
      - Needs stakeholders from all categories to participate in order to not fall short during grant talks.
      - Needs to broaden stakeholder participation in this process.
    - New FEMA guidance came out in April 2023, looking to delve deeper into equity issues that affect underrepresented populations. There are 17 groups that are underrepresented.
      - Need to determine who is underrepresented in regions and counties.
    - Identify particular impacts of a changing climate on operations.
      - Droughts and rainfall
      - Heat injuries
  - **Heat Impacts on populations**
    - Could this be connected to a public alert system?
    - Volunteer registry in EM departments – How to create a bridge between disasters, aging populations, and the gap in understanding how a public alert system brings awareness.
      - Process on outreach relies heavily on the National Weather Service.
    - Value of these plans is not the document; the value is in the process of meetings and collaboration to create these plans.
      - Local Governments develop connections.
      - All counties are going through a process to develop an HMP (?)



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- **COG**
  - Helps Local Gov staff with FEMA PA Requirements to ensure local issues are addressed.
  - Assists Local Gov leaders to identify Recovery Staff and day to day responsibilities.
  - Getting trained in Early December 2023. Each COG will reach out to local government units to train between January – June 2024. Ranges from in person to individual training.
- **16 PA Recovery Modules**
  - Modules that define certain steps and processes to ensure proper guidance is followed.
  - Ranges from Public Assistance to Training exercises overview.
- **COG PA Training -> Resilience Road Map**
  - Organizing to planning to managing recovery programs.
  - Accesses capabilities quicker than previously.
  - Robert Graham
    - Issues with COVID reimbursement.
    - Could be an opportunity to put out a survey of all jurisdictions to see where they are on recovery dollars from COVID.
    - Currently fighting with FEMA. We used contractors from the city. FEMA gave us pushback for this.
    - FEMA had told us to do what we need to do.
    - There is an opportunity to get what is being sought for recovery in counties and creating a recovery program.
    - We need to understand the challenges we had to be prepared for the next big event.
- **Centralina Local Gov PA Training Dates**
  - Project overview Dec 12, 11:00 AM EST on Zoom
  - Two full day trainings offered at Centralina Offices on Jan 23 and Feb 8, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- **Resilience roadmap**
  - Left off when everyone completed Improvement Plans.
  - IEM would like for the Plans to be reviewed and adjusted as necessary.
- **Roadmap Progress**
  - IEM asks stakeholders to score their activity and information between 1-4.
  - The target is a median score of 2. The aggregate score is now 2.07.
- **Improvement Planning Insights**
  - IEM needs stakeholders to go back to Ips and their targets. Look through at progress and assessments made. Determine the status of where the plans are through the Planning Insights.
- **Road Map Heads Up**
  - A column will be added on the right side of the table to update the score and provide reasons why the score was listed as it was.



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- This will also include a place to identify lessons learned and best practices.
- Information will be aggregated again and create an overview of the region where best practices and issues can be identified.
- **Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Timeline**
  - Focus is on Health and Social Services
- **Health and Social Services Committee Annex**
  - Coordinate with providers in community to connect needs for volunteers, family assistance, etc.
  - Provide easily accessible information to the public to help recovery.
- **Subcommittee Partners**
  - Each subcommittee should identify Lead and Support Agencies. Identify and assign as appropriate.
- **State and Federal Partners**
  - If state or federal support is needed, this list holds agencies to reach out to.
- **Annex Elements**
  - Focus on Mission, objectives, partners, subcommittee and its own subsections.
- **Donations and Volunteers Subcommittee**
  - Objective is to manage solicited and unsolicited donations and volunteers to help with Recovery.
  - Involves coordinating with local NGOs, local VOADs, Faith Based Communities, and community-based organizations and developing strategies to manage volunteers and financial donations.
- **Donations and Volunteers Activities**
  - Focus on pre-disaster phases such as resources or services available from partners and understanding the resources they do and don't have.
  - Put together a list of messages prepared for sending out during a disaster.
  - Pre identify staging areas for storage and volunteers.
  - Transition between short- and long-term recovery. Some groups will send out information regarding what is and what is not needed.
- **Individual and Family Services Subcommittee**
  - Helps social services and local VOAD take leadership roles in the events of a recovery.
    - They have the abilities to connect with providers.
- **IFSS Phased Activities**
  - Coordinate messaging, animal care, sheltering, reunification.
  - Coordinate to ensure local community can communicate to local groups of people specific to towns.
- **Public Health and Medical Services Subcommittee**
  - Supports local healthcare providers and provides info on health-related issues.
  - Supports local healthcare providers in reestablishing services and support.
  - Broad, includes state, local, and private agencies that focus on health.
- **PHMSS Phased Activities**



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- Make sure Continuity plans are up to date, this will ensure services will get back up and running.
- Build relationships and establish a Health emergency Workgroup to build familiarity.
- Public messaging alerts and PODs can be organized.
- Mobile Health providers can scout locations where underrepresented populations live.
- **Schools and Academic Institutions and Subcommittee**
  - Provides recovery support to local school districts, private schools, and higher education.
  - Pre-disaster phase involves creating an education emergency workgroup.
  - Provides assistance by promoting individual and family preparedness.
  - Transition phase supports planning between schools and what to expect from the recovery process.
  - Viable shelter locations, can provide information regarding shelter capacity, available for pets, etc.
- **Action Items**
  - Evaluate templated structure, modify as needed.
  - Review your county information.
  - Determine lead and support agencies, make sure they get involved.
- **Next Workshop #7**
  - Annex D: Housing Committee Annex
    - Housing availability and needs assessment.
- **Questions**
- **Action Items**
  - Encourage to begin planning for next year's NOFO now.
  - Provide status of HMGP updates
  - Centralina
    - Register at Centralina website.
    - Project overview December 12 at 11:00 AM on zoom
    - Two full day trainings at Centralina Offices
      - January 23
      - February 8
  - PRDP
    - Evaluate templated structure, modify as needed.
- **Next Meeting**
  - January 17 @ 10 AM
- **Closing comments**
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