#### Responding to Disasters: Lessons Learned



Cindy Machado, Marin Humane
Bryan Bray, Ventura County Animal Services
Brian Whipple, Sonoma County Animal Services
Ryan Soulsby, Butte County Animal Services
Henry Brzezinski, El Dorado County Animal Services





#### **GRAB BAG CONTENTS:**

- \* Emergency ID Information
- \* Multipurpose Knife
- + Hat
- Extra Gloves
- Rubber Gloves
- \* Face Masks
- Safety Goggles
- Note Pads with Extra Pens
- ★ Large Bandanas
- ★ Flashlights Batteries Separated
- ★ Headlamp and Hand-Held





#### **Community Preparedness**

- Identify and work with local groups, organizations and non-profits.
- Establish effective community outreach methods.
- Create dedicated disaster preparedness page on agency's website.
- Develop instructional videos or PSAs to distribute to the public.
- Identify groups or communities who may need additional resources.

# Disaster Service Worker Volunteers

- Create an Emergency Volunteer Program.
  - Ensure several volunteers have large and small animal handling experience.
- Schedule regular training sessions.
- Hire a part-time Emergency Volunteer
   Coordinator to manage the program.
- www.vcas.us/EVRT





#### **Donation Management**

- Assign donation manager.
  - Ability to message supplies needed.
- Advertise what items are needed and not needed.
  - Indicate quantities and drop off location.
- Coordinate with EOC for requesting additional resources.

## Mental Health Support

- Ensure staff are aware of assistance programs available through your department.
- Check-in with staff regularly.
- Provide debriefs or after-action meetings.
- Maintaining a limited schedule.
  - EXAMPLE: 12 hours on and 12 hours off.
- Donuts are always good!



# Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Start with local partners
- Define Roles and Responsibilities
- Resources. Who has what?
- Think Regionally
- Reimbursement
- Update Contact Lists Regularly

#### **MOUs with National Organizations**

- Excellent Resource
- Develop MOU's with all the National Organizations
- Start Mobilizing them Early
- Be clear as to what role they will have



# facebook





#### **Social Media**

- Provides information and instructions for community members
- Aids community through education, preparation, and information
- Creates opportunities for funding and replenishment of supplies used during the eventual control of th
- Increase in staff/volunteer/community mora
- Work directly with designated PIO's on messaging
- Everything must be signed off by your PIO before the message goes out

#### **Agency Preparedness**

- What is your agency's responsibilities?
- Standard Processes
  - Intake, field response, RTO
- EXPANSION PLANS
  - 2.5 animals per household
- Experience is something you get right after you need it
- Expect the worst then multiply by two



#### ORGANIZATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Prepared by the CalAnimals
Emergency Management Committee

March 2021

Sponsored by:





### **Liability & Legalities**

- TOP Priorities
  - SAFETY, SAFETY
  - Documentation & Identification
- What is your hold period?
  - Live and Deceased
- P.C. 597.1? Entering Homes?
- Fostering, Fostering owned Animals?



#### Forms, Finance, & Facts



- Paperwork is a must!!
  - ICS 214, Sign In & Much More
- FEMA reimburse 75%
  - County 25% off set
- Mutual Aid documentation
- Communicating to ALL
  - Facts, Data !!!!
    - AP / Sit Stat

#### **Standardized Command**

#### What is you Command Structure- ICS?

- Who do you report to?
- Operations, Logistics,
   Planning, Finance
- Information Priority- Evac vs Shelter
- Documentation- Data reporting
- Span of control- 3-7







# Pre-planning

- B) Staff Training
- I. Fire line safety
- II. FEMA 100, 200, 700, 800
- III. Table Tops
  - 1. Fire Safe Councils
  - 2. Other agencies
- C) Site Evaluations
- D) Regional Partners

#### **Pre-planning**

- E) Local DSWs/Animal Welfare Groups/Search and Rescue
  - I. Proper training in advance
  - II. Assistance in many facets
    - 1. Phone banks
    - 2. Livestock care
    - 3. Support roles on site



#### Response



- a) Local assistance
- b) Ramping up
- c) After action MOUs-advising
- d) CVERT/CVMRC
- e) CalAnimals
- f) American Humane Rescue
- g) HSUS
  - Post event care MOU

### OC representation

# eld Evac Unit

#### ost Event

Grants for kennels
Vaccine clinics
Community outreach



# To reach the CalAnimals Emergency Management Committee contact:

Jill Tucker, CAWA
CEO
jill@calanimals.org
805-214-6200

