

**Baldwin County VOAD
Long Term Recovery Team
April 8, 2005
Meeting Notes**

Brenda Lee, Chairman, (United Way) called the meeting to order. Others present included
Ron Baughman (UMC Disaster Recovery Ministry)
Edith Belder (The Salvation Army)
Bridget Brown (American Red Cross)
Diane Clewell (American Red Cross)
Samuel B. Farley, Jr. (Community Action Agency)
Amelia Fletcher (Gulf Shores UMC)
Ed Lakeman (Project Rebound)
Pamla Meredith (Ecumenical Ministries)
James Mullins (Long Term Recovery)
Kay Palmer (Christian Service Center)
Jean Peercy (Lutheran Disaster Response)
Tommy Puckett (AL Baptist State Convention)
Clyde Pressley (UMCDRM)
Michele Prockup (Catholic Social Services)
Faye Robinson (RSVP)
Tyson Reed (Island Church Recovery Team)
Troy Vesper (UMCDRM)
Clayton Young (guest)
Verlee Young (Long Term Recovery)

Ms. Lee welcomed members and introduced John Logan of Mobile Crew Units, who invited the group outside to tour a construction trailer used for disaster relief and FEMA.

Ms. Prockup reported that Catholic Social Services has received \$40,000 of a requested \$100,000 grant. This has allowed them to hire an administrative assistant through a temporary agency.

Mr. Reed told members that a grant has been received from Operation Blessing to construct two mobile shower units for volunteer work crews.

Ms. Lee shared a video presentation which was given at the United Way of America Convention in Dallas. The same video was viewed by Baldwin County Mayors. An edited version will be shown at the Regional Long Term Recovery meeting scheduled for Friday, April 15, in Bay Minette.

Since Hurricane Ivan made landfall, Long Term Recovery has held twenty meetings involving fifty different groups, represented by one hundred twenty-seven individuals, according to Ms. Lee.

Ms. Young asked the group for discussion regarding the impact of the April 1 and 6 flooding on Long Term Recovery services. The consensus of the group was that flood victims would be treated as any non-Ivan clients, and referred to the appropriate social service agencies. The temporary administrative assistant is entering information in the disaster software. The case of an eighty-one year old woman from Summerdale, which was presented at last meeting, has been cleared for building. Habitat has shared floor plans, and projected cost for the rebuild is \$30,000. Approximately \$20,000 has been committed from various sources. (Following the meeting, UMCDRM committed for \$2,000.) Ms. Young will work with Mr. Reed and Ms. Fletcher to plan volunteer labor. Mayor Wilson, of Summerdale, has said that city fees will be waived for this project.

Ms. Lee introduced Jean Peercy, of Lutheran Disaster Services. Ms. Peercy and her husband are regional construction coordinators, and will help with planning for the current case rebuild.

Mr. Reed told members that three projects are to be completed today, and more can be accomplished when construction assessment is available.

A Construction Coordinator position is to be filled for Long Term Recovery. This will be a part time position which will be paid per job. A job description will be forthcoming.

Mr. Mullins reported that a truckload of shingles has been received. Some vinyl "billboard" tarps, donated by Lamar Advertising, are still available, and a pallet was delivered at Fish River-Marlow Volunteer Fire Department. Flood buckets have been delivered to the Volunteer Fire Departments at Styx River and Fish River-Marlow.

Regional Long Term meeting is scheduled for next Friday, and Mr. Mullins needs a head count as soon as possible in order to finalize arrangements. Each Long Term Recovery Team in the area will be given the opportunity to give a presentation.

The Baldwin County Long Term Recovery Team information flyer is now available in Spanish, for distribution by agencies.

Ms. Prockup explained the Emergency Relief timeline projection for disaster immediate response, emergency relief, and recovery operations, indicating that recovery from Hurricane Ivan may take more than two years.

Ms. Fletcher told members that Gulf Shores United Methodist Church plans to sponsor Camp Noah for children who reside from Foley south in Baldwin County. The camp is designed for children who have been impacted by disaster, and is a one-week long day camp to be held the week of July 11. Children who have completed grades 1-5 will be invited to participate.

Ms. Meredith asked about the use of church youth groups for minor repairs and cleanup. The consensus of the group was that most recovery is past the point of simple cleanup, and the liability of dealing with teen groups was too great. Any youth group that comes in will need to be sponsored by a local congregation of their denomination.

Mr. Lakeman reported that Project Rebound is meeting with FEMA representatives to determine whether the elderly and handicapped had difficulty getting help from FEMA following the storm. He may ask specific agencies to provide names of clients for interviews.

There will be no meeting next week because of the regional meeting. Next meeting was set for April 22, 10:00 a.m., at the United Way office in Foley.