Southern Tier/Finger Lakes Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Meeting Notes
January 12, 2016

Present: Kristin Card (Chemung Fire & Emergency Services), Zack Housworth (ProAction), David Isbell (NYS OEM), Belinda Hoad (IHS), Judy Coleman (American Red Cross), Karen Travis (Steuben Public Health), Tim Marshall (Steuben EMO), Ken Forenz (Steuben EMO), Lynda Lowin (Catholic Charities Steuben), Carol Wood (IHS).

Introductions were made and all were welcomed.

Kristin Card gave a demonstration of NY Responds, which is a mechanism by which localities may escalate community needs (anticipated or actual) in a disaster to the state as a request for assistance. The system aids in preplanning and response and is tied to declarations of states of emergency. Each county has access to the system which used to be called DLAN and is integrated with the NYS Watch Center. Reports may be updated as the situation warrants, and various additional functions/resources (Status Board, Documentation, Bulletins, etc.) are accessible from within the system.

Carol Wood distributed the 2-1-1 HELPLINE Disaster Resource Guide Table of Contents for review & suggestions.

The Governor’s Executive Order on Homeless Sheltering was discussed as well. It became effective January 3, 2016 and applies to homeless individuals where the temperature is 32 degrees or below. (Each county’s homeless shelter access point is listed in the 2-1-1 HELPLINE database and searchable at www.211helpline.org.)

Additional information on David Whalen’s Disability Awareness Training (Niagara University) is not yet available.

Next meetings – 50 Liberty Street, Bath, NY

April 21, 2016 – 1:00 pm
July 21, 2016 – 1:00 pm
October 20, 2016 – 1:00 pm

For meeting notes, resources & other documents: www.ihsnet.org (Services, ST-FL VOAD)