



**Maryland Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (MDVOAD)  
Annual Meeting  
Friday, 08 December 2006**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

This annual meeting of MDVOAD was held at the Maryland Food Bank in Halethorpe, MD.

**CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS – Kevin Burr**

**BUDGET REPORT – Scott Knox:** Income (dues) = \$2,450.00; Expenses (NVOAD Conference, PO box, meeting expenses, website) = \$1,612.12. MDVOAD fund balance: \$15,341.52. Please get your new membership or membership renewal forms in to Scott. Form available on [www.mdvoad.org](http://www.mdvoad.org).

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2007:** Executive Committee for 2007 will be: Kevin Burr, Chair; Wayne Flickinger, Vice-Chair; Scott Knox, Treasurer; Steve Welzant, Secretary.

**2007 NVOAD CONFERENCE:** Will be held in Albuquerque, NM, April 17-22 2007. MDVOAD will be represented, ARC will present on the emergency repatriation event at BWI.

**WEBSITE UPDATE – Steve Welzant:** The website has been revamped thanks to new web design software purchased by MDVOAD. 2006 MDVOAD Resource Directory is linked to the website, please review your organization's info in the directory and forward updated info to [swelzant@co.ba.md.us](mailto:swelzant@co.ba.md.us). An updated MDVOAD Resource Directory will be released early next year, and will include recently joined orgs.

**NVOAD PILOT GRANT PROJECT -** A group consisting of representatives from MDVOAD, volunteer centers, and Anne Arundel County's Office of Emergency Management (lead agency) met to discuss participating in a Citizen Corps/National VOAD Community Capacity Building Project.

The group created and submitted a project plan, which has been approved. Under our project plan, a Train the Trainer session for jurisdictional leads for disaster volunteer management will be developed and provided in up to four geographically diverse locations in and around central Maryland. The training will focus on how to effectively locate, access, and manage disaster volunteers. Attendees will then develop and provide their own training to their local non-profit and governmental agencies (potentially in partnership with neighboring jurisdictions). The target audience for this second round of training is local agencies - we will need the support of MDVOAD members and local Citizen Corps to identify and recruit this audience. There will be limited (up to \$500 per training) funding available for this second round of training.

**REGIONAL COORDINATION – Ollie Davidson (HSUS):** DC VOAD meeting recently held (two since being re-energized). Animal info will be added to National Shelter Database being developed by ARC and FEMA. Orgs should compile comments on the National Response Plan and funnel them up through their orgs to DHS, they would be more likely to get noticed and considered that way. Discussion about fraternal orgs (Kiwanis, Lions, etc.) being asked to join, but they don't have disaster recovery assistance in their charters.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- ❑ ESF 15 – MOU between the State of Maryland and Adventists is still being worked on and progress is being made.
- ❑ Long-Term Recovery – No report
- ❑ Membership and Outreach – Let Mickey Gomez ([mickey@volunteerhoward.org](mailto:mickey@volunteerhoward.org)) know if you know of a group interested in coming to a MDVOAD meeting or if there is a group out there that is interested.

## **AGENCY REPORTS:**

Instant Access Networks, LLC: Chuck Manto provided briefing on Electro-Magnetic Pulse (EMP) and how to protect critical systems from it ([www.stop-emp.com](http://www.stop-emp.com)).

Adventist Community Services: Donations management training upcoming in January.

In Jan. ACS is sponsoring the National Organization for Victim's Assistance (NOVA) Crisis Response Training on Jan. 23rd-25th 2007 from 8:30-5:30 at Adventist World Headquarters, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904. For registration or information call (301) 879-2058 or email [stevewillsey@comcast.net](mailto:stevewillsey@comcast.net). This is a great opportunity; the price is just \$200 instead of the usual \$500.

Lutheran Disaster Response: Continuing to work with Katrina evacuees, let LDR know if there are any Katrina victims in need.

Volunteer Center Serving Howard County: The Volunteer Center Serving Howard County in partnership with the GOSV, CERN (Howard County's Citizen Corps), Newtown Church and The ARC of Howard County used a GOSV grant during September's Preparedness month to collect supplies, assemble and distribute 80 Disaster Grab and Go Kits for individuals with disabilities. The Center also held a Disaster Volunteer Fair at the East Columbia Library on Saturday, October 21st as part of Howard County's Community Readiness Week. The Center will host a meeting of community members who are affiliated with disaster response agencies on Saturday, January 27, 2007 from 10am - 1pm at the Clarksville Fire Station Community Room. More information can be found at [www.volunteerhoward.org](http://www.volunteerhoward.org) or by calling Pam at 410-715-3179.

Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism: Preparing for transition for the new administration.

Angel-Flight/Mercy Medical Airlift: Jon Hoffman briefed everyone on what they do. They are an emergency transportation service for emergency responders and health professionals. They transport vital cargo to help save lives. They offer free transport for those who need critical medical treatment, but cannot afford to purchase plane tickets. Website: <http://www.hseats.org>

Baptist Convention of MD/DE: They provided assistance in Buffalo following recent heavy snow event.

We Care Ministries: They are attempting to partner local governments with churches so there will be EOC representation that can focus on coordinating volunteer requests.

American Red Cross: Currently reorganizing...there will still be regional chapters, but are adding community chapters.

Maryland Department of Disabilities: 325 people attended recent statewide conference, good cross-representation, and more deaf/blind attendees than before. We are hopeful that these conferences will become a bi-annual or annual event, depending on available funding. Hoping to establish disability-planning groups in all Maryland jurisdictions.

Maryland State Animal Response Team: MD SART is a 501[c] 3 corporation that has been formed in Maryland to plan for and manage the response to any animal issue that may occur during any type of disaster in Maryland. The concept of SART will be transmitted to the county level where County Animal Response Teams (CARTS) will be formed (A.A County CART is well underway). SART/CART will bring organization, credentialing and expertise to work with emergency manager and community based disaster organizations to manage the animal-related disaster and emergency situations. Contacts: Jacob Casper DVM or Ron Sohn

MDSART, c/o- Management Alliance,  
8015 Corporate Drive, Suite A  
Baltimore, MD 21236-5917  
[MDSART@managementalliance.com](mailto:MDSART@managementalliance.com)

Civil Air Patrol: Supported ARC relief actions in St. Mary's County following summer storms.

Maryland Food Bank: New director will take over 2/5/07. Bill Ewing retires as Director. \$17K collected from fans at Ravens/Falcons game, Steve McNair gave \$5K check. Member - America's Second Harvest Disaster Team.

Maryland Department of Human Resources: Working with Lutheran Disaster Services to provide relief to Katrina victims. Using Social Security Block Grant Funds to assist applicants of Hurricane Katrina, Wilma and Rita. Referrals are coming into the DHR Emergency Command Center where volunteer staff is available to take the calls. Referrals are also being received from the Local Department of Social Services; Lutheran Social Services, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, local Churches and community organizations. Anyone who would like to refer survivors of Hurricanes Rita, Wilma or Katrina for assistance may direct calls to 1-888-756-7836. Those wishing to fax information may send your fax to Vikki Rideout at 410-333-6100.

AA County Volunteer Center: Held Volunteer Mobilization Center exercise with amateur radio operators (RACES). In November, held a MD Council of Directors of Volunteer Services training event.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has increased to over 8,000 volunteers. Just purchased an emergency notification system for notifying volunteers. 5/15 prophylactics exercise. Putting together mental health support mech. for returning soldiers.

Volunteer Frederick: Searching for additional grant funds for MRC program. 92 VMC volunteers trained, working on MOU for VMC function.

MD Alliance of Guide Dog Users: Working with MDOD, participating in drills, and continuing to educate and build relationships.

Association of Balt. Area Grantmakers: Evaluating where to target future grants in disaster preparedness.

Baltimore County Volunteer Center: Has distributed over 100,000 pieces of preparedness materials. We continue to push preparedness to the community. 80% of people do not even know where to find disaster preparedness materials.

**THE NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, MARCH 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, 10 AM TO 2 PM AT THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF CENTRAL MD, 4800 MOUNT HOPE DRIVE, BALTIMORE, MD 21215**

**ATTENDEES:**

Kitty Juneau, Steve Stillwell – Adventist Community Services (ACS)	Kevin Burr, Cathy LaFleur – ARC
Vernese Osborne – Baltimore City Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management	Steve Welzant – Baltimore County Fire Department, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Mickey Gomez, Pam Simonson – Volunteer Center Serving Howard County	George Blevins – Baptist Convention of MD/DE
Debbie Staigerwald, Robin Frazier – Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV)	Oliver Davidson – Humane Society of the United States
Barbara Fay – Maryland Department on Disabilities (MDOD)	Joan Lawrence – Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)
Chaplain Imogene B. Stewart – Civil Air Patrol	Wayne Flickinger – Maryland Food Bank
Li-Ping Li – Tzu Chi Foundation	John Hoffman – Mercy Medical Airlift/Angel Flight
Scott Knox – MDVOAD Treasurer	Cecilia Warren, Gary Norman – Maryland Alliance of Guide Dog Users (MAGDU)
Nicholas Chakos, Pascalis “Lee” Papouras – International Orthodox Christian Charities	Michele Kehl – Baltimore County Volunteers
Fay Mauro – Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County	John Johnson – Civil Air Patrol (CAP)
Dr. Jack Casper – Maryland State Animal Response Team (MDSART)	Liz Gibson – FEMA
Jim Dickinson – Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers	Betty Howie – House of Imogene
Bob Schminkey – Presbyterian Church DC/MD/DE	Carol Haag, Cleopatra Prayer-Bullard – Volunteer Frederick
Charles Manto – Instant Access Networks, LLC	Warren Adams – Department of Human Resources (DHR)
Katie Miller-Holland – Lutheran Social Services/NCA	Steve Marshall, Bill Roggenbroot – We Care Ministries