

NJ GAINED

Minutes

Monday June 20, 2016

10:00 a.m. at Project Freedom-Lawrence

Attendance: Kelly Boyd-NJOEM, Yessi Cubillo-QIRN3, Norman Smith-PFI, Esther E Hoffmann, Julie Petix-NJDOH State Coordinator MRC, Wendy Chin-DMHAS, Lyn Scott-Red Cross, Joe Amoroso-DDS, Carina Marzec-DDS

Call to Order and Introductions

Joseph Amoroso

NJ GAINED Updates

1. Follow up on Core Advisory Groups (CAGS) (Joe Amoroso): FEMA is working to move forward with CAGS. In some areas, the Centers for Independent Living (CILS) have taken the initiative to form CAGS. CAGS need to be “grass roots.” The goal is to keep the creation of CAGS moving across the state; CIL involvement is encouraged.
Kelly Boyd wants to discuss CAGS at the July 7, 2016 State Independent Living Council (SILC) meeting; Alliance Center for Independent Living attracts a large number of diverse individuals to their CAG by structuring it around other programs scheduled. CAG meetings can be monthly or quarterly with the option to call-in. Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ) would like to have a representative at all Core Advisory Groups.
Norm Smith and Joe Amoroso discussed the possibility of Project Freedom’s involvement.
2. Sheltering Task Force (Kelly Boyd): All 21 county assessments have been completed. NJ OEM is interested in doing assessments in major cities, and will be meeting soon to discuss the next steps. The final report from the assessments will need to be vetted before being put out. The final report will include problems and best practices.
 - a. An AFN Training will be held at the ROIC on September 15, 2016.

Lyn Scott discussed the challenges with shelters due to a need for materials and funding, collaborating with counties, and a shortage of volunteers which affects many entities. The State wants four shelters per county. At this time, Red Cross can provide two shelters per county.

Julie Petix discussed the importance of After Action Reports for MRC and Red Cross volunteers, and preregistering volunteers. They are currently working with Red Cross for a Memorandum of Understanding.

3. Discussion on new NJ GAINED structure (Joe Amoroso): The new structure for NJ GAINED is more efficient for implementing change, instead of each department or agency individually going back to their individual supervisors to coordinate efforts.
4. All-Hazards Plan Template:(Carina Marzec/Joe Amoroso): Carina Marzec gave a brief overview of the plan template and concepts which are under development. The template is geared towards Independent Living Facilities. The Plan focuses on the crucial aspects of tenant education and individual tenant preparedness as the facilities are independent living. The importance of tenant education was discussed, and how on site service coordination/case management allows for individuals to get benefits and services in place day-to-day, which brings residents into a better position in case of an emergency. Many individuals may be food-insecure and a disaster may further affect their well-being. For example, residents who are enrolled with SNAP and a local food pantry may be able to keep some food on hand for an emergency, or some money to get extra batteries for a flashlight, etc. Carina Marzec and Julie Petix Discussed looking for grants for mitigation for independent living facilities. The next status update will follow at the July NJ GAINED meeting.
5. ESF 6 Meeting (Kelly Boyd): The ESF 6 Meeting is Friday, June 24, 2016 at Red Cross Tinton Falls from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics will include Access and Functional Needs (AFN), Medical Needs Shelters, and feeding.
6. New York AFN Planning lawsuit (Joe Amoroso per Joe Geleta): New York settled a lawsuit for a lack of AFN planning, and came up with a list of recommendations.
 - New Jersey plans to create a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) registry, and is looking to do so in the 2018 funding year.
 - Julie Petix discussed funding through the CDC for mitigation with emerging infectious disease such as Zika.
 - Joe Amoroso discussed the need to move away from the Medical Model, following interaction with CMS post-Sandy, where CMS was concerned that the State did not know the location of all individuals with disabilities within 3 days of Sandy. Some individuals evacuated to areas out of state. There is no system to track individuals, and the autonomy of individuals with disabilities should be considered. Within 5 days all individuals were accounted for.
7. Register Ready (Kelly Boyd): Register Ready users can now upload a picture, and enter additional contacts. Project STORM helps seniors to prepare. It is a training program for preparedness, at the conclusion they receive a kit in a bucket. There is an MOU with Walgreens to fill prescriptions after a disaster. Kelly will forward Register Ready Logo and encourages NJ GAINED participants to share the link and boost participation; she will include instructions on posting the logo. Monmouth County has a special needs registry for police departments, which Delta Development may be able to link to Register Ready. Sustainable Jersey is working to promote Register Ready.

NJ GAINED Member Updates

1. Yessi Cubillo—The annual tabletop exercise for Renal Network, the entity which oversees the quality of care for all dialysis units is coming up; he will email information on it once the dates are set.
2. Julie Petix: The online training for First Responders on working with individuals with access and functional needs is being updated with video clips. Julie will send the link to Joe Amoroso. On June 28th, there will be a one-day training on emerging infectious diseases and an evening session at the Sayreville Fire Academy. The evening session has openings; please email Julie if you are interested in participating. On June 29th, Officer Butt will be presenting, Kelly will check with him to see if he can open the session. The EMS Conference is in November. The Pre-Conference event day is November 16th; Kelly Boyd would like to work with Joe Amoroso to participate. This year's focus is on POD (Point of Distribution), radiation, access and functional needs, and substance abuse. The conference will be at Harrah's in Atlantic City. Joe Amoroso informed Kelly Boyd that DDS would be interested in co-sponsoring a table with NJ OEM.
3. Norman Smith: Norman Smith asked about the active shooter training discussed at previous meetings. Joe Amoroso informed the group it is being repackaged to bring to the public, probably in November.
4. Wendy Chin: NJDRCC.org is now offering half-day training on assessing individuals with access and functional needs, for CEUS.
5. Lyn Scott: Red Cross is ramping up more training, and working on the home fire campaign across the whole state and with the Trenton fire department. Red Cross no longer has alarms for individuals who are Hard of Hearing until a new supplier is located. Red Cross spoke with ARC Mercer, and is working with meals on wheels to get more smoke alarms to clients. Red Cross needs to get information about the program out to groups.

Additional Discussion

Motion to adjourn by Kelly Boyd. Seconded by Julie Petix,. Motion carried.

Upcoming NJ GAINED 2016 Meetings:

Next Meeting: Monday, July 25, 2016 at Project Freedom Lawrence

Monday, August 22, 2016 at Project Freedom Lawrence

Monday, September 26, 2016

Monday, October, 2016

Monday, November 28, 2016

Monday, December 19, 2016