

TGCRVOAD News You Can Use

Jun 23, 2024

No. 16

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

Calendar

Before During After



When & Where: Thursday, June 27th at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas- Houston Branch at 11am.

Guest speaker:

Francisco Sanchez, Associate Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience

Panel discussion (small business resiliency and the importance of a tool like B4DA) **including:**

Joaquin Jaimes,
Manager, Emergency Preparedness, H-E-B
Diana Zarzuelo,
Vice President of Community Philanthropy, Greater Houston Community Foundation

Anyone planning to attend must **[RSVP at this link.](#)**

BEFORE		DURING
Get Ready Before Make sure you are ready to respond and recover before disaster strikes. Get ready	Get involved Before Create a network of partners and set your business up to help others. Get involved	Be informed During Get government, news, weather, utility, transportation and aid updates. Be informed
AFTER		QUICK LINKS
Recover After Take the right steps at the right time to ensure your business's success. Recover	Give back After Find local, regional, state, and national organizations you can be a part of or help. Give back	Before // Alert signups After // Submit state damage assessment https://damage.tdem.texas.gov/ After // Insurance checklist

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What started as a simple opportunity to help Texas Mutual educate their clients in disaster preparedness has evolved into a revolutionary project that will benefit small businesses and individuals across Texas. TEXSAR Team members have been instrumental in this collaborative effort. We are grateful for the partnership with all involved, it's relationships like these that continue to support the future of TEXSAR!

Small business owners in Texas know that running a business can be tough even on a good day. Unfortunately, 40% of small businesses that close in the wake of a disaster never reopen again.

To help ensure Texas businesses have the resources they need to succeed no matter what comes their way, we are excited to announce the launch of BeforeDuringAfter.

BeforeDuringAfter (www.beforeduringafter.com) is a free online resource to help Texas small businesses prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and other unpredictable incidents.

BeforeDuringAfter's features include:

Readiness Roadmap: Essential steps to prepare your business before a disaster strikes.

Get Involved: Ways to support your community and create a network of partners.

Emergency Information: Crucial government, news, weather, utility and transportation updates during a disaster.

Recovery Timeline: The right steps to bounce-back from a disaster.

Giving Guide: Local, regional, state and national organizations to help communities rebuild.

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BeforeDuringAfter is made possible through a public-private partnership between Texas Mutual Insurance Company, TEXSAR (Texas Search and Rescue), the Texas State University Institute for Government Innovation, OneStar Foundation, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, with additional support from Wells Fargo.

Visit www.beforeduringafter.com today

General Membership Meeting July 10, 2024 9:30 – 11:00



City of Houston OEM
5320 N. Shepherd Dr.
Houston, TX 77091

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Regular Business
 - Officer reports
 - New Member Consideration
 - Review of Flooding / Derecho Response and AARs
- Presentations
 - DSHS
 - July Challenge – presentations – what is your 5-day plan before a storm and your 5-day plan afterward?
- Organizational Announcements
- Following the meeting, there will be an opportunity to tour the EOC.

YOU MUST [RSVP](#) and bring a photo ID. Please plan on arriving by 9:15 and RSVP to avoid delays entering this secured location!



<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/7b49f08d9bb74f358b69fcb8823bf7f4>

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Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11th, from 9:30 – 11:00 (location to be announced).

Catholic Charities Disaster Response Academy



Catholic Charities upcoming Disaster Response Academy is set for June 25 & 26 in Houston. There are two tracks. One targets those with little or no disaster case management experience. The other is for seasoned professionals and volunteers, focusing on the changes to IA and working with special populations. Both tracks earn the CCUSA Disaster Case Management Certificate.

(The \$250 fee includes meals and one night's lodging.)

Carol S. Spruell
Training Manager
Consultant @ Catholic Charities USA
Cell 225-303-1431

SBP's Disaster Assistance Program



SBP's Disaster Assistance Program aids survivors through the FEMA appeals process, which can be a very complex and, at times, frustrating process for survivors.

While debris removal and initial cleanup is a top priority right now, helping disaster-impacted communities understand the long-term recovery impact of applying to FEMA and appealing any decision that they do not understand or agree with is of vital importance.

FEMA has recently updated and improved a lot of its processes for all disasters declared after March 22nd of this year, yet it's not currently known if the initial approval rating for FEMA applicants will improve. Historically, there have been high denial rates and low award amounts yet only 4% of FEMA applicants appeal their decision.

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Through their advocacy, SBP knows that FEMA's initial decision is not always final. Over the past three years, SBP has helped over 900 households in 8 different disasters file appeals, and of the decisions made, FEMA has distributed an additional \$4.2MM to those households through appeals.

Appealing FEMA denials or low award amounts is important because after FEMA leaves, the Housing and Urban Development may provide a Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) fund. The CDBG-DR funding is directly linked to the amount of money FEMA has provided to the community. This highlights the importance of appealing not only for individual households but also for the community.

SBP's grant funding enables them to offer free training to survivors and advocates on all FEMA application and appeals-related matters. They also provide free assistance to disaster survivors in the FEMA appeals process. SBP is ready to help individual households and the community as a whole to recover as quickly as possible.

Navigating the Recovery Landscape
SBP's Post-Disaster Training and Assistance

SBP's mission is to assist the most vulnerable disaster and recovery. SBP has several programs that work to assist survivors, especially with disaster-related issues.

SBP's Disaster Assistance Program (DAP) advocates for disaster survivors and provides the resources they need to successfully recover from disaster.

WHY IT MATTERS:
Disaster survivors can apply for Individual Assistance (IA) from FEMA within two months of the date of the disaster declaration. This important benefit must be applied for by December 31st or January 31st, depending on the disaster. If you do not receive IA from FEMA, you may not be able to receive it later.

THE BIG PICTURE:
The more training provided by FEMA after disaster, the more long-term impact assistance for community and economic support-building of homes.

FEMA IA - For Survivors
FEMA IA is a benefit that provides financial assistance to disaster survivors. It is a benefit that is available to disaster survivors who have lost their homes or other property.

Train the Trainer
SBP's Disaster Assistance Program (DAP) provides training to disaster survivors on how to apply for FEMA IA, how to appeal a denial, and how to appeal a low award. This training is available to disaster survivors who have lost their homes or other property.

WE'VE GOT:

- Navigating Federal Assistance (FEMA/IA)
- Understanding the Response Process
- Working with Contractors & Building Fund
- Mold Remediation & Much More!

CONTACT US:
1-800-276-9511
FEMAHELP@SBPUSA.ORG

Were you affected by recent Severe Storms in Eastern Texas?

If you were affected by Severe Storms and Flooding events from April 26, 2024 - today and live in qualified counties: **APPLY TO FEMA for assistance.** If you receive a denial letter or low award amount, **APPEAL!** You may still be eligible for additional assistance.

Qualified Counties of Residence: Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker

SBP can help!
We provide **FREE** support throughout the application and appeals process. A skilled advocate will guide you through the process and file the appeal on your behalf.

Contact us if:

- You need help applying to FEMA - or - you applied for FEMA assistance and received an initial award or response letter.
- You occupied the home at the time of the disaster.

Three ways to connect with our nonprofit support team for FREE assistance:

- SBPUSA.ORG/GETHELP
- FEMAHELP@SBPUSA.ORG
- 1 (800) 276-9511

¿Se vio afectado por las tormentas severas de Texas?

Si usted fue afectado por las tormentas severas e inundaciones del 4/26/2024 hasta hoy y vive en condados (counties) calificados*, **SOLICITE LA ASISTENCIA DE FEMA para obtener ayuda.** Si recibe una carta de denegación o no recibe suficientes fondos, **¡APELE!** Es posible que aún sea elegible para recibir asistencia.

*Condados de residencia calificados: Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker

SBP puede ayudar!
Brindamos apoyo GRATUITO durante todo el proceso de solicitud y apelación. Un asociado capacitado le guiará a través del proceso y presentará la aplicación en su nombre.

Contactémosle si:

- Necesita ayuda para solicitar a FEMA o recibió Asistencia a FEMA y recibió una adjudicación inicial o una carta de respuesta.
- Ocupaba y era dueño o arrendador del hogar al momento del desastre.

Conéctese con nuestro equipo de apoyo para asistencia GRATUITA:

- SBPUSA.ORG/GETHELP
- FEMAHELP@SBPUSA.ORG
- 1 (800) 276-9511

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New Tool!



The Texas Department of State Health Services Public Health Region 6/5s (DSHS PHR 6/5s) is excited to share its recently developed Emergency Communication Aids.

These communication aids provide disaster shelters with a tool to facilitate communication about health and medical needs with nonverbal or limited English-proficient individuals.

If you are interested in receiving FREE physical copies to distribute to your disaster response and AFN partners, please complete the following request form: [Emergency Communication Aid Request Form](#).



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TGCR VOAD Education Roadmap



All Members are encouraged to take the FEMA Emergency Management Courses. Familiarity with these concepts will help tremendously in our ability to communicate, Cooperate, Collaborate, and Coordinate with each other and the jurisdictions governing the people we serve. We have divided the courses up into quarters representing about 7 hours of work a quarter.

First Quarter

- IS-288.C The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management - 1 hour
- IS-100.C Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100 - 2 hours
- IS-700.B An Introduction to the National Incident Management System - 3.5 hours

Second Quarter

- IS-200.C Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 - 4 hours
- IS-800.D National Response Framework, An Introduction - 3 hours

Third Quarter

- IS-2900.A National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Overview - 3 hours
- IS-2200 Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions – 4 hours.
- Harris County's EOC-101,201

Advanced Study

- G-191 Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface – 8 hours (in-person)

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Invitation



JOIN A COMMITTEE

[Join a TGCRVOAD Committee!](#)

All our committees are seeking members. We want all Members to be represented and have a voice in how the TGCRVOAD operates. Do you have anyone in your organization that has a gift in these areas? Please get in touch with the respective committee chair.

COMMUNICATIONS - responsible for the website, newsletter, situational awareness, internal communications, and external communication support. Contact [Gary Flaharty](#).

EDUCATION & TRAINING – responsible for training programs for bi-monthly meetings. Contact [Amanda Groller](#).

INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, & COMMUNITY RESOURCES - responsible for the Membership directory, resources by county, and gap analysis. Contact [Sarah Malcolm](#).

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT - responsible for recruiting Members and Partners and encouraging participation in TGCRVOAD events. Contact [Morgan Zeringue](#).

OPERATIONAL COLLABORATION - support enhancement of Functions in Disaster; interface with the LTRCs. Contact [Debbie Allensworth](#)

STEERING COMMITTEE – Meets six times yearly to advise the Executive Committee; the Executive Committee appoints members to the Steering Committee Contact chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Officers and Committee Chairs

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