



# FBA-NET

Faith Based Action Network of New Hampshire

*Illuminating the work of New Hampshire's  
faith community*

## FBA-NET PARTNERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2008

1:05 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

NH Council of Churches, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH

**Present:** Laura Coleman, FBA-Net President, Dave Grover, NHARNG, Erin Kizer, NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), Amy Moutenot, HSEM, Ernie Zupancic, US Housing and Urban Development, Scott Earnshaw, Concord Stake of the Church of Latter Day Saints, Jack Watts, NH resident and Chichester Congregational Church, Greg Steelman, Lutheran Social Services, David Lamarre-Vincent, NH Council of Churches, Chaplain (LTC) Wayne Santos, NH National Guard, Dick Shannon, NH Catholic Charities, Cathy Hoyt, Volunteer NH and NH VOAD, Sean Simonton, NH Baptist Association and Disaster Relief, Curtis Metzger, HSEM, Craig Everett, Helping Hands Outreach Ministries, Maribeth Boss, Intern -NH Catholic Charities, Karen Testerman, Cornerstone Policy Research.

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### I. Welcome and opening prayer

Dick called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. by welcoming everyone and giving an opening prayer.

### II. Report from the board

Scott provided an overview of items discussed and voted on by the board. Items include adopting a budget, set strategic priorities, established Board committees, and discussed the Website. Scott asked Laura to provide the more specifics in her President's report.

### III. Report on action items

Laura presented the Board-adopted priorities for FBA-Net for 2008 through 2011. These priorities are:

1. To promote faith-based initiatives in New Hampshire, and foster collaboration to ensure sustained resources and the sharing of best practices.
2. To assess and report the value of New Hampshire's faith community.
3. To work with state leaders from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, National Guard, Small Business Administration, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Emergency Management Administration, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management to ensure a coordinated response during disasters, and in delivering services that are designed to strengthen families.

Laura reported that the budget, submitted with FBA-Net's NH Charitable Foundation proposal and emailed to folks upon submission, was adopted as the "bare bones" budget. Laura reported that two board ad hoc committees have been established. The strategic planning committee will convene to identify strategic actions steps and timelines for the strategic plan. The fund development committee will meet to identify fund development strategies and timelines for raising the funds necessary to support the budget.

### IV. Survey/research

In Dominique's absence, Dick provided an update on the collaborative database development efforts that are underway between the NH Charitable Foundation (on behalf of FBA-Net) and the UNH-Manchester student interns. Laura added that she had received a draft schematic of the flow design for the database, and praised the UNH-Manchester student's efforts. The question was raised whether folks would be able to report by category. Laura stated that this was discussed and she believed that it was included in the design.

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### **V. New Hampshire Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) update**

Dick asked Amy and Erin to provide an update to the group on the efforts to develop a COAD tool kit for communities interested in starting a COAD. Erin announced that the next COAD meeting is scheduled for Friday at 10 a.m. The group will review the final manual created for the tool kit along with marketing materials. Two COAD's are established. One in Manchester, and one in the Monadnock region. Amy and Erin met with folks from Rochester in Strafford County about establishing a COAD. At the request of FBA-Net meeting participants, Erin, Amy, and Cathy clarified the definition of what a COAD was - a local community group of organizations committed to establishing a local coordinated response in a time of a disaster. Some asked what the difference was between a Community Emergency Response Team and a COAD. Amy, Erin, and Cathy shared that a CERT provides actual volunteers who conduct first aid, traffic control, etc., where as the COAD member provides a donated product like meals, blankets, etc. The CERT's and the COAD organizations collaborate and share information. Because so many acronyms are used, Laura asked if there was a one page "white paper" with the descriptions of various groups in the state and a listing of definitions for the acronyms. Cathy agreed to forward Laura both documents to distribute to FBA-Net members.

### **VI. The collaborative work between DHHS and faith leaders**

In the absence of Kevin, Dick asked Karen (NH-FBCI Advisory Committee Co-Chair) to provide an update on the work of the local advisory committee. Karen announced that efforts are underway to coordinate community marriage initiatives at the local level. Three work groups have been formed focused on elderly services, youth and family, and emergency preparedness. Laura stated that she had received an email from Kevin that attached a list of state departments. She stated that she contacted Kevin for clarification. Kevin informed her in an email that the intent was for faith leaders participating in the advisory group to select the department(s) they would be interested in working with. To date, Laura has not received an updated list of state departments and faith leaders and asked Karen if she knew the status. She did not and stated that she would follow up with Kevin to find out the status of this "list".

### **VII. Other items**

Ernie announced the release of the Manchester 10-year plan to end homelessness, and provided an overview of how HUD anchors funding to three homeless continuum of care groups in the state. Ernie stated that any organization seeking HUD funding can apply but they must show they are part of one of the continuum of care groups. Funding can be used for different purposes but has been mostly focused on bricks and mortar. Extra points are awards for permanent housing efforts. Folks can access more information through the HUD website.

Greg announced an upcoming LSS fundraiser on April 17<sup>th</sup>. He asked folks to set aside October 6<sup>th</sup> for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual resource fair to spotlight community based elder services.

Wayne announced that between now and August/September, soldiers were leaving and coming back. He informed the group that if churches were interested in getting involved in helping soldiers and their families to contact him.

A suggestion was made to change the May meeting since it was scheduled on a holiday. The group agreed to change the date to Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

The NH Emergency Preparedness conference is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>.

David announced that the state hospital continues to seek two full time chaplains. They have changed the requirements. Interested individuals should contact the state hospital.

Laura announced that two Fall Forum planning ad hoc committees are being established - a speakers committee and a logistics committee. She asked that folks consider volunteering for a committee. She will distribute sign up forms at the next meeting.

### **VIII. Closing prayer**

Dick closed the meeting with a prayer at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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*Laura Coleman*  
*FBA-Net President*