

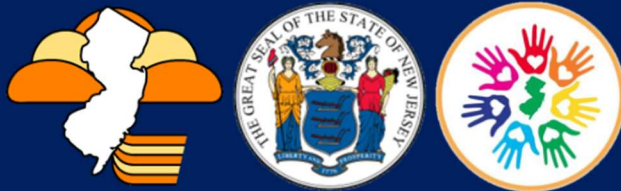
GOVERNOR PHILIP D. MURPHY

LT. GOVERNOR TAHESHA L. WAY  
*SECRETARY OF STATE*

**THE NJ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF VOLUNTEERISM  
AND  
NEW JERSEY VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER  
PRESENT...**



**NJ'S CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY RESILIENCE  
AND VOLUNTEERISM**



**APRIL 11, 2024 | HYATT REGENCY | NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY**

# LETTER FROM NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR AND LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 001  
TRENTON  
08625  
(609) 292-6000

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
GOVERNOR

TAHESHA L. WAY  
LT. GOVERNOR

April 11, 2024

Dear Friends,

It is with great pride that we welcome you to the 2024 Volunteerism Conference *"The Power of Community: Sparking Innovation"* in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

We thank you and the 1.4 million volunteers who serve our communities and our State. Volunteers put compassion into action and help those in greatest need. We truly value your service in food banks and rescue missions, your mentorship of students to help them succeed in school, your environmental stewardship and your response to emergencies and disasters.

Wherever we travel in our Great State, we am privileged to have the opportunity to see and thank you for your service. Today is your day — a time to share your experiences and lessons learned, hear from experts in nearly 30 workshops, and to develop partnerships among the various volunteer sectors. This conference welcomes all non-profits, faith-based organizations, disaster response agencies, schools, colleges and voluntary organizations. We also want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to our national service members and volunteers in AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and our Volunteer Generation Fund Program, as well.

We hope you will have a great day and will return to your communities with new ideas, fresh perspectives and renewed energy and commitment. Best wishes for memorable event and continued success.

Our very best,

  
Philip D. Murphy  
Governor

  
Tahesha L. Way  
Lt. Governor

# LETTER FROM NEW JERSEY VOAD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



New Jersey  
Voluntary Organizations  
Active in Disaster

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1636-44 Route 38, Suite 315  
Lumberton, New Jersey 08048

April 11, 2024

It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to our statewide conference, "The Power of Community: Sparking Innovation," jointly hosted by our organization and the New Jersey Governor's Office of Volunteerism here at the Hyatt Regency in historic New Brunswick.

With nearly 400 individuals hailing from diverse backgrounds in the volunteer, nonprofit, corporate, emergency management, academic, and philanthropic sectors from across our state, this conference promises to be a dynamic gathering of minds and hearts dedicated to the betterment of our communities.

We aim to foster an environment of learning, networking, and sharing of best practices in community resilience and volunteerism. It provides a unique platform for participants to engage with experts, exchange ideas, and explore innovative approaches to address challenges faced by our communities.

Your presence at this event is key, as you will enrich the discussions and contribute significantly to the collective efforts aimed at enhancing community resilience and volunteer engagement. Your insights and experiences are invaluable, and we look forward to your active participation in shaping the future of volunteerism in our region. Once again, we extend our heartfelt welcome to you and hope that this conference will broaden your knowledge and networks to accomplish your organizational and personal goals!

Thank you for your participation in our conference today, and for all you do every day, on behalf of New Jersey's residents.

*Keith R. Adams*

Keith Adams, Executive Director  
New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Building Disaster Resilient Communities in New Jersey  
[njvoad.org](http://njvoad.org) [helpnjnow.org](http://helpnjnow.org)

(609) 321-1233

# LETTER FROM GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the New Brunswick Hyatt for our 2024 Conference: ***The Power of Community: Sparking Innovation***. It is our honor and pleasure to be with all of you for this event. We want to hear from you and get to know you today.

We are very fortunate that the Governor's Office of Volunteerism is part of the New Jersey Department of State, under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor -Secretary of State Tahesha Way. The Lt. Governor demonstrates, through her own public service and volunteerism, the great impact that service can have on all of our lives.

It is also our happy responsibility to thank the members of the Governor's Advisory Council on Volunteerism for their work on the conference and throughout each year. You will see many of our members presenting workshops, serving on panels, helping you at registration, and the on-site service event. We could not ask for a more supportive and giving group of Council members.

We'd like to thank our co-host, NJVOAD, its Executive Director Keith Adams, Conference Co-Planner Linda Hardy and their dedicated staff and board members who have provided support for this event. We also want to thank an amazing array of corporate and non-profit sponsors for this year's conference. Fidelity Investments, New Jersey Natural Gas, Delta Dental and NJM Insurance have been longtime supporters of our conferences, and we also have support from AmeriCorps, NJ DHS - OEM, NJ DHS - DTB, NJ Volunteer Generation Fund, Oceans First, The NJ Commission on Native American Indian Affairs, Your Part-Time Controller, The Volunteer Center of Burlington County and United Sikhs.

We want to express our great appreciation to the staff of the Governor's Office of Volunteerism: Director Rowena Madden, and our Deputy Director and Conference Co-Planner Linda V. Rivera and all the staff and volunteers that greeted you today at this conference.

We hope you will harness the power of the volunteerism community here today and have a day of learning and networking that will spark innovation in your communities.

*Florence L. Demming*

Chair

Governor's Advisory Council on Volunteerism and Community Service



# CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

7:00 am – 8:00 am

[Exhibitor Registration](#)

7:30 am – 9:10 am

[General Registration](#)

7:30 am – 9:10 am

[Networking Breakfast](#)

After registering and picking up conference materials, enjoy breakfast, view exhibits, and network with others.

9:15 am – 10:30 am

[Welcoming & Opening Remarks](#)

**Rowena Madden**, *Executive Director*  
NJ Governor's Office of Volunteerism

**Florence I. Demming**, *Chair*  
NJ Governor's Advisory Council on Volunteerism

**Keith R. Adams**, *Executive Director*  
NJ Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

**Keynote Address**

**Marcus T. Coleman, Jr.** *Director*  
The Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

10:30 am – 10:45 am

[Exhibitors / Transition](#)

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

[Morning Workshop Sessions](#)

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm

[Exhibitors / Transition](#)

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

[Lunchtime Plenary](#)

**Fireside Chat**

**Brandon Pugh**, *Governor's Advisory Council Member*  
**Alexander J. Diaz**, *Head of AI for Social Good*  
Google.org

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm

[Exhibitors / Transition](#)

1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

[Afternoon Workshop Sessions](#)

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm

[Exhibitors / Transition](#)

3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

[Afternoon Workshop Sessions](#)

# WORKSHOP SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

## 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM MORNING WORKSHOP SESSIONS

### ANTICIPATING THE DISASTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

STEVE CRIMANDO

Our climate is changing at an unprecedented and alarming rate with profound impacts on human life. Governor Murphy has said that “Climate change is the single greatest long-term threat facing humanity, and our state and economy are uniquely vulnerable to its devastating effects.” FEMA has reported that, “The changing climate is a priority for Emergency Managers,” and that it “is a force multiplier – increasing the number of storms, floods, fires, and extreme temperatures that threaten the well-being of people across our nation.”

Climate change-fueled disasters impact individual behavioral health and include trauma and shock, PTSD, anxiety and depression that can lead to suicidal ideation and risky behavior, feelings of abandonment, and decreased physical health. Community-wide impacts include strains on social relationships, reduced social cohesion, interpersonal violence including domestic and child abuse, and increases in stress and PTSD amongst vulnerable populations, including disaster responders.

This 75-minute overview will introduce the five domains of behavioral health impacts related to climate change, along with discussion of the concepts as they apply to emergency planning and policy. Anyone involved in the preparedness for, response to, or recovery from disasters must begin to develop an understanding of the impact of climate change and its effects on human behavior and behavioral health.

### COMPLIANT AND EFFECTIVE FUNDRAISING: LEGAL BASICS AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS

ALEXANDRA E. KILDUFF

Nonprofits are continually innovating new ways to fundraise and increase revenue, while the laws regulating fundraising are catching up. In this presentation, you will learn about new developments in fundraising regulation and how to stay compliant while also helping your organization grow and sustain itself financially. Participants will learn about:

- State charitable registration, solicitation, and reporting rules;
- Federal and state law governing charitable donations, donation acknowledgments, and disclosures;
- The laws surrounding online fundraising;
- The legal considerations of joint ventures, private-public partnerships and social entrepreneurship projects; and
- How to stay on the right side of the law when crowdfunding.

This session will consist of an informational presentation and an open-format Q&A period with a Pro Bono Partnership attorney, so bring your questions!

Pro Bono Partnership provides business and transactional legal services to nonprofit organizations serving the disadvantaged or enhancing the quality of life in neighborhoods in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York. Since our founding in 1997, the Partnership has assisted over 4,000 nonprofits on nearly 21,000 legal matters, enabling them to more effectively feed the hungry, house the homeless, promote the arts, protect the environment, and provide essential programs to children, the elderly, immigrants, individuals with disabilities, and the unemployed.

### A CONSULTANT’S TALE: LEVERAGING YOUR COMPANY’S RESOURCES THROUGH A NONPROFIT LENS

KRISTEN COPPOLA

Corporate Social Responsibility professionals are constantly looking for ways to leverage the time, talents, and financial resources of their workforce but there is not a “one size fits all” solution to creating a successful employee engagement program. Through this interactive session, you will be challenged to think about the ideal vision for your CSR program and

how changing your perspective can help you achieve your goals. Learn methods to think creatively about engaging philanthropic initiatives, holistically about program management strategies, and most importantly through the lens of your community partners. Whether you are in the ideation phase or have a fully developed program, this session will delve into a consulting model that can help inform your path to success.

## SURVIVOR-CENTRIC DISASTER SOLUTIONS

W. DOUGLAS ZIMMERMAN | KEITH ADAMS | CAROL FLORES

Explore a new paradigm in survivor-centric disaster response, where the survivor manages access and data sharing consent with responding agencies and organizations. In one simple-to-use solution, capture information about damages, recovery needs, and initial intakes. Participating agencies gain access to client data; a single solution ensures non-duplicated records; and its always-on feature means you gain access to necessary information first.

## USING A POETE PROCESS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN DISASTERS AND BEYOND

MICHAEL PRASAD

The POETE Process is a continuous improvement project management tool, which can be used by any organization to help solve problems in (as in “before, during, and after”) disasters, as well as for day-to-day operations. The acronym represents Planning, Organizing (aka staffing), Equipping, Training, and Exercising – and can be applied on an all-hazards/all-threats basis for emergencies, disasters, and more. Through a series of case examples, this session will show participants how they can take this process back to their organization for both internal use; and to collaborate, coordinate, and cooperate with others. Like S.M.A.R.T. goals, the POETE Process is a best practice in Emergency Management, which can be applied to other allied fields, as well.

## ENGLEWOOD IDA RECOVERY TEAM — HOW 30 NONPROFITS COLLABORATED TO ASSIST HUNDREDS OF HURRICANE IDA VICTIMS FROM ENGLEWOOD, NJ

JANET SHARMA | DIANE JANSEN

The response of government is not always fast or adequate enough to provide for the immediate, critical and basic needs of those impacted by the devastation of flooding. This presentation is on community collaboration and volunteerism in one community’s emergency disaster response to a major flood. Our talk specifically focuses on how 30 nonprofits came together as the Englewood Ida Recovery Team and, with numerous volunteers, identified and addressed the needs of hundreds of victims of Hurricane Ida in the City of Englewood, NJ, both right after the storm hit and in the months that followed. The presentation also touches on the impact that community involvement is having on flood mitigation and environmental justice in the longer term.

## THE 3RS OF VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT: RECRUIT, RETAIN AND RECOGNIZE TIPS AND TOOLS TO CREATE A CULTURE OF INCLUSION, ENGAGEMENT AND RESPECT

MARGE SMITH | BLANCHE BRANN

Managing volunteers well can be the key to making our missions a reality. In this interactive workshop you will Engage, Connect and Learn Skills and Techniques that are easily replicable with your groups so you will have even stronger organizations to serve your community. By experiencing this session, you will see how easy it is to use these tips and techniques to:

- Foster Listening
- Give everyone a voice
- Recognize people’s contributions
- Give positive reinforcement
- Level the playing field
- Allow each person to play a part
- Play to people’s strengths
- Create a culture of positivity, inclusivity, and respect.

The session is particularly relevant to the challenges organizations face today where people are feeling isolated, not valued, and not heard. These tools can transform an organization's culture to provide meaning and positivity to all who participate.

## TEAM BUILDING THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

DENISE DANIELS | JOHN SANTANA

The Team Building Through Volunteering session will focus on the benefits of volunteerism for both the community and the company, as well as provide guidance on selecting and executing volunteer activities for optimal results.

## HOW A COMMUNITY'S CUMULATIVE STRESS LOAD AFFECTS THEIR ABILITY TO RESPOND TO MULTIPLE DISASTERS

LINDSAY MIXER

The Chronic Cyclical Disaster Model is a collaborative blueprint designed to help survivors, community leaders, first responders, and others involved in disaster work to better understand how constant, overlapping disasters affect individuals and communities. For many communities, particularly underrepresented communities with histories of discrimination such as racial minorities or people with disabilities, their ability to absorb, adapt, and recover from multiple disasters is compounded by the stress and trauma they likely experience day to day.

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the blueprint as a whole and how it can be applied by behavioral health professionals, community leaders, first responders, and survivors themselves to better understand behavioral and emotional responses in the face of overlapping disasters. We will focus primarily on how to frame the potential and actual impact of disasters within the reality of a community's chronic stressors and foundational issues. By working out a disaster response action plan for a marginalized community, participants will learn to employ current critical analysis of underlying issues like intergenerational trauma, discrimination, stigma, and more into every phase of a disaster response plan, and hopefully enable more people to bounce back.

## FAITH IN FOCUS: NAVIGATING CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RACE HODGES | DEBORAH COSTA

Join FEMA Region 2's National Preparedness Division for an exciting journey through the intersection of faith, culture, and equitable emergency management. We'll start by exploring FEMA's community preparedness initiatives, followed by a dive into the rich religious tapestry of New Jersey. This session will feature a facilitated discussion with panelists representing various faith traditions who will share perspectives on how their faith tradition informs their approach to disaster relief, tips for navigating cross cultural interaction, how they coordinate with constituent houses of worship, and more.

We'll conclude the session by reflecting on cutting-edge strategies for fostering equity through cross-cultural communication. To wrap it all up, we invite you to participate in our vibrant Gallery Walk and Networking component, offering the perfect opportunity to connect, learn, and share experiences with one another. Information about FEMA's new Homeless Service Provider and Ready Seniors programs will also be discussed.

## COMMUNITY MAKES THE DIFFERENCE – THE IMPORTANCE OF EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS IN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

MABEL RAMIREZ, SR. | PAUL GASS | KRISTIE COLLINS

Join us to learn about our new Community Adaptation Program (CAP) and how pairing it with strong recruitment and retention of community volunteers, especially in at-risk communities, is essential for capacity building and sustainable response efforts. Take away lessons you can learn and apply in your own areas, and how this relates to mobilizing our communities for the coming disasters.

CAP recognizes that the ability to recover from a disaster directly correlates to the pre-disaster resources available in that community. Food insecurity, healthcare access issues, and lack of availability of affordable housing can all impact



recovery and push more families into poverty. Through CAP we are partnering with local nonprofits that specialize in health, hunger, and housing to build more resilient communities in disaster-prone areas where families are already struggling with existing societal inequities.

For these external partnerships to increase our collective impact on the communities we serve, they need to be paired with a passionate and committed community volunteer workforce. As an organization we are prioritizing volunteer recruitment and retention to ensure we can meet the needs of our community as we continue to face a growing number of natural and man-made disasters. During this workshop we will share some of our volunteer recruitment and retention strategies, especially those concerning volunteer management and engagement.

## PATHWAYS TO PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

JOE GELETA

This training is designed to help any New Jersey residents prepare for a disaster, but it is specifically targeted for people with access and functional needs, including those with disabilities and caregivers. The training is based upon two important themes:

1. Each individual must take responsibility for their own personal and family preparedness. Individuals have varying needs, abilities and resources and there is no one-size-fits-all disaster plan. Each person needs to evaluate their own unique needs, learn about and choose options available to them in their community, and prepare to the greatest extent possible prior to a possible disaster.
2. Most decisions on how to prepare for and respond to disasters are made at the local level. Each individual and family must understand how their county's emergency management plan works, including how steps are taken to address the needs for people with disabilities in the area.

## 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM AFTERNOON WORKSHOP SESSIONS

### DIGITAL MEDIA FOR NON-PROFITS: MAXIMIZING UNTAPPED PLATFORMS & AUDIENCES

SARAH DJIE MONOSIET

Nonprofits are beginning to understand the impact that social media is having on their organizations and communities. However, many still haven't grasped the magnitude of social media reach. Platforms such as LinkedIn can help non-profits reach new corporate sponsors and donors. Millennials and Gen Z are increasing their income in non-traditional ways and can be community partners and donors. There are ways to create content on platforms beyond Facebook to reach new audiences. This presentation would target non-profits trying to raise brand awareness and donors in different demographics. The presentation would cover basic marketing tactics while engaging participants to review their current marketing strategies. The participants would find gaps where these strategies would apply to their marketing plans through active marketing exercises. I would only need a projector with sound and HDMI connection to my laptop to complete this presentation.

### QPR STANDS FOR QUESTION, PERSUADE, AND REFER — THE THREE SIMPLE STEPS ANYONE CAN LEARN TO HELP SAVE A LIFE FROM SUICIDE

MEGAN SULLIVAN | MAUREEN BROGAN

Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying "Yes" to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor.

The QPR mission is to reduce suicidal behaviors and save lives by providing innovative, practical and proven suicide prevention training. The signs of crisis are all around us. We believe that quality education empowers all people, regardless of their background, to make a positive difference in the life of someone they know.

This is a nationally evidenced based training provided by QPR certified trainers.

## VOLUNTEERS AND THE LAW: KEEP YOUR ORGANIZATION AND YOUR VOLUNTEERS SAFE (AND HAPPY)

ALEXANDRA E. KILDUFF

Volunteers are the backbone of thousands of nonprofit organizations throughout New Jersey, but do you know which state and federal laws apply to them? Join Pro Bono Partnership at this informative session to learn how employment and liability laws impact your volunteer corps and how to assess and effectively manage potential risks and strengthen your organization. Participants will leave this session with an understanding of the important differences between employees and volunteers; how to avoid potential issues when recruiting volunteers; and how to protect volunteers “in the field.” This session will consist of an informational presentation and an open-format Q&A period with a Pro Bono Partnership attorney, so bring your questions!

Pro Bono Partnership provides business and transactional legal services to nonprofit organizations serving the disadvantaged or enhancing the quality of life in neighborhoods in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York. Since our founding in 1997, the Partnership has assisted over 4,000 nonprofits on nearly 21,000 legal matters, enabling them to more effectively feed the hungry, house the homeless, promote the arts, protect the environment, and provide essential programs to children, the elderly, immigrants, individuals with disabilities, and the unemployed.

## BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A MULTI-TRACK NEIGHBORHOOD FOCUSED VOLUNTEERING ORGANIZATION SEWA INTERNATIONAL - A CASE STUDY "TOGETHER WE SERVE BETTER"

RAJESH SHARMA | LEENA NAIR

Building and sustaining a multi-track neighborhood-focused volunteering organization requires careful planning, community engagement, and a commitment to long-term sustainability. Our case study will include benefits of neighborhood community volunteering, and the challenges and risks involved in starting up a chapter of a worldwide humanitarian organization. Adhering to our motto, ‘Together We Serve Better’, we believe our case study will give others who aspire, an insight into how they can achieve this growth and success, and together we make a wider impact on the communities we wish to serve.

Our presentation through slides and videos will introduce our organization, speak about our vision, talk about our beginnings, and show our journey and growth into a multi-track neighborhood focused service organization. It will include details of the humanitarian services we provide, our assessment and adaptation to changing community needs, our multifaceted volunteer teams, and our strong partnerships. It will detail how our multi-track service aligns with the challenges that AmeriCorps is looking to address. It will cover insights into challenges we faced and overcame, our recommendations and best practices, testimonials of partners and service recipients, and finally talk about sustaining and creating a lasting and impactful organization.

## THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUTH VOLUNTEERING AND SERVICE

MICHELE FRANCESCONI | LISA GALONARDO

The presentation is designed to provide local nonprofits, educational institutions, governmental entities and other groups, the tools to create dynamic and engaging youth volunteer/service opportunities, activities or programs. Topics covered will include:

- The latest trends and best practices of youth volunteer engagement
- Different approaches and types of programs providing youth volunteering/service opportunities

- Creating effective partnership for a successful youth volunteer program – schools, faith-based organizations, community organizations and employers
- Effectively recruiting/soliciting involvement of youth volunteers
- Skills-based volunteering for youth
- Group volunteer projects and team-building
- Volunteering as resume-builder/Gaining valuable work-transferrable skills
- Recognizing youth volunteers – awards, scholarships and other forms of recognition available
- Resources for Youth Volunteer Engagement: NJYSC, Local, regional, state-wide and national tools and resources available to support youth volunteer programs

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## PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

JOE GELETA

In emergency management, it is very important to build partnerships in the communities we serve. This session is designed to discuss the importance of partnering with Community Organizations such as the Rotary, Masons, Elks, American Legion and others in order to support your disaster response and recovery operations. Learn how these organizations can build upon the great work they all do while at the same time supporting your emergency management mission.

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## FEMA RECOVERY INNOVATIONS IN EQUITY

LORI ROSS | SYREETA GARBARINI | JENNIFER DILORENZO

FEMA's priority as reflected in our 2022-2026 Strategic Plan's goal number one is to instill equity as a foundation of emergency management. Due to the frequency and velocity of catastrophic and life-altering disaster events within our region and to better serve individuals, our communities and partners, the Recovery Division of FEMA Region II has developed innovative programs and initiatives to better meet the needs of our diverse stakeholders. Whether it is through the recovery or lessons learned from major events such as COVID-19, Hurricanes Fiona or Ida or localized flooding, equity is embedded in our work.

Our presentation, which is targeted to all conference attendees, will highlight and explore the innovative work the Recovery Division has done to help disaster survivors, support the work of our valued partners and provide assistance to rebuild roads, bridges and other critical infrastructure. We will discuss how we have partnered with voluntary and non-government organizations, local, county, state and other federal agencies to think outside of the box to implement our programs to improve outcomes, especially for vulnerable individuals and communities. We will also highlight many of our internal equity initiatives to include unconscious bias and trauma informed approach trainings, outreach and job fairs.

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## PETS IN OUR COMMUNITY - HOW TO PREPARE FOR AND MANAGE PETS AND SERVICE ANIMALS IN DISASTERS

CHRISTINE SEMINERIO

This breakout session will discuss preparing for and managing pets and service animals in disasters or emergency situations. With 76% of households having pets, the need to include pets in disaster planning, preparedness, response, and recovery, is vital. Counties with well-developed animal response plans directly improve public safety. The presentation will provide an overview of emergency pet sheltering with County Animal Response Teams (CART) and management of service animals in a public emergency evacuation shelter. Federal regulations that protect and define service animals will be reviewed. Details on how non-profits, government entities, and community services can include, prepare and manage pets during disasters or emergency situations will be discussed.

## THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS – ONE LITTLE SPARK OF INSPIRATION

MELISSA ACREE | PHYLLIS WORRELL

The power of partnerships in both “blue skies” and “gray” eases our response during the events we may have to respond to. Discover how NJ 211 can be a resource for you and your community. NJ 211 provides live and online assistance 24/7 for residents in need of basic needs such as food, housing, transportation, healthcare and many other human services. During times of disaster, NJ 211 plays a role in mass care, public health and external communications providing vetted information for evacuations, shelters, food, water, pets, safety and more. Leveraging those partnerships when trying to problem solve and think outside the box is vital to the successful resolution of any event. Hear the real case scenarios of how NJ 211, through our COAD partnership supported county and state OEM during recent disasters providing the journey into imagination, with one little spark of inspiration!

## NOT JUST FOR ONE DAY: USING VOLUNTEERS FOR LONGER-TERM COMMITMENTS

JULIE HANLEY | KAREN GEARY | KENT DAVIS

VG has created a volunteer role requiring a significant investment of time, emotion, and fiduciary competence, one that some might not consider appealing to or appropriate for volunteers. But it is! We are becoming experts on outreach and recruitment for this very special brand of volunteer. We will discuss our strategies: where we look, how we describe ourselves and the opportunity in a non-intimidating way, and perhaps inspire others to consider volunteers for non-traditional roles.

Our speakers will be: one of our Volunteer Guardians who will describe his own reasons for taking on this opportunity; our Case Manager who monitors the volunteers and can speak to how they settle into their new roles; and our Executive Director, who can speak to our evolving recruitment methods and agency growth. We will also provide a brief PowerPoint to introduce our organization and its concept. We would need a projector and microphones for our speakers.

This would be of interest to organizations trying to recruit volunteers for nontraditional, unusual roles beyond, say, an afternoon at a soup kitchen. We are hoping not only to advise, but to make connections and collaborate with other organizations to develop even more effective recruitment strategies.

## EMPOWERMENT DURING CRISIS THROUGH INNOVATIVE PROJECT DESIGN: TRAINING UKRAINIAN CIVILIANS IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

HARDAYAL SINGH

All nonprofit organizations and government agencies who respond to conflicts and disasters are responding to an increasing number of crises without receiving increased support. So how do we help more people with fewer resources? Moreover, how do we make sure that the way we help builds self-reliance and does not foster dependency? Designing projects focused on community empowerment is one answer. During this session you will hear about how UNITED SIKHS is training Ukrainian civilians to provide emergency medical care to their communities and have the opportunity to design an empowerment-focused project for your community. Electronic copies of Human Centered Design (HCD) and project monitoring and evaluation tools will be provided. Please join us!

## BUILDING BETTER TOMORROWS: HARNESSING THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERISM TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

MARIONNE FERNANDEZ | DIANE YOUNG JOHNSON | BRITTANY BEYER | MILDRED GORTON

Join us for a compelling presentation, " Building Better Tomorrows: Harnessing the Power of Partnerships and Volunteerism to Enhance Community Resilience," where we explore the vital roles of partnership and volunteerism in strengthening community resilience. In this presentation, we will uncover the core elements that make communities resilient and capable of facing adversity. You will discover how volunteerism fosters belonging, extends resources and nurtures community bonds. The presentation also provides an opportunity to hear about best practices in community resilience and developing effective volunteer and partner engagement, all through the lens of a successful nonprofit organization focused on supporting and empowering residents of affordable housing communities.

## UNLOCKING INNOVATION: STRATEGICALLY CREATING PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES TO AMPLIFY YOUR IMPACT

MEAGAN MULLER

In an ever-evolving nonprofit landscape, harnessing creativity and innovation in your processes and procedures is paramount to maximizing impact. Through this interactive session, you will delve into a framework of best practices designed to empower your nonprofit to think creatively and make lasting positive changes for your staff, volunteers, and community. This presentation will showcase real-world examples that highlight the importance of streamlining operations, simplifying the participation process, and fostering a spirit of innovation among your team. Participants will leave with actionable insights to unlock the full potential of your nonprofit, maximize your impact, and better serve your community.

## 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM AFTERNOON WORKSHOP SESSIONS

### DIGITAL MEDIA FOR NON-PROFITS: MAXIMIZING UNTAPPED PLATFORMS & AUDIENCES

SARAH DJIE MONOSIET

Nonprofits are beginning to understand the impact that social media is having on their organizations and communities. However, many still haven't grasped the magnitude of social media reach. Platforms such as LinkedIn can help non-profits reach new corporate sponsors and donors. Millennials and Gen Z are increasing their income in non-traditional ways and can be community partners and donors. There are ways to create content on platforms beyond Facebook to reach new audiences. This presentation would target non-profits trying to raise brand awareness and donors in different demographics. The presentation would cover basic marketing tactics while engaging participants to review their current marketing strategies. The participants would find gaps where these strategies would apply to their marketing plans through active marketing exercises. I would only need a projector with sound and HDMI connection to my laptop to complete this presentation.

### LAUNCHING PAD TO YOUR EDUCATION AND CAREER FOR AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND YOUTH ATTENDEES

JOE FORTE | ERASTUS MONG'ARE | CHRISTINA WOLFE

The AmeriCorps Team and representatives of Higher Education and the Business Sector will present opportunities for future career and education. Guidance will include ideas for job market growth, job search, resumes, and letters of introduction. The team will also provide opportunities for role playing in interviews.

### ASK THE EXPERTS AND NETWORKING SESSION

# CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

## KEYNOTE PRESENTERS



ALEXANDER J. DIAZ



MARCUS T. COLEMAN, JR.

## WORKSHOP SESSION PRESENTERS



MELISSA ACREE



KEITH ADAMS



BRITTANY BEYER



BLANCHE BRANN



MAUREEN A. BROGAN



KRISTIE COLLINS



KRISTEN COPPOLA



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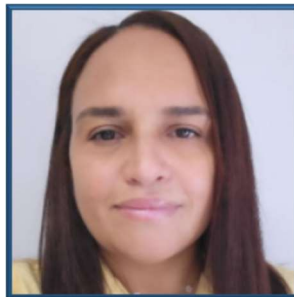
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- Quarterly public tribal meetings on American Indian affairs.
  - <https://nj.gov/state/njcaia.shtml>
- Regular COVID vaccine clinics held at each tribal center.
- Prevention resources for substance use disorders also available at any tribal center.
- Reach out for more information.
  - Lewis Fragoso - [Lewis.Fragoso@sos.nj.gov](mailto:Lewis.Fragoso@sos.nj.gov)
  - Emmanuel Ogedegbe - [Emmanuel.Ogedegbe@sos.nj.gov](mailto:Emmanuel.Ogedegbe@sos.nj.gov)

43rd Annual Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Pow-wow  
Sat. June 8th & Sun. June 9th, 2024

- There will be cultural food and activities to enjoy.
- Intertribal youth and adult Dance and Drum contests.
- Handcrafted goods available for purchase from local Native artisans.

Come visit us at our  
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SCAN ME

## Special On-Site Service Project



*We would like to thank the conference participants for their contributions socks and feminine hygiene products for Rise ([www.njrise.org](http://www.njrise.org)) and United Way of Hunterdon County – Hunterdon Hygiene Connection (<https://www.uwhunterdon.org/our-programs/hunterdon-hygiene-connection>).*

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*appreciate your continued commitment to serving communities throughout NJ!*

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## Special Thanks

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Thank you to the Conference Committee. The Conference Committee worked diligently to ensure that all attendees and presenters have a valuable experience.

**Linda V. Rivera**, *Conference Co-Coordinator*  
Department of State Staff and Volunteers  
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*We Thank You!*

Rowena Madden, Executive Director  
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