



## HSEM-MNVOAD MEETING MINUTES

May 19, 2020

### Roll Call:

Dennis Walter, MN HSEM; Alexis Rouches, IOCC; Ryc Lyden, ARES/MNVOAD President; Dorothy Maples, NECHAMA; Ken Vertin, Region 3 MNVOAD Liaison; Mary Hatcher, United Way 211; Steve Hartman & Dave Schoeneck, ARC MN/ND/SD; Kim Dettmer, LSS; Kathy Jorgensen, MN Animal Disaster Coalition; Kim Johnson, Sarah Jensen & Christine Meissner, FEMA Region V; Rae Doliber & Walter Baker, Salvation Army Northern Division; Joe Butkovich, Saint Vincent de Paul; Dick Anderson, Latter Day Saints Charities; Terry Davenport, Team Rubicon; Tonia Erdman, Richfield CERT; Todd Clausen, ITDRC; Jenny Pan, Tzu Chi Foundation; Greta Goetz, Footprint Project; Pam Darnell, Hennepin County Emergency Management; Tom Fitzhenry, MN Wing CAP.

Dennis Walter began call @ 10:01 CDT

### • Severe Weather:

- Fire conditions are critical in NW Minnesota and Eastern ND
- Moderate or less in other areas
- Due to rainfall, minor flooding on the Cottonwood River in New Ulm but expected to drop by Thursday (5/21)

### • COVID-19 Update:

- [www.mn.gov/covid19](http://www.mn.gov/covid19) for dashboard with latest COVID-19 information and stats
- Highlighting agency collaboration → best way to get things done is through doing it together
  - Masks and PPE to healthcare professionals
    - Businesses and individuals working with the Nurses Association, Department of Health, National Guard, and Salvation Army for the staging and donating of masks in large numbers
    - Over a quarter of a million masks and other PPE have been made available to healthcare workers across MN
  - Bleach donation
    - Hawkins Chemical, through collaboration with American Red Cross, donated 29 barrels (1600 gallons) of household bleach
    - National Guard aided in distribution of bleach to 22 sites around MN
  - Governor's Mask Drive
    - April 25 mask drive brought in 140,000 homemade masks to Fire Departments across the state
    - Local FD's and CERT teams worked together to distribute all masks to local jurisdictions



- Fabric donation
  - Homeowner donated fabric through local Emergency Management to a local Girl Scout Troupe making cloth masks
- Food donation
  - Nestle Corporation donated 44 pallets of non-perishable food items and baby foods through IOCC's GiK program to Hennepin County
  - Hennepin Co., local CERT teams, NECHAMA, Salvation Army, and IOCC repackaged and delivered items to local organizations, including 3 Hennepin County COVID quarantine and isolation sites
  - NECHAMA will spearhead further delivery of items to Tribal Nations and welcome other support and partnership in these efforts
- Volunteer Opportunities
  - Food bank and food shelf need is ongoing [**list of food banks and food shelves at the bottom of the minutes**]
- **VOAD Update:**
  - National VOAD
    - Time-sensitive donation offer from Lowe's (May 15-30)
      - Log splitters, chipper shredders, front tine tillers, and trimmer mowers available to National and State VOAD members across select stores; Must be 501(c)3 to be eligible
      - Must complete equipment request voucher form [**sent with minutes**] and return to [grants@nvoad.org](mailto:grants@nvoad.org)
    - Non-Profit Sector Cloth Face Coverings donation
      - 100% cotton and contain silver and copper to prevent the growth of germs and viruses; washable; adult one-size fits all
      - Only for non-profit use within the US States/Territories/Tribal Nations and not to be given away to clients/survivors or to be sold
      - Initial request must be for a minimum of 10 pallets (1 pallet = 25 cartons; 1 carton = 500 coverings); MN VOAD can be a collection point if any members want to make use of this offer
      - Must complete non-profit sector order form [**sent with minutes**]
- **Member Reports & Questions:**
  - **ARC** - National Red Cross opened up a virtual family assistance center @ [www.redcross.org/vfac](http://www.redcross.org/vfac) with resources designed to help those who have lost someone to COVID-19. Includes condolence care, behavioral health services, and calls from trained professionals. In the region, we are putting out a call for sewing volunteers at request from Service to Armed Forces (SAF) group - people to sew masks for use on military installations and VA hospitals. Click [HERE](#) for more info.



- **FEMA V** – Mini webinar series continues with the next one Thursday (5/21) at 2p CDT featuring FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). Not disaster related, but a program that goes on every day of the year. EFSP Received 200M for COVID-19 under the CARES Act, so activity around the program will be ramping up. Always try to record and make these webinars available after conclusion. Regional Response Coordination Center is still at level 2. Please go to dashboard @ [www.fema.connectsolutions.com/r5valddashboard](http://www.fema.connectsolutions.com/r5valddashboard) for contact info and resources. Yesterday (5/18) MN submitted application for crisis counseling immediate services program and is under review.
- **Footprint Project** – A couple mobile stations and solar shelter available in the metro area if anyone needs generator replacement. Please reach out to Greta @ [greta@footprintproject.org](mailto:greta@footprintproject.org)
- **Hennepin County EM** – Americorps volunteers for non-congregate care sites will be here June 8. Americorps is doing a recruiting effort for more volunteers. Must be 18+; \$650 stipend every couple weeks, and an educational award of \$1300 upon completion; health insurance included. For more info on the initiative go to [www.servetogrow.org/response](http://www.servetogrow.org/response)
- **IOCC** – IOCC Care Calls program dropping Thursday (5/21) @ [www.iocc.org/carecalls](http://www.iocc.org/carecalls) which will include a downloadable script and helpful tips to encourage people to reach out to their friends/family/community to let them know they care.
- **Latter Day Saints** – Nationally and locally the churches are working with ARC to meet needs with blood donations. Opening up their buildings for blood drives.
- **NECHAMA** – Continue to support Presbyterian Homes and Services
- **Salvation Army** – Helped the Navajo Nation by sending cleanup kits – if needed locally, contact Salvation Army
- **Tzu Chi** – Continuing to help fire victims and helping them get documents they have lost in the fire so they can file taxes and receive stimulus checks. Thank you to MSP emergency Management for helping them get surgical masks donated. 8 volunteers available to sew masks
- **Other Business:**
  - Updating MNVOAD website with opportunities and needs. If your organization wants something posted, contact Ryc @ [ryclyden@gmail.com](mailto:ryclyden@gmail.com) to get it added to the website.
  - Everyday a Sit Rep comes out displaying what voluntary organizations are doing day by day and an IAP comes out for what voluntary organizations intend to do in the next 24 hours – to add your info, please send to Ryc and Dennis ([ryclyden@gmail.com](mailto:ryclyden@gmail.com) and [dennis.walter@state.mn.us](mailto:dennis.walter@state.mn.us)) so your stories and efforts can be shared.
- **Next Call:**
  - Tuesday 5/26, 10:00 CDT – same call line and code

Dennis Walter ended call @ 10:32 CDT



## Food Banks

- **Channel One Food Bank** ( Rochester, MN) - <https://www.helpingfeedpeople.org/volunteer/>
- **The Food Group** (New Hope, MN) - <https://thefoodgroupmn.org/get-involved/volunteer/>
- **Great Plains Food Bank** (Clay County, MN and North Dakota) – <https://www.greatplainsfoodbank.org/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-overview.html>
- **North Central Food Bank** (North Central MN, Grand Rapids) – <https://secondharvestncfb.com/get-involved/volunteer/>
- **North Country Food Bank** (Northwestern Minnesota) – <https://www.northcountryfoodbank.org/volunteer.html>
- **Second Harvest Heartland Food Bank** (Brooklyn Park and Maplewood, MN) - <https://www.2harvest.org/get-involved/volunteer/>
- **Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank** (Duluth, MN) - <https://northernlakesfoodbank.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

## Food Shelves

\*\*If you reach out to any of these group, please cc or send a note to [Valeria.Lindberg@state.mn.us](mailto:Valeria.Lindberg@state.mn.us). Valeria is tracking these food groups to make sure they are getting the volunteers they need. We appreciate all of you and all that you do!

- **Northfield** – Community Action Center of Northfield  
POC: Anika Rychner, [rychner.anika@communityactioncenter.org](mailto:rychner.anika@communityactioncenter.org), 507-664-3585
- **Staples** – Staples Area Food Shelf  
POC: Amy Leidenfrost, [frankandamy135@gmail.com](mailto:frankandamy135@gmail.com), 218-894-1041
- **Moorhead**  
POC: Stacie Loegering, [stacie@emergencyfoodpantry.com](mailto:stacie@emergencyfoodpantry.com), 701-237-9337
- **Grygla** – Grygla-Gatzke Food Shelf  
POC: Cheryl Sistad, [gsistad@gvtel.com](mailto:gsistad@gvtel.com), 218-294-6223
- **Fairmont** – Salvation Army of Fairmont, 507-238-9797
- **Fairmont** – Heavens Table Food Shelf, 507-238-5424