



NET

May 10, 2006

**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR
READINESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY**

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DEAR FRIENDS OF NYDIS:

Welcome to **NYDISnet**, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about the work of NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives here in New York City.

When an emergency situation arises in New York City - our office will send out a **NYDISnet ALERT** to all subscribers. The alert will include all official information available through the NYC Office of Emergency Management and news from our members and partners.

Please feel free to copy and distribute any information from **NYDISnet** that you find helpful. If you would like to distribute **NYDISnet** to your agency staff or faith community leaders please let us know - we're happy to provide that service free of charge.

Faithfully, Peter

PETER B. GUDAITIS, M.DIV.
Executive Director & CEO

If you have some news to share or an upcoming event to publicize please contact yperry@nydis.org

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NYDIS NEWS AND EVENTS

■ **NYDIS' Third Annual Clergy Summit – Register Now**

Register now for NYDIS' Third Annual Clergy Summit, to be held on Thursday, June 1, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, at NYU Kimmel Center. The day-long event will focus on best practices for clergy and religious leaders to empower and protect their congregations and communities through disaster preparedness. The keynote address will be delivered by Bishop Charles Jenkins of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana. The Rev. David Billings, Coordinator of the NY Office for the People's Institute for Survival & Beyond, and Dr. Lee Clark, author and Rutgers University sociologist, will also be presenting. A panel of local responders assisting with Katrina relief will include The Rev. James Pullings, Pastor of Leviticus Church of God in Christ, Queens, Mohammad T. Rahman, Islamic Circle of North America-Relief, and Linda Reed-Brown, Church World Service. The agenda includes guest speakers and experiential learning through a "tabletop" exercise interspersed with training briefs provided by trainers with expertise in various aspects of disaster response and preparedness. The tabletop exercise has been developed with Disaster Chaplaincy Services and the NYC Office of Emergency Management. There will also be a resource room with disaster planning and response materials displayed.

The event is free – breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Registration deadline: Friday, May 26 - Space is limited to 250

To register:

www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/04-24-06.php

For more information contact:

The Rev. Susan Lockwood, Director, Disaster Planning & Training
212.669.6100

slockwood@nydis.org

■ **NYDIS Staff Honored for Katrina Evacuee Service**

Gili Chupak, Director, Katrina Evacuee Recovery, will be among those to receive the New York State Federal Executive Board's 2006 Direct Customer Service Award for outstanding cooperation on behalf of Katrina evacuees. The awards will be presented at a luncheon ceremony from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm on Wednesday, May 17 on Ellis Island. Other honorees include NYDIS Board Members, Ken Curtin (FEMA-Region II) and Hayyim Obadyah (HSC NYC), and from NYDIS's member agencies, Ed Lynch (Society of St. Vincent de Paul), and Renee Hoffman, Julianne Pannelli, Diana doStando, and Xochitl Bravo (The Salvation Army GNY). In total, 21 government and nonprofit agencies and 34 individuals will be recognized for their work with Katrina evacuees in NYC.



www.newyorkcity.feb.gov

■ **NYDIS Joins NYPD SHIELD**

NYDIS is pleased to be part of NYC's latest counter-terrorism program, NYPD SHIELD, which seeks to partner with private sector security managers with the goal of protecting New York City from terrorist attacks. Collaborating with the NYPD, NYDIS plans to introduce this partnership to houses of worship via training workshops for their security personnel.



www.nypdshield.org

■ **NYDIS/Partners Deliver Furniture to Katrina Evacuees in NYC**

On Saturday April 29, thirteen NYC trucks were loaded by volunteers at the World Vision Storehouse in the Bronx. Over 30 evacuee families in four boroughs received essential furniture such as beds, couches, dressers, tables and chairs, thanks to the coordinated effort of 11 agencies: NYC's Office of Emergency Management, Dept. of Corrections, Parks Department, NYCH, World Vision, New York Cares, NYPD Explorers Club, Praxis Housing Initiatives, Hope for New York, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York and NYDIS.



■ NYDIS Speaks at Biosecurity Conference Panel

Peter Gudaitis will participate in the "Citizen Engagement in Health Emergency Planning Roundtable" in "The Public's Stake in Health Emergency Planning", a U.S. and Canada Summit convened by The Center for Biosecurity of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center on May 23, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. Leaders in government, public health, and disaster management will be advised on the practical feasibility and societal benefits of engaging citizens in health emergency planning in anticipation of the scarcity of life-saving medical resources and the logistical complexities of protecting the well and caring for the sick in large numbers.



www.upmc-biosecurity.org

■ NYDIS Invited to Trinity's Post-Disaster Roundtable in DC

Executive Director Peter Gudaitis has been invited to speak at a roundtable discussion exploring the interaction between the public and private sectors, the challenges of disaster relief, and the relevant lessons that can be applied to future response efforts. "Reflecting on Katrina, Rita and 9/11" is presented by The Trinity National Leadership Roundtable on Tuesday, May 23 in Washington, D.C. The forum will delve into the role of churches, non-profits, governments and business in disaster relief. The forum has met regularly since the 1970s for Episcopal leaders to discuss issues pertaining to worldwide outreach. The facilitators are Walter Isaacson, President and CEO of The Aspen Institute and Vice-Chair of the Louisiana Recovery Authority and Carl Weisbrod, President of the Real Estate Division of Trinity Church Wall Street and member of the LMDC and a trustee of the Ford Foundation.

■ NYDIS ED to Present at Disaster Recovery Symposium

Executive Director Peter Gudaitis has been invited to speak about developing interfaith recovery initiatives and how NYC has responded to serve Katrina Evacuee families' needs at the Gulf States Disaster Recovery Symposium to be held at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, FL on from Monday, June 5 to Tuesday, June 6. Symposium topics will include recovery projects, affordable housing innovations, available services/resources and existing or emerging special needs.



For program schedule and to register:

www.findflorida.org

For more information, contact:

Jody Hill, Executive Director, FIND
352.796.8387

■ NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable Updates

● Client Inquiry Form Now Available Online

To access the form:

www.nydis.org/unmetneeds/7.php

● In-Service Training for Case Workers

In-Service Training is required for case workers who have never



presented a case at the Roundtable, and is recommended as a refresher for experienced case workers who have previously presented cases. All training sessions take place at NYDIS ([map](#)).

- **Tuesday, May 16 – 3:00–5:00 pm**
- **Tuesday, June 13 – 3:00–5:00 pm**
- **Monday, June 26 – 1:00–3:30 pm**

- **Roundtable Schedule**

The NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable brings together donors with agencies providing case management to 9/11 victims. Case Workers who would like to present a case must sign-up by Friday prior to the meeting of the Roundtable. Due to the influx of cases which need presenting, the 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable will be adding an additional Wednesday date each month. There will now be three meetings a month, instead of two.

- **Thursday, May 18 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Wednesday, May 24 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, June 1 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, June 15 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case, contact Maggie Jarry, Moderator:

212.669.6105

mjarry@nydis.org

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COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

- **ARC Seeks Community Shelter/Faith-Based Partners**

The American Red Cross (ARC) urges everyone to be prepared as the Hurricane season begins and is seeking partnerships with community-based organizations for community sheltering. ARC will provide the training, verify that the shelter is safe and meets ARC standards, and cover the expenses (food, equipment & liability). The "partner" would provide the volunteers and/or the facility, and ARC would train the volunteers to work in the shelter as a team. The shelters could be located at your church, school or facility, or volunteers could be assigned to an ARC shelter location. Your organization would "adopt" a shelter to run as a team with ARC's support and guidance.



Please contact Esther Bevers-Ng:

516.747.3500 x224

beversng@usa.redcross.org

- **Katrina Recovery Resources**

For a comprehensive list of news, updates and resources on Katrina evacuees in NYC and for more information on NYDIS's Katrina Evacuee Recovery Program:

www.nydis.org/katrina

- **Fundraiser for Katrina Survivors in NYC**

"Art for Relief: A Night for Katrina Evacuees in NYC" will feature more than 75 artists, galleries and



individuals of NYC's art community. Joining together with Praxis Housing Initiatives Hurricane Relief Effort to help Katrina evacuees in NYC, they are generously donating their artwork, time and services to raise money to help evacuees with their unmet needs. Funds raised will be distributed through the NYC Katrina Evacuee Unmet Needs Roundtable currently being established by NYDIS and its partners.



For information on the Roundtable, contact:
Gili Chupak, Director, Katrina Evacuee Recovery
212.669.6108
gchupak@nydis.org

For information and to support the campaign:
www.nyc4katrina.com

- **New Orleans Election Resources**

New Yorkers for the Gulf Coast is running a media campaign designed to heighten absentee voter participation among displaced Louisiana residents currently in the NY area. For more information on voting in the May 20 run-off elections between incumbent C. Ray Nagin and Lt. Governor Mitch Landrei by absentee ballot, see the election resources section on NYDIS's Katrina Resource page:

www.nydis.org/katrina

- **Katrina Children at Risk**

There is growing concern among experts about the long-term mental health impact on children by Hurricane Katrina. According to studies, trauma in children treated early greatly improves the chances of recovery later on. With hundreds of thousands of children estimated to be already suffering for post-traumatic stress disorder the nation faces an emergency and huge crisis that will impact America well into the future.

For more information, read the following two articles:
www.cnn.com/2006/HEALTH/04/25/katrina.schildren.ap/index.html

www.nytimes.com/2006/04/18/us/nationalspecial/18health.html

- **NYC Katrina Recovery Update**



FEMA has sent out 3,200 flyers for Katrina Evacuees registered in New York and New Jersey to connect evacuees to case management services. The flyer directs evacuees to call the Katrina Help Line, operated by Catholic Charities Archdiocese of NY, to access the consolidated case management referral service which to-date has referred 225 evacuee families. The Department of Homeless Services, who has contracted organizations to provide case management services to evacuees in the hotels, reports that there are nine individuals and one couple remaining in the hotels with no families with children

remaining.

■ WTC Evacuation Works with NYDIS on 9/11 Unmet Needs

WTC Evacuation Study is currently nominating charities that are working with 9/11 survivors, and will make a donation for every participant to the charity with the highest nominations. They have been interviewing those who evacuated from the Twin Towers, the most comprehensive study of the WTC evacuation ever. People who evacuated from the WTC Twin Towers hold the key to improving building regulations and design tools. The next round of interviews in NYC runs through May 26.



To register:

fseg2.gre.ac.uk/HEED/registration/index.asp

For evacuation emergency safety tips:

fseg2.gre.ac.uk/HEED/Email/safety_tips/index.html

www.wtc-evacuation.com

■ 9/11 Documentary at Tribeca Film Festival

Congratulations to "The Heart of Steel," produced with The September 11th Families Association, which follows the journey of The Renegade Volunteers, a group of ordinary citizens who banded together after the 9/11 attacks and changed the course of the relief effort.



For information and to view a trailer:

www.theheartofsteel.com

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From Our Members And Partners

● All Chaplaincy Certifications are Not Created Equal

In the March/April issue of the Association of Professional Chaplains' APC News (Vol. 9, Issue #1), The Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs, First Vice President of the Board of NYDIS and Managing Editor for "Plainviews", an e-newsletter for chaplains and other pastoral care providers, wrote that she received an email from an organization that was offering to "certify" her as a "Crisis" chaplain. "When I reviewed the certifying requirements, I was surprised that I needed to do so little to be certified, especially in light of what I had to go through to be credentialed by the American Red Cross partner Spiritual Response Team and Disaster Chaplaincy Services, NY." In fact, she found out that the APC had not given permission for this group to use their list, nor had they been vetted by them.



To read about The Rev. Jacobs's concerns and her admonitions about this potential exploitation of this vital work, please download the article:

www.nydis.org/resources/materials/Marthas_Certificate.pdf

www.professionalchaplains.org

The Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs can be reached at:
212.644.1111 x215
MJacobs@HealthCareChaplaincy.org

www.plainviews.org

- **HSC Receives Altman Foundation Award**

The Human Services Council (HSC) has been awarded \$100,000 by the Altman Foundation for the HSC Disaster Preparedness & Response program. The grant will cover costs incurred in coordinating services for Katrina evacuees and funds to complete a study of the lessons to be learned from the nonprofit sector's response to Katrina.



www.irccv.org

- **Upcoming CISM Training in NYC**

Thursday, June 15 - Sunday, June 18
The Interchurch Center
475 Riverside Drive, Manhattan



The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF) is holding its 4-day Regional Conference, co-sponsored by Council of Churches of the City of NY (CCCNY) and Disaster Chaplaincy Services (DCS), with classes geared to chaplains working in disaster and crisis situations.

For registration details:
www.icisf.org

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Preparedness Corner

- **West Nile Virus Alert**

Please download and pass on this latest alert form New York City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) regarding West Nile Virus.



www.nydis.org/resources/materials/DOHMH_West_Nile_Virus_Alert.pdf

www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/wnv/wnvhome.shtml

- **Hurricane Preparedness**

- **OEM's NYC Hurricane Flood Zone Map**
Coastal storms, including hurricanes, can and do affect New York City. It's important New Yorkers are prepared to respond quickly. Download the latest updated map



link from NYC's Office of Emergency Management:
www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/emols/emols.html

- **Coastal Storms and Hurricanes in NYC Basics**
To download a copy of OEM's "Ready New York: Hurricanes and New York City", [click here](#).
- **ARC Urges Family Preparedness for Severe Weather**
The American Red Cross (ARC) urges families and communities to be prepared as the threat of severe weather looms nearer to the East Coast. They provide shelters, meals and other emergency assistance to storm victims and recommend the following precautions:
 - Create and Practice a Family Disaster Plan
 - Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit
 - Heed Storm Warnings: Listen to local radio and TV
 - Prepare Your Home for High Winds



For details, [click here](#).

Call ARC representatives:
202.303.5551

- **Pandemic Flu Preparedness**

- On May 3, the White House announced its Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan, warning employers that as much as 40% of the work force could be off the job and that every segment of society must prepare.



To download "The Strategy for Pandemic Influenza":
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/nspi.pdf

www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/pandemic-influenza.html

- **We All Can Help Deter the Spread of Flu**
Dr. Isaac Weisfuse, deputy commissioner of disease control in NYC's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, suggests people practice what he calls "respiratory etiquette." He advises, "...cover your cough, cover your sneezes, wash your hands. Although those sound like old-fashioned things, they are actually important in terms of interrupting transmission of a respiratory agent like flu."



Contact Dr. Weisfuse at:
iweisfus@health.nyc.gov

www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cd/cd-avianflu-fs.shtml

- **Is Your House of Worship Prepared?**

Susan Lockwood, Director, Planning & Training, is available to train the leadership and congregation members of your house of worship in disaster preparedness. NYDIS teaches the OEM Ready New York course on personal and household



preparedness, how to make a Go Bag, and how houses of worship should prepare for ministry continuity. This training also offers instruction on self-care, disaster spiritual care, disaster management and ministry, and compassion fatigue.

To schedule a training, contact Susan:
212.669.6104
slockwood@nydis.org

- **RNY Preparedness Guides**

OEM's Ready New York preparedness campaign is designed to help New Yorkers better prepare for all types of emergencies. The following preparedness guides and brochures are available online:



- Household Preparedness Guide
- Hurricanes and New York City
- Beat the Heat
- Seniors & People with Disabilities
- Emergency Planning for Small & Mid-Sized Companies
- Pet Preparedness
- Ready New York: Pocket Guide

To download these guides, [click here](#).

www.nyc.gov/html/oem

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Save The Date

- **NYDIS/OEM Ready New York Training**



*Helping Houses of Worship
Better Prepare in the Event
of a Disaster*



NYDIS has teamed with the NYC OEM to provide six exciting and informative Ready New York events throughout the year on emergency preparedness. These free events focus on an all-hazard approach to personal, congregational, and community preparedness and are open to everyone of all faiths in each community. Refreshments will be served.

Dates, Times, and House of Worship Locations

THIS MONTH: [Register Now](#)

Wednesday, May 24, 6:30-8:30 pm

Central Synagogue, Manhattan: 123 E. 55th St.

Tuesday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Staten Island: 225 St. Paul's Ave.

Sunday, August 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

Islamic Society of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn: 6807 5th Ave.

Tuesday, September 12, 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Helena's Roman Catholic Church, Bronx: 1315 Olmstead Ave.

Tuesday, October 10, 6:30-8:30 pm

Salvation Army-Harlem Temple, Manhattan: 540 Lenox Ave.

To register to attend one of these events, go to:

www.nydis.org/oem2006

If you require any special accommodations, please contact NYDIS at least five days before the event.

For more information about the events, call NYDIS:
212.669.6100

For more information about the NYC Office of Emergency Management's Ready New York Program:

www.nyc.gov/readyny

- **LI/NYC Emergency Management Conference**

"Back to Basics"

Wednesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 1

Huntington Hilton

598 Broadhollow Rd

Melville, Long Island, NY



For details, go to:

www.linycemconference.com

- **NY State VOAD Human Services Conference**

Tuesday, June 27 - Wednesday, June 28

Long Island University

C.W. Post Campus

720 Northern Blvd.

Brookville, Long Island, NY



For details on the workshops:

Rebecca Buzon, NYSVOAD Coordinator

585.328.3380 x127

rebecca@foodlinkny.org

Register here:

www.nysvoad.com

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Job Opportunities In Disaster Services

- **NYDIS, Director, Disaster Planning and Training**

We are seeking a program director to manage NYDIS's disaster mitigation education and preparedness training initiatives and our interagency and government disaster planning needs. The current director, The Rev. Susan Lockwood, is leaving this position effective June 15, 2006.

If you are interested in learning more about this position:
www.nydis.org/about/15.php

To apply, please email your Cover Letter and Resume to:
pgudaitis@nydis.org or fax to 212.669.6101.

- **Safe Horizon Seeks Community Outreach Coordinator**

Reporting to the Director of Emergency Planning and Preparedness, the Community Outreach Coordinator will manage the development and maintenance of the New York City CAN disaster resource database, including outreach, data collection and entry; maintain contact with agencies that provide disaster human services; integrate the CAN technology initiatives with Safe Horizon's case management system and resource database project; and other activities.



To apply, mail or fax resume with cover letter to Jeremiah Dameron, Director, Safe Horizon, 2 Lafayette Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10007. Fax: 212.577.3039.

www.safehorizon.org

- **Be a Docent for Ground Zero Tours**

The September 11th Families Association trains volunteer docents to lead tours of ground zero.



www.911wvfa.org

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We Recommend

- **World Cares Center's Free Wellness Services**

They include ear acupuncture, relaxation exercises, yoga, health seminars, Tai-Chi and message therapy at two locations: September Space Lower Manhattan at 11 Broadway and September Space Midtown Manhattan at 520 8th Avenue.



To RSVP, contact:

Laura Horowitz
646.289.3098

lorowitz@worldcares.org

www.worldcares.org

- **NYPD Urges: If You See Something Say Something**

NYPD SHIELD is a program that offers private sector security managers (including security directors of houses of worship) a way to obtain information and engage Police resources. It provides a wide range of training to assist public and private sector entities in



defending against terrorism, keeps them informed of developing situations and special event preparations in the city, and new intelligence and threat information. It is notable in that this initiative advocates a two-way street - information flowing in both directions. During counterterrorism deployments especially, the knowledge held by the public of buildings, blocks and neighborhoods, knowing what belongs and what is out of place, is crucial.

The 24-hour hotline is:
888.NYC.SAFE or 311 (In an emergency, always call 911)
703.352.1846
creiss@riskinstitute.org

For contacts in each borough and more information:
www.nypdshield.org

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Make A Gift To NYDIS

- **SUPPORT NYDIS - DONATE ONLINE**

If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Fl., New York, NY 10007. NYDIS is a 501(c)(3) corporation and contributions are 100% tax deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.



To donate online, go to the NYDIS homepage and click "Make a Donation":
www.nydis.org

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