



October 18, 2006

50th Edition

**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' Annual Meeting October 26



The NYDIS Board of Directors Invites You to Attend Our 2006
ANNUAL MEETING AND RECEPTION

Thursday, October 26, 2006 • 6:00 PM
NYU Kimmel Center • Rosenthal Pavilion, 10th Floor
60 Washington Square Park South

Keynote Speaker
GORDON CAMPBELL
CEO, Safe Horizon • President, Human Services Council of NYC

Special Guests
THE REV. JAMES PULLINGS, JR.
Church of God in Christ — Eastern New York District

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER KELLY MCKINNEY **ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER MYLA HARRISON, M.D.**
NYC Office of Emergency Management NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Recognition Ceremony for
MAJOR DONORS, 9/11 & KATRINA PARTNERS, NYDIS VOLUNTEERS
and a special tribute to our Retiring President,
ELDER BETTY JONES

Register online at www.nydis.org/rsvp by Friday, October 20
Call 212.669.6100

Business Attire Halal/Kosher

Download more information (pdf):

www.nydis.org/resources/materials/NYDIS_Annual_Mtg_06.pdf

RSVP online:

www.nydis.org/rsvp

■ NYDIS Joining HSC in New Orleans

Peter Gudaitis has been invited to participate in the Human Service Council's (HSC) trip to New Orleans on November 6 and 7 that will include a group site visit to the affected area, followed by meetings and discussion at the Institute for Mental Hygiene. New Orleans service providers want to hear about lessons learned after 9/11 with regard to mental health services for children and adults, as well as building and sustaining collaborative networks. In turn, they will talk about the current gaps in services and some of the new programs that are now launching to address some of the evacuee's mental health needs in LA.



www.humanservicescouncil.org

■ NYDIS/OEM Concludes Ready NY Trainings Pilot 2006



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



NYDIS teamed up with NYC OEM from April to October to offer emergency preparedness training events in houses of worship of all faiths in each NYC borough. Each event focused on personal, congregational, and community preparedness and was free, open to all, with presentations on how to put together a household disaster

plan, a Go Bag, an emergency supply kit, and a House of Worship response plan. With the support of the elected officials in each area reaching out to their constituencies, an ad campaign and blurbs in the press, on the Internet, and on Cable TV outlets, the trainings, attended by over 250 people, effectively reached out on a grass-roots level to the communities.

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

www.nyc.gov/readyny

■ NYDIS and Partners Host "Five Years Beyond 9/11"

The October 4 conference that NYDIS and 26 partner agencies held for 200 9/11 human service, mental health and spiritual care caregivers, "Five Years Beyond 9/11: Creating Vital Connections As We Approach The Future". Sixteen seminars covered self-care, the prominence of loss, spiritual and trauma recovery, and disaster preparedness planning for future disasters. Rep. Carolyn Maloney was the Keynote Speaker.



Gudaitis, Maloney, Shufro, Brenner

To review the conference findings and resources visit:

www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/07-19-06e.php

■ NYDIS Invited to CDC Pandemic Flu Roundtable in DC

On October 5, NYDIS Board Member The Rev. Canon Storm Swain of EDNY and Sister Nurah Jeter Ammat'ullah, Executive Director of the Muslim Women's Institute for Research & Development, attended the CDC Pandemic Flu Roundtable in Washington, DC on behalf of NYDIS. At the invitation of the CDC, attendees looked at past pandemics and possible future scenarios; addressed the importance of standardized communications adaptable for diverse cultures; and examined ways to mitigate a new outbreak. The Roundtable consisted of representatives from faith communities, HHS and other agencies.



www.cdc.gov

■ NYDIS ED Addresses Clergy Summit in France/UK

NYDIS' Executive Director Peter Gudaitis was invited by Bishop Sisk of the Episcopal Diocese of New York to join a delegation of Diocesan leaders on a trip to London, England and Merville, France. In addition to gatherings in London, the trip included the "Two Cities Area Clergy Conference", October 10-12 at a Monastery near Lille, France. The event, attended by 120 clergy, covered common challenges between London, Paris, Berlin and New York ministries. In light of London's terror attacks in 2005 and the more recent airline terrorist plot, Gudaitis spoke about ministering with the reality and threat of terrorism, specifically as it relates to planning and preparing the faith communities. The



delegation traveled to the UK and France by invitation of the Anglican Diocese of London.

■ **NYDIS Becomes FAO Business Partner**

NYDIS welcomes Moet Mendes, an office intern, to our staff. Moet, who is currently a junior at the Brooklyn High School for the Arts, comes to us via Futures and Options, Inc., a non-profit organization that places local high-school students in supervised internship programs. Prior to NYDIS, Moet was a staff member with summer youth programs in Brooklyn including the Administration for Children Services and the Susan McKinney Nursing Home.



www.futuresandoptions.org

■ **NYC 9/11 Recovery Resources Online**

A comprehensive list of news, updates and resources for 9/11 victims and injured recovery workers, updated weekly:

www.nydis.org/recovery/11.php

■ **NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable Updates**

- **Online 9/11 Client Inquiry Form**

To access the form, go to:

www.nydis.org/unmetneeds/7.php



- **NYC 9/11 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, October 31 – 3:00-5:00 pm**
- **Monday, November 13 – 1:00-3:30 pm**

- **NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs 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, October 19 – 9:30-12:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, October 25 – 9:30-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, November 2 – 9:30-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, November 16 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case:

Maggie Jarry, Moderator

212.669.6105

mjarry@nydis.org

■ NYC Katrina Evacuee Resources Online

A comprehensive list of news, updates and resources for Katrina evacuees in NYC, updated weekly:
www.nydis.org/katrina

■ NYC Katrina Unmet Needs Roundtable

• NYC Katrina In-Service Training for Case Managers

In May, NYDIS was awarded funding through 2006 to staff and host the NYC Katrina Unmet Needs Roundtable. Case managers working with Katrina or Rita survivors are required to attend an in-service training prior to presenting at the Roundtable. The purpose of these trainings is to provide case managers with a better understanding of the workings of the Roundtable and to help increase the likelihood that a client's needs could be funded.



• NYC Katrina Unmet Needs Roundtable

The NYC Katrina Unmet Needs Roundtable aids case managers in securing cash assistance and to share resources to best meet the unmet needs of disaster victims so that they may regain self-sufficiency and recover from the impact of a disaster. The Roundtable helps to facilitate long-term recovery by supporting clients' recovery plans. Case managers who would like to present at the NYC Katrina Unmet Needs Roundtable may submit a request the Friday prior to the Roundtable meeting.

- **Tuesday, October 31 - 2:30-5:00 pm**
- **Tuesday, November 28 - 2:30-5:00 pm**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case:
Adja Sakho, Moderator
212.669.6108
asakho@nydis.org

■ Upstate NY Flood Recovery Resources Online

A comprehensive list of news, updates and resources for upstate NY flood recovery, updated weekly:
www.nydis.org/recovery/12.php

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COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

■ NY Snowstorm Gets Federal/State Emergency Declaration

An early snowstorm dropped almost two feet of snow on western NY on October 13, leaving more than 350,000 people without power, and killing three people. On October 15 President Bush declared NYS an emergency and Governor Pataki declared a State Disaster Emergency for Erie, Genesee, Niagara and Orleans



counties. FEMA is providing federal funding to coordinate the disaster relief efforts. As of October 17, NYS Electric and Gas expects to have most of the service restored by the weekend.



For more information:

www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=30738

Contact NYSEG for updates, to report a hazardous situation, or if you are without power:

800.572.1131

www.nyseg.com/nysegweb/webcontent.nsf/community/WNYStorm

www.semo.state.ny.us/index.cfm

■ Private Plane Crashes Into Upper East Side Building

• Mayor Lauds Quick Emergency Response

With Commissioner Bruno at his side, Mayor Bloomberg reported that NYC's preparedness efforts were indeed effective immediately after a small plane crashed into a high-rise apartment building on East 72nd Street on October 11, killing the pilot, Yankee's pitcher Cory Lidle and his flight instructor, Tyler Stanger. The plane hit two floors and crashed to the street below, setting fire to one unit in the building. The effort involved more than 300 firefighters and 150 police officers, which the Mayor called a massive response. The police and fire commanders placed their command posts alongside one another, exchanging information that was indicative of lessons learned from 9/11. Nobody was hurt in the fire and the building was safely evacuated. NYDIS' sympathies are with family and friends during this time.



www.nyc.gov

• ARC Provides Respite On-Site

Though federal officials promptly declared there was no evidence of a terrorist attack, when news of a plane crashing into a building broke, many naturally thought of 9/11. Since such an event can trigger Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in people who have suffered through similar events, notably 9/11, the American Red Cross (ARC) had a 24/7 mobile Respite Center set up on East 73rd Street in the Red Cross tent.



Contact ARC of Greater NY:

877.733.2767

www.nyredcross.org

■ Councilman Liu Presses MTA for Emergency Upgrades

At a City Hall hearing this week, Councilmember John C. Liu, Chairperson of the Transportation Committee, urged the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to upgrade evacuation and communication procedures for



subway emergencies. Thousands of commuters, stranded for hours during recent disruptions in the transit system, complained that the MTA keeps them in the dark, increasing unnecessary confusion and anxiety.

NY1's Report of the Hearing:

<http://www.ny1.com/ny1/content/index.jsp?stid=5&aid=63212>

Contact Elizabeth Monterrosa, Legislative Coordinator:
212.788.7022

liu@council.nyc.ny.us

■ NYS Senator Duane's Preparedness Forum

On Thursday, October 26, at 6:00 pm, NYS Senator Thomas Duane of the 29th District in Manhattan, will be holding a Community Forum at the Stein Senior Center at 340 East 24th Street in the First Floor Dining Room. This is the third of a series of Forums Senator Duane is holding in each neighborhood in his District. The goal of the forums is to get people information on how to be prepared in the event of an emergency, and to give them the opportunity to get their questions answered.



Contact Adam Riff, Legislative Aide:
212.633.8052

adam@tomduane.com

www.tomduane.comlogo_Annual_Mtg_06.gif

■ Con Ed Releases Report on NW Queens Blackout

The nine-day blackout in NW Queens in July is now attributed to a series of events that includes an underground fire. In a 600-page report issued on October 12, Con Ed analyzes the causes of the outage that affected 25,000 customers and presents a plan to improve service, reliability and communication. The report finds that the decision to maintain the network prevented the outage from spreading to 90,000 additional customers in NW Queens. Plans include upgrading equipment within the NW Queens substation, and at others around the system, and investing \$58 million in the Long Island City network. Con Ed will add 250 telephone lines to call centers, install a better system to track outages and improve the automated system for customers to report electrical outages.



To read a copy of "Con Edison's Comprehensive Report on the Power Outages in Northwest Queens in July 2006":

www.coned.com/messages/pr20061012.asp

www.coned.com

■ Faith and Community Help Amish Cope with Loss

Dealing with the aftermath of the schoolhouse tragedy, the Amish community's strong faith and close-knit community ties seems to have prepared them unusually well to cope with it. Their faith teaches them to look upon the tragedy as God's will and their approach to this



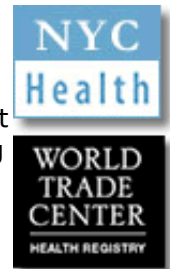
tragic event may be exemplified by their having started a charity fund last week not only to help the victims' families, but also to help the gunman's widow. As a coda to this story, the school in Nickel Mines, PA was demolished by private contractors before dawn on October 12. The Amish planned to leave a quiet pasture where the schoolhouse stood. Mike Hart, a spokesman for the Bart Fire Company, noted, "It seems this is a type of closure for them."

Read the NY Times October 4 article on Faith and Community:
www.nytimes.com/2006/10/04/us/04amish.html

To learn more about how you can help, go to the Mennonite Disaster Service website:
www.mds.mennonite.net

■ WTC Health Follow-up Survey Delayed

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) announced on October 11 that there is a two to three month delay in distributing the first WTC Health Registry Follow-Up Survey. This survey provides the first opportunity for enrollees to report any new or worsening health conditions, and it is an essential part of the Registry's effort to track the long-term health effects of 9/11.



For a copy of the WTC Health Registry Survey:
healthinfo@wtcsurvey.org

Contact the WTC Health Registry:
212.442.1585 or 866.692.9827
wtchr@health.nyc.gov

Contact the NYC DOHMH:
healthinfo@health.nyc.gov

www.wtcregistry.org

■ Aid for Upstate NY June Floods Tops \$150M

The NY State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) reports that, as of October 6, more than \$150 million has been approved or obligated by FEMA and NYS for assistance to families, individuals and public entities that suffered from June's severe flooding in Upstate NY.



Read the entire summary and assistance information (pdf):
[www.semo.state.ny.us/uploads/1006%20NY%20Tops%20\\$150M.pdf](http://www.semo.state.ny.us/uploads/1006%20NY%20Tops%20$150M.pdf)

www.semo.state.ny.us

■ NYS Workers Comp Law Changes - Emergency Meeting

Learn about the changes in NYS Workers' Compensation Law benefits. Workers and volunteers who did rescue, recovery or cleanup worker after 9/11 are urged to come to this Emergency Meeting on Wednesday, October 18 from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon at the UFT office at 52 Broadway. There is no charge but space is limited. Sponsors are



NYCOSH, WTC Worker and Volunteer Medical Monitoring Program, BALCONY, UCC-DRM, NYS AFL-CIO, Wall Street Rising and NYDIS.

RSVP to Jonathan Bennett, NYCOSH:

jbennett@nycosh.org

fax: 212.227.9854

www.nycosh.org

■ President Signs Homeland Security Appropriations

On October 4, President Bush signed the Fiscal Year 2007 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill that will adequately fund the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and allow it to continue its mission of safeguarding the nation. In particular, it strengthens FEMA, which remains in DHS, reinforcing DHS' ability to operate as a comprehensive all hazards agency. The legislation further enhances FEMA's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.



Read the DHS Press Release:

www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1159998463126.shtm

[Download the Bill](#) (pdf).

www.dhs.gov

■ DHS Secretary Chertoff Applauds FY2007

Secretary Michael Chertoff responded positively to the news of the passage of the FY 2007 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. "The bill provides \$34.8 billion in discretionary appropriations for DHS and will allow us to build on our many accomplishments...The bill wisely reinforces DHS' ability to operate as a comprehensive all hazards agency by keeping FEMA's capabilities within DHS. DHS can thereby enhance FEMA's ability to coordinate response and recovery efforts."



Read Secretary Chertoff's entire comments:

www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1159898054209.shtm

■ Non-Discrimination of Disaster Victims Law Passed

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Ranking Member Senator Joe Lieberman praised passage of provisions he championed to protect non-English speakers from discrimination during national disasters. "Hurricane Katrina underscored the importance of good communications before a disaster, to help people evacuate and protect themselves, and afterward," said Sen. Lieberman. "...These provisions will ensure that all Americans, including those with limited English skills, receive information in their native languages before and after disaster strikes." It will also provide translated disaster preparedness and response information and language services, included in the FY 2007 DHS Appropriations bill, and directs FEMA to work with state and local governments to address the needs of non-English speakers in all of FEMA's disaster plans.



Read Senator Lieberman's entire announcement:

■ HHS Awards \$58M through Compassion Capital Fund

On October 6, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced awards totaling \$58 million through the Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) to 420 faith-based and community organizations to enhance their ability to provide social services for those in need. The primary purpose of the CCF is to help faith-based and community organizations increase their effectiveness, enhance their ability to provide social services to serve those most in need, expand their organizations and create collaborations to better serve those in need.



More information about the CCF:

www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/06/20020605-9.html

www.hhs.gov

■ New Orleans Population Dropped 60%

According to a new Survey conducted by the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) and the CDC, since Katrina the population of New Orleans is now only 187,525, less than half of what it was. According to LA Health and Hospitals Secretary Dr. Fred Cerise, "In order to best plan and allocate public service resources and disaster recovery funds it is critical to have accurate population and demographic data. This information is also crucial for the creation of evacuation and preparation guidelines for future emergency response activities." These new numbers indicate that Katrina evacuees may take a while, if at all, to return.



The 2006 LA Health and Population Survey:

popest.org/popestla2006

www.lra.louisiana.gov

■ Fannie Mae Provides Assistance to Katrina Evacuees

- **Fannie Mae's Rent Free Program**

Fannie Mae is providing homes rent free for 18 months to Katrina and Rita evacuees. Though not a FEMA program, applicants must be registered with FEMA, which is working with Fannie Mae on this program.



For daily updates on available properties, contact Rosie:
512.977.6514

- **Fannie Mae's Purchasing Program**

Fannie Mae is offering \$15,000 toward the down payment and closing costs on a Fannie Mae owned home.

Program information:

800.572.4562

www.fanniemae.com

■ FEMA's Simpler Katrina/Rita Evacuee Aid Form

On October 12, FEMA announced that it had greatly simplified the form for Katrina and Rita evacuees to reapply for extended rent subsidies. About 30,000 evacuee households are still eligible for housing aid. The extensions are to February 24, 2007 for Katrina evacuees, and to March 28, 2007 for Rita evacuees. The new one-page form asks for name, address and income, and whether the applicant is seeking a job and still requires housing aid.



To apply:

800.621.3362

www.fema.gov/assistance/index.shtm

www.fema.gov

■ CEO Task Force Formed to Help in Disaster Planning

Nearly 30 CEOs have teamed in an unprecedented effort to set up an "emergency protocol" with the US government and charities so they can all respond better to the next natural or manmade disaster. CEO members of the Partnership for Disaster Response (PDR) task force, put together by the Business Roundtable, met for the first time last month in Washington. The protocol includes a 24/7 direct phone link to the DHS and a website with real-time news about what government needs from business. "We're starting to put our actions where our words are," said Bill McDermott, CEO of SAP Americas. A meeting is planned in November at the White House with the CEOs, DHS, FEMA, and emergency operations chiefs from state and local governments. In the next year, the CEO task force will assess what supplies and equipment are on hand at corporations, so that the government can request and get supplies quickly.



Read the entire October 12 USA Today article:

www.usatoday.com/money/companies/management/2006-10-11-disaster-planning_x.htm

Contact Maria Schneider, Manager, PDR

212.704.4482

m.schneider@respondtodisaster.org

www.respondtodisaster.com/mambo

■ 9/11 Recovery Worker Compensation & Registry

Thanks to a new law, most workers and volunteers who did rescue, recovery or cleanup work after 9/11 are now eligible to register with the Workers' Compensation Board. By registering, workers and volunteers who are not sick will have the right to obtain workers' compensation if they become sick in the future. Those who are sick, but missed the 2003 deadline to file a claim, can register and file a claim at the same time. The new law also applies both to people who did paid or unpaid work. Anyone who has already been turned down for 9/11-related workers' compensation can file a new claim or register under the new law. The deadline to file a claim or to register with the Workers' Compensation Board under the new law is August 14, 2007.

For information to file a claim or to register, contact New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH):
212.227.6440 x23 (English)
212.227.6440 x24 (Spanish)

Fact sheet about the new law (pdf):

www.nycosh.org/environment_wtc/WTC/2006WCFactSheet.pdf

■ Testing Led to TSA's New Carry-on Rules

Soon after the London bomb threat in August, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) began to conduct scientific experiments to analyze the actual threat that the size of liquid containers may pose. Because the testing showed that the terror risk is in fact reduced by limiting the size of the liquids carried by passengers on planes, the TSA plans to keep the limit on liquids in place indefinitely.



Up-to-Date Regulations and Travel Tips:

www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm

www.tsa.gov

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FROM OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

● ARC Offers Mental Health Aid to Katrina Evacuees

The American Red Cross is making access to mental health and substance abuse treatment available to those affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. The Access to Care program is an initiative of ARC's Hurricane Recovery Program and is administered by Link2Health, a non-profit subsidiary of the Mental Health Association of NYC. Coverage is retroactive to August 30, 2005 and will cover services received on or prior to April 1, 2008 for those who lived in a pre-disaster area designated by FEMA for individual assistance following Katrina, Rita or Wilma and suffered significant impact.



Enroll before October 1, 2007:

866.794.4673

www.a2care.org/ssl/prescreen.html

www.a2care.org

● Sikh Coalition's 5th Anniversary

On October 15 the Sikh Coalition celebrated its five year anniversary. Though they informally began their work on September 11, 2001, it was five years ago on October 15 that they were incorporated and formally began building an institution to ensure Sikhs can practice their faith.



Accomplishments in the past five years include the Annual Diversity Essay Competition which attracted 1600 essays from around the world; over 5,500 agency officials, police officers, teachers, human resources professionals, and college students that received training on Sikhs and Sikh practices, including the FBI, DHS, Department of Transportation, and the NYPD; the creation of an online hate crimes database; and Congress institutionalizing the term "Sikh-American" unanimously passing a resolution condemning hate crimes against Sikh-Americans.

info@sikhcoalition.org

www.sikhcoalition.org

- **NYC OEM Launches Ad Campaign**

This month, NYC OEM rolled out its advertising campaign consisting of a series of outdoor advertisements that appear throughout the city on bus sides, bus stop shelters, billboards, and in subway cars. Besides encouraging New Yorkers to learn what they can do to prepare for emergencies, these Ready NY ads are also a reminder that hurricanes, blackouts, and floods can and do happen in NYC, and there are simple ways to prepare for these and other hazards.



See the ads:

www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/ready/about_outdoor.shtml

www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/home/home.shtml

- **NYDIS Board Member Honored at Brooklyn Iftar**

On October 10, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz brought together Brooklyn's Muslim community for the 3rd Annual Iftar Dinner in honor of Ramadan. Among this year's honorees was NYDIS Board Member, Br. Adem Carroll of the Muslim Consultative Network. BP Markowitz hosted the Iftar break-fast dinner at Borough Hall.

- **FEMA's New EMI Superintendent**

On October 1, FEMA Director Dave Paulison announced that Cortez Lawrence officially began his tenure as Superintendent of the Emergency Management Institute (EMI). Cortez was director of the National Fire Programs (NFP) Division at the US Fire Administration within the DHS Preparedness Directorate, where he directed the staff of NFP in its crisis mission in response 9/11. With a background in public safety and emergency management, Cortez will become a member of FEMA's Senior Executive Service overseeing critical mission areas.



www.fema.gov

- **STAR NYC Trauma Seminar**

Part 1: Wednesday, October 25-Friday, October 27

Part 2: Wednesday, November 8-Friday, November 10
Unification Theological Seminary
New Yorker/Ramada Hotel
481 8th Avenue, Manhattan

Please submit candidates to participate in STAR's two-part "Introductory Training in Trauma Awareness and Resilience" seminar. Part I will focus primarily on the Trauma Healing Journey; and Part II will focus more broadly on Peacebuilding, Restorative Justice, and Peacebuilding as components of trauma recovery and resilience. This Training will be facilitated by STAR NYC associates and master trainers and you are strongly encouraged to register for both parts. Applications are being accepted from leaders (community and/or faith based) and caregivers in the NYC area.



For the Application, [click here](#) (doc).

For more information:
212.227.8484
starnyc@emu.edu

www.emu.edu/ctp/starnyc/index.html

- **LDRNY's Pastoral Retreat**

LDRNY and its partner, Faithful Response, are having a retreat, "Strategies for Pastors During Times of Crisis and Anxiety", on Monday, November 13 to Wednesday, November 15. The Keynote Speaker is Lutheran pastor and psychotherapist the Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke, an expert on family systems theory, who is often called upon to discuss how pastors can take care of themselves during crisis.



To register, contact Joan Keville:
516.679.0080
joan@faithfulresponse.org

www.ldrny.org

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PREPAREDNESS CORNER

- **Downloadable Ready NY Preparedness Guides**

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




- Beat the Heat
- Emergency Planning for Small & Mid-Sized Companies
- Hurricanes and New York City
- Pet Preparedness

- Ready NY Household Preparedness Guide
- Ready NY: Pocket Guide
- Seniors & People with Disabilities

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


www.nyc.gov/html/oem

- **October is National Fire Prevention Month**

Throughout the month, the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)  will join with the fire service in reminding citizens to take steps to prevent all types of fires. Learn how you can prevent fires.

www.usfa.dhs.gov

- **FEMA's Helpline Telephone Numbers**

Information on the status of disaster assistance and other needs is just a phone call away. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) and NYS's toll-free helpline numbers are available for those who have questions once they have registered. Callers may check the status of their application for assistance from the Upstate NY storms and floods; and get answers and referrals to applicable agencies and organizations. 


The FEMA Helpline is 800.621.FEMA (3362) and is open 8:00 am-8:00 pm daily.

Learn how to get help:

www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=29719

- **Hurricane Preparedness**

- **NYC OEM Hurricane Preparedness Presentations**

NYC OEM is offering three Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness Presentations in October: one in Harlem and two in Brooklyn. Please pass these fliers on to your membership, post them in your facilities and feel free to attend. 

Monday, October 23

Harlem at 6:00 pm [Click here for the Flyer](#) (pdf)

Tuesday, October 24


Brooklyn at 7:30 pm [Click here for the Flyer](#) (pdf)

Tuesday, October 31

Brooklyn at 7:30 pm [Click here for the Flyer](#) (pdf)

www.nyc.gov/readynewyork

- **NOAA Public Alert Radios Distributed to US Schools**

NOAA has begun distributing Public Alert Radios to US public schools to help safeguard the children by alerting school personnel to 

severe weather conditions, terrorist threats and other emergencies, even when other communication lines are unavailable. This school distribution program is sponsored by the DHS/Citizen Corps; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and the US Department of Education/Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov/proginfo.htm

- **Flu Preparedness**

- **Abundant Supplies of Flu Vaccine This Season**

After approving a fifth Flu vaccine for sale, CDC officials predict that for the first time in four years there will be as much as 115 million doses this year, a record supply. That is up from about 61 million doses two years ago. The turnaround is the culmination of a long effort by public health officials and vaccine manufacturers to recover from chronic Flu shot shortages. By last week, manufacturers had delivered 26 million doses to doctors' offices and clinics and by the end of October 75 million doses are expected to be delivered.

Read the New York Times October 6 article:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/06/us/06flu.html>

- **West Nile Virus**

- **NYC DOHMH Virus Alert**

Please download and pass on NYC's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) alert regarding West Nile Virus.



Download alert (pdf):

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

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SAVE THE DATE

- **Post-Trauma Healing Training at Fordham U**

Saturday, October 21
10:00 am-4:30 pm
Fordham University, 9th floor



This all-day training on "International Humanitarian Relief and Post Trauma Healing" is a mental health outreach program developed by Anie Kalayjian. It is comprised of a series of six consecutive steps through which various aspects of traumatic exposure are assessed, identified, explored, and worked through. The fee is \$75 and you are encouraged to RSVP as soon as possible.

For more information and to register, contact Dr. Kalayjian:
201.941.2266

kalayjiana@aol.com

www.meaningfulworld.com

- **Citizen Planning Roundtable Workshop for Flu Pandemic**

Monday, October 23
9:00 am-4:30 pm
Keck Center, Room 100
Washington, DC

Disasters Roundtable

Drawing from research and practical experience, participants will discuss the need and opportunity for citizen involvement in preparedness planning for a potential flu pandemic, which is a growing concern among scientists, public health officials, as well as private sector decision makers. Sponsored by the Disasters Roundtable and the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Institute of Medicine.

Register:

dels.nas.edu/dr/f18.shtml

dels.nas.edu/dr

- **International Spirituality and Health Conference**

Thursday, November 9–Saturday, November 11
Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina
Vancouver, Canada



The 4th International Multidisciplinary Conference on Spirituality and Health: *Interweaving Science, Wisdom, and Compassion* will address how spirituality relates to health and the health sciences in a multi-faith forum.

Download the brochure:

www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Spirituality_2006_index.htm

www.interprofessional.ubc.ca

- **NOVA's 2nd Bi-Annual Crisis Response Conference**

Friday, November 10-Monday, November 13
Wyndham Riverfront Hotel
North Little Rock, AR



This year's national conference, "*Bridge to Hope: Partnerships in Preparedness*", is open to graduates of any NOVA-approved Crisis Response Team Training. If you are a staff member or volunteer of an organization affiliated with National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) that provides emotional and/or spiritual care you may be eligible to register, even if you are not NOVA trained. Please contact your agency or NOVA for more information.

For registration information:

www.trynova.org/events/2006CrisisRespConf

www.trynova.org

- **IAEM 2006 Emergency Management Conference**

Sunday, November 12-Wednesday, November 15
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL



The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) presents "*Going All the Way: Putting Plans Into Action*", which will provide a forum for current trends, topics and the latest tools and technology in emergency management and homeland security. Under Secretary for FEMA, David Paulison, will be the keynote speaker.

Register online:

www.iaem.com/members_online/registration/regstart.asp

Download the Brochure (pdf):

www.iaem.com/documents/IAEM2006preconfbrochure082906.pdf

www.iaem.com

- **Pandemic Flu Public-Private Preparedness Conference**

Tuesday November 14-Wednesday, November 15
AED Conference Center
Washington, DC



"End-to-End Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza: Opportunities for Public-Private Collaboration" will bring together senior government officials and top industry executives to explore how an effective partnership between government and industry can be developed to tackle the next critical steps in delivering on public health preparedness for Pandemic Flu. From development to production to supply to administration, they will examine each step in preparedness to identify the opportunities for strengthening government and industry collaboration and to address the capabilities that must be in place to ensure success. Congressman Mike Rogers to deliver Keynote Address.

Download Brochure (pdf):

www.infocastinc.com/pand06/docs/brochure.pdf

Registration Form:

www.infocastinc.com/pand06/registration.html

Call 818.888.4444

www.infocastinc.com/pand06.html

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WE RECOMMEND

- **9/11 Teens Supporting Teens**

A new social connection and resource to help teens who have been affected by 9/11, Teens Supporting Teens offers fun activities, field trips and a safe



space to talk. It is free of charge and open to teens 14 to 16 who have been impacted by 9/11. Meetings are held twice a month from 4:00-5:30 pm at 589 Eighth Avenue on the 15th Floor. COAC has participated in the WTC Permanency Project since December 2001, promoting well-being among those impacted by 9/11.

Contact Cynthia Amodeo, COAC Counselor:
212.475.0222 x210
camodeo@coac.org

www.coac.org

- **Tribute WTC Visitor Center Opens to Public**

On September 18 the doors to the Tribute WTC Visitor Center opened to the public. The Center offers visitors to Ground Zero absorbing gallery experiences that interactively share personal stories of 9/11. Daily Walking Tours led by participants in these events provide uniquely personal perspectives on the events of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001. The Center will remain in place until the permanent WTC Memorial and Museum are completed.



Are you interested in being a volunteer? Contact:
Rachael Grygorcewicz
212.422.3520
volunteer@tributenyc.org

www.tributenyc.org

- **Post Your Resources on NYDIS.org**

Do you have a useful resource for caseworkers, recovery providers and clients that you would like to submit? The [NYDIS Resource Library](#) on our website contains a large compilation of disaster resources including downloadable documents, links to useful websites, and references to printed publications. We welcome your agency's resources, which can be posted on NYDIS.org by clicking on the "Resources" Tab. You will then find directions on how to "[Submit a Resource](#)".



www.nydis.org

- **Book Review: *The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation***

Based on the *Final Report of the National 9/11 Commission*, Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colon not only condense the almost 600-page *Report* to 150 pages, but they make the findings accessible in the hope to attract young readers and those who might otherwise be overwhelmed by the original book. Like the original, this graphic version is about what led up to 9/11 and the inner workings of government agencies. The text follows the original report and the artwork powerfully conveys its urgency. Published on the fifth anniversary of 9/11, it is a thoughtful and easy to understand account of the *Final Report*.



Hill and Wang Publishers:

[Click here.](#)

- **PlainViews: E-Newsletter for Spiritual Care Providers**

Subscribe to this bi-monthly e-newsletter offering views on Professional Practice, Advocacy, Education & Research, and Spiritual Development. Sponsored by the HealthCare Chaplaincy in NYC and edited by NYDIS Board Member Rev. Martha Jacobs.



Send your email address to:

info@plainviews.org

www.plainviews.org

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JOB & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **NYDIS, Office Volunteers**

We are seeking office volunteers to support the finance and disaster preparedness/training departments, and to answer phones and perform administrative duties for 20 hours per week. Positions begin immediately.



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

- **ARC, LA Ready Response Volunteers**

To be ready on very short notice to provide relief in Louisiana if a hurricane hits this year, the American Red Cross is pre-recruiting and training 100 volunteers trained and ready to help if necessary. Louisiana Ready Response Teams may be called upon between now and November 30 and will need to be "on-call", ready to deploy within 24 hours.



Please contact the ARC:

212.875.2255

LAResponseTeam@nyredcross.org

- **NYBR, Jewish Pastoral Counselor - Mississippi**

The New York Board of Rabbis is seeking a Pastoral Care professional to act as a Jewish counseling resource to both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities in Mississippi for two years. The Counselor will work closely with Jewish professionals and clergy of Mississippi, training them on the long term, psychological, emotional, and spiritual impact of disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina.

Learn more about this position (pdf):

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

To apply, fax or email your Cover Letter and Resume to:
Rabbi Stephen Roberts, Associate Executive Vice President
Fax: 212.983.3531
SRoberts@nybr.org

- **Join UCC's Trips to Volunteer in Disaster Recovery**

Are you interested in hands-on mission to help communities recovering from disaster? Spring Disaster Response Mission trips to the Gulf States are now being planned for the Spring of 2007, by the New York Conference of the United Christian Charities.



Conference Office:
315.446.3073

www.uccny.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

Want to receive NYDISnet via email? [Click here](#) for a free subscription!