

## CONTENTS

- Staff Selected Projects
- Legislative Update
- Fund Source Highlight
- Call for Participation

## STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION TRACKING AND EVALUATION

## WHAT IS THE SITE REPORT?

Division of Emergency Management Staff are tracking mitigation efforts in the State of Florida to document any areas for improvement, success stories, and to evaluate the process on a rolling basis. DEM Staff provide a short update on some of these efforts at each SHMPAT meeting in the form of these short newsletters, called SITE Reports.

The workgroup consists of a large number of users and regulators. This project is one that is important to the community because it is regularly updated to reflect Florida's changing context. **There is currently no SHMP goal relative to vulnerable populations.**

**Florida Division of Emergency Management—The Summer LMS Intern Program** placed graduate planning students in selected counties over the last two years to assist them with the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) plan update process. As a result, 17 counties received assistance, students received real world experience, and the experience helped many of them get jobs after graduating. The final summer internship after action report has been completed and will be placed as an appendix to the SHMP. **This project fulfills SHMP Goals 1 and 2 and Objectives 1.1 and 2.2.**

**Florida Division of Emergency Management—The Flood Mitigation Intern and Studio Program** is working to improve Section 7 (Severe Repetitive Loss) of the State Plan, as well as to produce best practice guides to help counties with flood mitigation related activities. One guide is for reducing severe repetitive losses and one is for strengthening floodplain plan portions of the LMS. **There is currently no SHMP goal relative to the development of best-practice guidance.**

## RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

**Florida Lottery—The GETS (Government Emergency Telecommunications System)**, a federal government owned, contractor operated system, is fully operational and has about 30 active card holders. Cardholders include executive management, security officials, District managers, and technical specialists. The system enables users to override a clogged telco queuing system for real time communications in the event of disaster related emergencies. **This project fulfills SHMP Goal 6 and Objective 6.1.**

## STAFF - SELECTED PROJECTS

**American Red Cross—The Disaster Education Simulator in Martin County** was initiated in 2004 and implemented in 2005. The program annually educates 10,000 participants in fire, hurricane, or tornado safety. The initial capital and operating costs were covered through a foundation grant and donations. Since the initial investment of \$50,000, the project has been operating through volunteer efforts (VISTA and others) and funded through the Red Cross budget. **This project fulfills SHMP Goal 3 and Objective 3.1.**

**American Red Cross—The organization's Goal Number 4** is to advocate government actions that help mitigate disaster damage and loss of life. This goal was identified by SITE staff as innovative, exemplary, or an example of a best practice. As part of an ongoing effort, the Red Cross continues to work with government agencies to advocate for mitigation. **This project fulfills SHMP Goal 1 and Objective 1.2.**

**Florida Department of Health—Vulnerable Populations Tool Kit** is open to a **multiagency workgroup** that takes census data and other information about vulnerable populations in Florida by county. The toolkit allows any agency with access to look at a county and pick types of populations by age brackets and use that to formulate programs or other mitigation actions based on those statistics. Those statistics can also be used for all areas of the hazard cycle.

...Continued from other side

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### SB S646: NATURAL HAZARD RISK RE- DUCTION ACT OF 2011

Introduced March 17, 2011, this act recognizes the impacts of hazard mitigation efforts and moves to continue and increase efforts which pertain specifically to earthquake, wind, fire, the interagency coordinating committee on natural hazards risk reduction, and hazard research.

Pertinent to Florida, the act authorizes around \$150 million towards the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program over the next five years.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Text for the bill can be found at:

[http://www.opencongress.org/  
bill/112-s646/text](http://www.opencongress.org/bill/112-s646/text)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please e-mail

[DEM-SHMPAT@em.myflorida.com](mailto:DEM-SHMPAT@em.myflorida.com)

*if you would like more  
information or to provide  
feedback*

**Florida Division of Emergency Management—SLOSH** (Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes) is a computerized model run by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to estimate storm surge heights and winds resulting from historical, hypothetical, or predicted hurricanes. Calculations are applied to a specific locale's shoreline, incorporating unique bay and river configurations, water depths, bridges, roads and other physical features. SLOSH is best used for defining potential maximum surge for a location. **This project fulfilled SHMP Goals 4 and Objective 4.1.**

**Florida Division of Emergency Management—The Hurricane Evacuation Studies** were completed to provide emergency management officials with realistic data by quantifying the major factors in hurricane evacuation decision making. These data are provided as a framework of information that counties can use to update and revise their hurricane evacuation plans and operational procedures to improve their response to future hurricane threats. **This project fulfilled SHMP Goals 4 and Objective 4.1.**

## FUND SOURCE HIGHLIGHT

**Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program** is a competitive annual grant program administered by DCA and funded by HUD. It provides rural communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. Each year since 1983, Florida has received between 18 and 35 million dollars. See <http://www.floridacommunitydevelopment.org/cdbg/index.cfm>.

**Disaster Recovery Initiative** is administered by DCA. At present, the Disaster Recovery team manages grants related to the 2004, 2005 and 2008 hurricane seasons. Through allocations provided by HUD, these funds help cities and counties and states recover from Presidentially-declared disasters. The Disaster Recovery Initiative has allocated \$290+ million dollars to Florida communities.

**Neighborhood Stabilization Program** was established to help stabilize communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment by purchasing and redeveloping foreclosed and abandoned homes and residential properties. Nearly \$100 million dollars in NSP funds are being awarded to the State through NSP-1 and NSP-3.

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION — RISK ASSESSMENT SUBGROUP

The risk analysis process for the 2013 Plan is beginning. Please let us know if you're interested in joining the Subgroup. **The Next Meeting is Tuesday, May 10, 2011 from 10—11 am.**