Long Term Recovery Tools and Training

August 16, 2007

There was a Long Term Recovery from Disaster training session held in Coffeyville today from 9:00 until 3:30. About 50 people attended. Dee Smith, KSVOAD Chair, opened the meeting by asking John Collins, pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Coffeyville and host of the meeting to open with prayer. Dee Smith, then welcomed the group and made some opening remarks.

Lesli Remaly-Netter CWS, led the opening discussion on the subject of an "Overview for Long term Recovery". Briana Goff, from Kansas All Hazards Behavioral Health and Lesli Remaly-Netter presented a PowerPoint presentation on "Care for the Caregivers".

There was a ten minute break before the group chose their break-out sessions. Session A was a choice between "Who Needs Our Assistance, Managing Cases DRD, CAN, Criteria for Assistance" with Julie Pofl and Cheri Baer, United Methodist Conference, Darla Hesse, ARC, DRD, & CAN, FEMA and Bernadette Freker. The second choice was "Defining the Work: Rebuilding 101" with Dale and Jeannie Peercy LDR Lutheran Disaster Response, John and Sandra Elsinga CRWRC, and Rocky Meace Lutheran Disaster Response.

A sandwich lunch was served at noon and afterward there were more break out sessions. Break Out Session B was a choice between "Who is Going to do the Work? Managing Volunteers" by Dale and Jeannie Percy, Rocky Meece and John and Sandra Elsinga. or "Issues Facing Clients: Legal, Behavioral Health and Disabilities" with FEMA, Lesli R-N, Briana Goff, Kansas All Hazards Behavioral Health, Legal Services.

Break out Session C was a choice between "Our Pathway to Recovery: Strategic Planning, Administration, Financing, Committees, Taskforces, Working Groups, Staffing, Collaborations and Equipping " with Bernadette Freker FEMA Leslie R-N, John and Sandra Elsinga, Julie Pohl and Cheri Baer.

The other choice for Session C was "What is VOAD?" with Dee Smith of the Salvation Army.

The meeting closed around 3:30 PM with Thank You's for everyone involved, announcements and reflections.

There was a lot of good information to absorb but without it the group would not have known where to begin in planning for Long Range Disaster Recovery planning.