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## ORVOAD May 2021 Newsletter

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### ORVOAD MEETINGS & MINUTES

#### ORVOAD Member & Partner Meeting

Monthly, every third Tuesday, 1:00-2:00pm PST

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Dial in: +1 669 900 6833 US

Meeting ID: 874 2409 6105

Passcode: 838515

ORVOAD hosted the last monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. [Here](#) is a draft of the meeting minutes, the final will be approved at the June monthly meeting. If you have any edits, please submit them to [ORVOADLeadership@gmail.com](mailto:ORVOADLeadership@gmail.com).

### COAD CORNER

This will be a section of the newsletter every month where we will be giving updates on COADs and doing spotlights on specific COADs and the great work being done throughout the state of Oregon! If your COAD would like to be featured, [we'd love to hear from you!](#)

- **Lane County** will have an AmeriCorps member from U of O work with the COAD to support the Long Term Recovery efforts in their rural communities. Looking to adopt the [Disaster Preparedness Toolkit](#) developed by Mercy Corps.
- Kate Szrom has been announced as the new Coordinator for the **Portland COAD** – welcome Kate! If you wish to become a part of the COAD and/or receive updates and notifications, please reply to [kate.szrom@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:kate.szrom@portlandoregon.gov).
- Charlene Larsen is hard at work helping set up/re-form a **COAD for our Coastal Communities**. Initial focus will be on mass care and mass sheltering.
- The **Blue Mountain Region** is shifting to a 2-state (WA & OR) and Tribal COAD.
- OEM has hired several [Response and Preparedness Regional Coordinators](#). The coordinators serve as key points of contact in their specified regions to support local and county emergency managers and their teams. Regional coordinators develop, train, and exercise plans, procedures, and programs to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. VOADs may receive outreach from a coordinator to help join and collaborate with County Emergency Managers.

## LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUPS (LTRGs)

This section will be dedicated to the tremendous work and effort of our Long Term Recovery Groups that have formed after some of our most devastating disasters. As our LTRGs form and have begun assessing the unmet needs of their communities, there are some common threads of needs across all groups - MONEY, MANPOWER, MATERIALS, and MEMBERS.

### **HOW CAN YOUR ORGANIZATION ASSIST WITH LONG TERM RECOVERY OF OUR COMMUNITIES?**

*Right now!* Reach across your organization to identify a member that can participate on their local LTRG as your organization's representative and voice. We can't be in all places at once. The LTRGs need members and representation from all local VOADs to assist with filling unmet needs first within the community. The contacts for each LTRG are below, call them and make that connection!

*Next!* Identify/seek out what national resources your organization can bring to bear; and identify and list the types of support your organization can provide at a local level. ORVOAD will be developing a member roster with a "menu" of resources available so LTRGs can reach directly to the organizations that have the resources and services needed.

#### **Archie Creek Fire LTRG (ACFLTRG) (Douglas County)**

Chair: Alison Doty Ph: 541-430-6100 Email: [alison@gliderev.com](mailto:alison@gliderev.com)

Website: <https://gliderevitalization.com/>

#### **Blue Mountain LTRG (Umatilla County)**

Executive Director: Christy Lieuallen Ph: 509-529-1183 Email: [christy@uwbluemt.org](mailto:christy@uwbluemt.org)

Website: <https://www.uwbluemt.org/content/flood-recovery>

- Started with 568 cases and there are now 71 open. Biggest issue has been construction management, difficult to even get bids for work needed. Opportunity for debris clearing and rebuilding fencing.

#### **Clackamas County LTRG**

Chair: Pat Olsen Ph: 971-806-0317 Email: [pat@theloftnw.org](mailto:pat@theloftnw.org)

- LTRG is up and running! Hearing first unmet needs case in a week or so. Group is assessing how many families need assistance, especially in the rural areas. Estimate 60 total rebuilds(!) – more partners and organizations needed to assist.

#### **Echo Mountain Fire Complex (Lincoln County) – emerging**

- Group has filed incorporation with the State and setting up the unmet needs table. Looking to do a World Renew survey in June.

#### **Jackson County Community LTRG (JCCLTRG)**

Chair: Lucy Brossard Email: [lucy.brossard@phoenix.k12.or.us](mailto:lucy.brossard@phoenix.k12.or.us)

- Working with World Renew on needs-assessment surveys using community based organizations. FEMA had re-engagement activity in Phoenix and Talent.

#### **Klamath County Unmet Needs Group**

POC: Zakary Jackson Ph: 541-363-1289 Email: [Zakary.jackson@klamathtribes.com](mailto:Zakary.jackson@klamathtribes.com)



### McKenzie Valley LTRG (Lane County)

Facilitator: Matt McRae Ph: 541-682-6708 Email: [Matt.MCRAE@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:Matt.MCRAE@lanecountyor.gov)

### Santiam Canyon LTRG (Linn & Marion Counties)

Chair: Deanna Freres Ph: 541-968-1699 Email: [dfreeres@wvi.com](mailto:dfreeres@wvi.com)

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Communications Committee

- ORVOAD has a new website! We are still developing the website and its material, but we hope to populate it with information and resources for both members and non-members alike. Are you tech and social media savvy? If so, please contact [our leadership](#) and let us know you'd like to help with our communications committee and outreach.

### Emotional & Spiritual Care Committee (ESCC)

### Membership Committee

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING

- [Community Vaccination Event Volunteer Signup](#). To meet the ongoing needs for volunteers for vaccination clinics, OHA has developed a simple sign-up site where individuals can go to seek out volunteer opportunities. Please share this with your organization's members and even friends and family. Most clinics have lifted the requirement for background checks for the non-clinical volunteer roles and are in desperate need of volunteers. Keep checking site as *new events are added weekly!*
- **Wildfire Safety Webinar: When Fire Hits.** Oregon State University's Forest and Natural Resources Extension Fire Program is hosting a *free webinar from 12-1 p.m. on June 2.* "When Fire Hits" will discuss how fire operations and levels of response are assembled, what you can expect if you are in a potentially affected area, as well as some ideas for how you can make firefighters' jobs easier and safer if they need to protect your home. Register at [OregonState.zoom.us](https://OregonState.zoom.us).
- [Prepared4ALL: Whole Community Emergency Planning](#). VOADs, CERTs, Citizen Corps, and Other Volunteers are invited to participate in Prepared4ALL, an initiative to connect local disability organizations and their networks with local emergency and public health preparedness planners to build trust, create sustainable relationships, and strengthen local inclusive emergency planning. FREE online training, visit <http://bit.ly/Prepared4AllOnline> to learn more and enroll today!

## NEWS UPDATE

(Roll over underlined sections for links to news articles)

Oregonians can be mask-less if vaccinated but verification of vaccines is awkward for businesses and raises questions about health information privacy. The legislature extends mortgage moratorium as rental assistance program opens. An independent arborist expert is hired to review the wildfire hazard tree removal process. Wildfire Awareness Month continues urging residents to prepare as communities seek new mitigation tools and crowds will test outdoor limits. Organizations buy hotels in hopes of helping Oregon fire survivors.

## RESOURCES FOR DISASTER VICTIMS & AT-RISK COMMUNITIES

### February Severe Winter Storm Assistance

- **FEMA Public Assistance** is available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations in the **designated counties of Benton, Clackamas, Linn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.** This program provides Federal financial assistance at a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of public facilities damaged by the severe winter storm that occurred from February 11 – February 15. ***Requests for Public Assistance deadline is June 3, 2021.*** Two applicant briefings are scheduled this week:
  - ***Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. 2:00pm.***  
Adobe Connect: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/ruozbmgvhun4/>  
Conference Line: 1-888-363-4734 Participant code: 152191#
  - ***Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. 10:00am.***  
Adobe Connect: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/r12kde76oczu/>  
Conference Line: 1-888-363-4734 Participant code: 152191#

### Disaster Case Management Job Opportunities

Catholic Charities of Oregon (CCO) has an exciting opportunity to assist individuals and families impacted by natural disasters across Oregon. Dependent on funding, CCO is anticipating the opportunity to recruit for positions in a new Disaster Case Management Program.

**Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant in Oregon.** USDA Rural Development will soon be issuing a Funding Opportunity Announcement for the Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant, which provides seed funds to allow nonprofits to set up revolving loan funds (RLFs) for eligible individuals who own and occupy a home in an eligible rural area rural areas and towns <50,000). The fund may be used to construct, refurbish, or service individually-owned household water well and septic systems. Terms for the loans include one percent fixed interest rate, 20-year maximum term, and an \$15,000 maximum loan per household. The applicant must provide at least 10 percent cash match. No in-kind match accepted, but some grant funds may be used to pay administrative expenses associated with providing HWWS loans. Homeowners seeking a loan should contact the Oregon Rural Development Director - Jill Rees 503-414-3302 for details on nonprofits participating in this program.

### General Assistance

- **New!** The **Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program (OERAP)** can help low-income households with both their past due rent and utilities and up to three months of advance payments. This program is run by Oregon Housing and Community Services. In Multnomah County, go to <http://211info.org> or call 2-1-1 to learn more.
- **New!** The **Emergency Broadband Benefit Program** – helping people stay connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. This program provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying low-income households.
- The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) assists with **food programs** by supporting a variety of nutritional and educational programs that are operated through Oregon Food Bank's statewide network of 21 regional food banks. For more information, go to [Oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx](http://Oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx).



- Help is also available for Oregonians in need of counseling assistance. The **Safe+Strong Helpline** is available for both children and adults who are struggling with stress, anxiety or other disaster-related depression-like symptoms. For help, call 800-923-4357 or visit [safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health](https://safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health). This is a free service provided by the Oregon Health Authority and Portland-based nonprofit agency Lines for Life.
- **Lines of Life**, a FEMA-funded outreach program, is designed to connect individuals with compassionate assistance and resources such as housing/shelter support, food assistance, legal assistance, transportation, small business relief, and more. These services are free, confidential, and have no eligibility criteria - anyone who needs support, gets support. To connect with a member of their team, call 971-420-1028 for English, 971-420-1018 for Spanish, or email [FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org](mailto:FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org).

## LINKS & RESOURCES

### VOAD, COAD, and Community Based Organizations

- **Community-Based Organization Disaster Response Preparedness Toolkit** (*talked about in our last membership meeting!*)
  - Every year, our communities will face disasters, including floods, winter storms, wildfires, earthquakes, or even pandemics. Community based organizations (CBOs) that do not have disaster response as part of their primary mission face new challenges during disasters as they pivot their programs in order to respond to the needs of their communities. This toolkit addresses things to consider when creating a business plan, pivoting programs, and leading an organization during a disaster response.
- [ORVOAD COAD Toolbox](#)
- [NVOAD Long Term Recovery Guide](#)
- [ORVOAD & Partner Agency Roster/Contacts](#) (Members and partners may update roster)

### FEMA

- [Oregon Wildfires and Straight-line Winds \(FEMA DR-4562-OR\)](#)
- [Oregon Wildfires and Straight-Line Winds Individual Assistance Registrations](#)

### State/County/Local

- [Disaster Resource Center Staff Training](#) (YouTube Series of 18 videos)