



IAEM Work Plan

(Committee, Ad Hoc Committee, Caucus, Commission)

Name: Faith-Based Caucus

Members:

- Ricky Shellenbarger, CEM - Chair
- Robert Goldhammer, CEM – Vice Chair
- Jeff Walker – Board Liaison

Mission:

The IAEM Faith Based Caucus will engage faith-based organizations to encourage, build, and support community level partnerships for capacity building, in order to sustain preparedness, mitigation, response, resiliency, and recovery awareness from a Whole Community perspective.

Goals:

1. Be representative of the diverse global emergency management community in both the public and private sectors
2. Foster the continued growth and evolution of the association as a professional organization

Objectives:

1. Assist faith-based organizations with defining achievable goals in partnership with local Emergency Management
 - a. Identify active FBOs within an EOC's area of operation
 - b. Contact FBOs to determine their interest in being involved
 - c. Adopt a simple registration listing at EOC of FBOs' leadership
2. Ensure that leadership personnel and volunteers strive to comply with published NIMS standards on basic credentialing
 - a. Suggest simple, minimal, registration information, with a criminal background check, as a guideline for faith based volunteers
 - b. Suggest minimal certification levels via IS 100 on line course
 - c. Recommend participation in annual EM exercises
3. Support Typing Standards when appropriate for personnel and resources of partners within the Faith-Based Caucus
 - a. Adopt a "volunteer" Typing standard for personnel
 - b. Encourage a step by step progression for achieving higher Typing levels
 - c. Using feeding and sheltering as possible examples, adopt national Typing of any applicable local resources & qualifications to expand local capacity

Strategies:

1. Seek out and maintain strategic local relationships and develop collaborations between EM agencies and local faith based organizations
 - a. Identify an EOC, volunteer, Point of Contact for all FBO's (suggested minimum standards of IS 100 and 700) to work in coordination with the local Voluntary Agency Liaison lead
 - b. Suggest EOC point of contact proactively reaches out to local FBO's and/or local VOADs within 12 months, with EOC assistance, to encourage on-going participation in appropriate EOC and EM activities
 - c. Identify 1-2 Points of Contacts from each FBO
 - d. Encourage FBO feedback and/or inputs back to local EOC
2. Utilize existing ICS training standards as guidelines for partnering agencies and/or organizations
 - a. Market live and on-line resources for training
 - b. Provide access to qualified instructors for both interagency and/or local FBO, in house training
 - c. Encourage participation in one exercise per year by local FBO's
3. Offer guidance to assist FBO partners with serving their local community in times of emergencies
 - a. Offer simple plan templates, registries, and toolkits of emergency response protocols for serving FBO's community, including vulnerable populations

Deliverables

Quarterly meetings conducted with Caucus members with meeting agenda and minutes, annual report prior to the IAEM conference and submission to the IAEM USA-Board covering the accomplishments, best practices, and performance indicators of meeting caucus objectives and strategies.

Scope / Jurisdiction

To provide a mechanism for members and faith-based organizations to network, coordinate and share their experiences; provide a voice for faith-based organizations within emergency management; educate local emergency managers on the value of including Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) in their plans; and, help facilitate the integration of interested FBOs into their local communities emergency management system.

Guidance from the Board / Lead Group

Guidance and assistance from the IAEM USA-Board to generate surveys and polling as needed to ensure all IAEM interested members are contacted and providing a mechanism to assist local and state emergency managers on identifying their FBO training and education needs.

Resources and Budget

Resources requested include the updating of the IAEM Faith-Based Caucus website as information is developed. GoToMeeting conference calls will be handled by caucus officers and members for quarterly and special meetings.

Governance

Issues requiring voting will be made using 2/3 majority voting of members present. Notifications of these issues will be made at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

Additional Notes

- Quarterly conference call meetings will be conducted during the months of January, April, July, and October on the third Thursday at 2PM (EST) unless otherwise conferred.
- Communications outside conference call meetings will typically be conducted by email to the membership.
- Special surveys will be created and posted with a centralized email and the resulting information presented to the membership when analyzed and tabulated.
- Meeting minutes and agendas will be posted on the IAEM USA-Caucus website for public viewing.
- Special interest items and reports will be posted on the IAEM USA-Caucus website for public viewing.
- Overall, the faith-based community is considered to be the most demographically representative of any community and can help emulate the five emergency management missions of mitigate, prepare, protect, respond, and recover. As volunteer organizations and use as shelters to spiritual care and community liaisons, faith-based organizations can help assist emergency managers and their programs to help fulfill the whole community concept into a sustainable and resilient system.