



Broome County Community Organizations Active in Disaster, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Broome County COAD Hosts FEMA Trainings on Managing Disaster Volunteers & Donations

March 9, 2015 (Binghamton, NY)... Broome County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (Broome County COAD) has partnered with FEMA to bring two trainings from the Emergency Management Institute to Broome County from March 11-13, 2015.

What happens when large numbers of spontaneous, unaffiliated volunteers arrive on-site during a disaster, ready to help? On Wednesday, March 11, a one day training titled Management of Spontaneous Volunteers in Disaster will be taught by FEMA instructors at the Broome County Public Library to address this question. This course will introduce participants to the skills and planning considerations that are required to manage large numbers of people who are not already affiliated with a volunteer organization, but who want to help in disasters.

From March 12-13, a second training titled Local Volunteer and Donations Management will be taught by FEMA instructors at the Broome County Public Safety Facility. This course will strengthen the abilities of local organizations and jurisdictions to successfully prepare for and handle unaffiliated volunteers, unsolicited goods, and undesignated cash donations during disaster.

“When a disaster strikes, we are often unequipped to handle the massive volume of volunteer and donation offers, and this outpouring of support can sometimes place a burden on organizations who are already at max capacity,” said Shelbi DuBord, Executive Director of Broome County COAD. “As a result of these trainings, our goal is to develop a County-wide plan for managing spontaneous volunteers and donations.”

Registration for both courses closed on March 6, but media is welcome to attend to provide coverage of the events.

About Broome County Community Organizations Active in Disaster, Inc.

Broome County Community Organizations Active in Disaster, Inc. (Broome County COAD) is a registered 501(c)3 public charity that was incorporated in 2009. Broome County COAD is a membership organization, comprised of independent agencies and organizations that may be active in all, or any phases of disaster in Broome County, New York. For more information on Broome County COAD or to apply for membership, please visit www.bccoad.org.