

### **CPCB – Reaching Out and Connecting**

Welcome to the first quarterly newsletter for partner agencies and organizations of the Community Planning and Capacity Building (CPCB) Recovery Support Function (RSF). This newsletter will be a forum for communication where CPCB partners can learn of recent disaster activities and partner accomplishments and receive news and updates on upcoming activities and opportunities. We hope to hear from you all in the upcoming newsletters so that we can highlight the activities of your organizations as you aid communities with planning, organizing, managing and building capacity for disaster recovery. Kehla West is our partnership coordinator and newsletter editor, so please contact her at [kehla.west@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:kehla.west@fema.dhs.gov) if you have suggestions for items for the newsletter.

The Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function supports and builds the community planning resources and recovery capacities of Tribal, State and local governments needed to effectively plan for, manage and implement disaster recovery activities in large, unique or catastrophic incidents.

The RSF serves as a forum for all partners to more effectively accomplish their goals that intersect with CPCB's objectives. CPCB's goals include aiding communities with planning in the disaster environment (such as community, urban, land use, and mitigation planning) and aspects of recovery management (including decision making, public communications and stakeholder involvement, municipal finance, community leadership development, and partnership development). The CPCB RSF helps to coordinate our resources for application in a disaster environment and also works pre-disaster to develop tools, resources, and a network that can spring into action post-event.

*Matt Campbell, National CPCB RSF Coordinator*

### **Ongoing Projects – Recovery Pre-Disaster Planning Guide for States, Tribes and Territories**

FEMA, with the support of several CPCB partners, has been developing a pre-disaster plan guidance for states and local governments. The guide for local governments will be released in late spring. Work has been underway since this past December on a state guidance document titled "Recovery Pre-Disaster

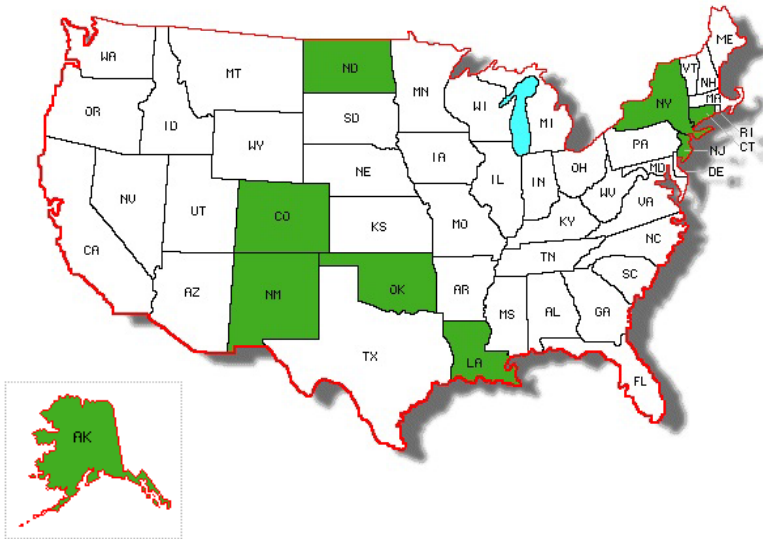
*This newsletter provides information of interest to CPCB federal and non-federal partners to improve their understanding and engagement in CPCB pre and post disaster activities, as well as enhances partner's ability to link CPCB activity to their own mission interests. Please provide suggestions for content to [Kehla.West@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Kehla.West@fema.dhs.gov)*

Planning Guide for States, Tribes and Territories.” This resource will work in tandem with a similar document aimed at local governments. Both documents focus on the development of a recovery plan under the concepts of the National Disaster Recovery Framework prior to a disaster event. The guidance will address tasks such as: defining a recovery leadership and coordination structure, determining risks and consequences, working with and supporting local governments, and engaging partners.

This state guide will also be the core of a course being piloted at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland in April 2014. The state guide and the course (E209: NDRF Implementation for State Officials) will provide a good launchpad for states that don’t yet have recovery plans and will be a key resource for states that have already started this critical work.

CPCB has reached out to partner agencies and organizations for recommendations on participants in the working group developing the document, participants in the pilot course, and document reviewers. CPCB partners will have an opportunity to contribute and review the project. When the document is complete, it will be provided to all of our partners, with the hope that it will be widely disseminated.

**Notes from the Field – Current CPCB Activations**



As the map on the left shows, CPCB RSF representatives are active in eight states and one tribal territory. CPCB RSF activations and leadership are as listed below:

<b>State</b>	<b>Field Coordinator for CPCB Operations</b>
AK	Tom Donnelly
CO	Tim Gelston
CT	Corey Nygaard
LA	Charlie Cook
ND	Tim Gelston
NJ	Marianne Luhrs
NY	Christine Meissner
OK	Charlie Cook
Santa Clara Pueblo	Charlie Cook

CPCB activations as of March 21, 2014.

## Ongoing Projects – Community Recovery Management Toolkit

The Community Recovery Management Toolkit is intended to package existing federal resources and tools related to disaster recovery and create new ones specific to community planning and capacity building in order to establish a suite of assistance that enhances and streamlines access to the recovery expertise needed by impacted communities. This project was recommended by the Hurricane Sandy Task Force. In the time since the Task Force report was released, significant progress has been made. CPCB partners recommended more than 200 items (documents, websites, webinars, etc.) and approximately 90 will be included when the site goes live in May. The next working group meeting is scheduled for May and the agenda is to begin identifying gaps and plans for creating new guidance or repurposing existing materials among partners. Additionally, we will be working with several CPCB partners to engage community officials to evaluate their needs for additional tools and resources in the toolkit.

## Notes from the Field – CPCB and the American Planning Association’s Community Planning Assistance Team in Colorado

Members of a Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) from the American Planning Association visited Lyons, CO in January to make initial plans for an assistance project. CPAT teams assist four or five communities around the country every year. Teams consist of a leader and a small team of subject matter experts who visit a town, meet with leaders, conduct community meetings, and assist them with a targeted issue. In the case



Residents of Lyons, CO gather in December for a planning kickoff meeting.

of Lyons, which is still recovering from the floods of September 2013, the project will focus on identifying hazard mitigation policy options that complement the town’s new recovery plan. Gavin Smith, a professor of city and regional planning at the University of North Carolina and executive director of the DHS Coastal Hazards Center of Excellence, said the team will help the town visualize what these hazard mitigation policy options might look like. The project will

address issues such as: housing, parks and open space, infrastructure, businesses, critical facilities, arts and culture, stream recovery, and human services. The initial scoping session, led by Smith and APA senior outreach coordinator Ryan Scherzinger, included meetings with town officials, Lyons mayor Julie Van Domelen, the town council, and recovery working group members.

In addition to working with state officials and CPCB personnel in Lyons and at the joint field office, the team will bring together Andrew Rumbach, assistant professor of planning and design at the University of Colorado Denver; Darrin Punchard, a Senior Project Manager at AECOM in Boston; and David Perkes, director of the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio in Mississippi. A class of planning students from UC Denver will also be assisting with the visualization and design work. The team will be visiting Lyons in May to conduct meetings and will present a final report over the summer.



Smith, the team leader, said the initial meetings were an excellent indicator of the potential of the project. "It's a testament to Lyons – I've worked with a lot of communities over the years, and I was struck by the quality of discussion and the participation of the people and their engagement in this process."

For more information about the APA CPAT program and the Lyons project, visit the APA [site](#).

### **In the News – International Perspective – Christchurch, New Zealand**

After a February 2011 earthquake, Christchurch, New Zealand wanted to rebuild "greener, more compact, more accessible and safer." The local government's plan for recovery involved the establishment of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA). This central body faced criticism for slow progress and unclear policies on building permits, but new Christchurch mayor Lianne Dalziel is hoping a network of partnerships between private organizations and the city government will address concerns. "Building a resilient city starts at the grassroots, so that bottom-up meets top-down halfway," she said in a recent report.

For more information, check out the full story [here](#).

*Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. - Henry Ford*

## Community Planning and Capacity Building – Headquarters and Regional Contacts



Matt Campbell	Recovery Support Function National Coordinator	Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:Matt.campbell@fema.dhs.gov">Matt.campbell@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Erin Miles	Deputy Branch Chief	Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:Erin.miles@fema.dhs.gov">Erin.miles@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Kehla West	HQ Partnership Coordinator/Newsletter	Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:Kehla.west@fema.dhs.gov">Kehla.west@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Myra Shird	HQ CPCB Field Operations Support	Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:Myra.shird@fema.dhs.gov">Myra.shird@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Glenn Bowles	HQ Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning	Washington, DC	<a href="mailto:Glenn.Bowlesii@fema.dhs.gov">Glenn.Bowlesii@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Corey Nygaard	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region I	Boston, MA	<a href="mailto:Corey.Nygaard@fema.dhs.gov">Corey.Nygaard@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Marianne Luhrs	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region II	New York, NY	<a href="mailto:marianne.luhrs@fema.dhs.gov">marianne.luhrs@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Michelle Harel	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region III	Philadelphia, PA	<a href="mailto:Michelle.harel@fema.dhs.gov">Michelle.harel@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Benjamin Alexander	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region IV	Atlanta, GA	<a href="mailto:Benjamin.alexander@fema.dhs.gov">Benjamin.alexander@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Lillian Thompson	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region V	Chicago, IL	<a href="mailto:Lillian.thompson@fema.dhs.gov">Lillian.thompson@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Charlie Cook	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region VI	Denton, TX	<a href="mailto:Charles.cook4@fema.dhs.gov">Charles.cook4@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Kathleen Fitzgerald	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region VII	Kansas City, MO	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.fitzgerald@fema.dhs.gov">Kathleen.fitzgerald@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Tim Gelston	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region VIII	Denver, CO	<a href="mailto:Timothy.gelston@fema.dhs.gov">Timothy.gelston@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Emily Meyer	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region IX	Oakland, CA	<a href="mailto:Emily.meyer@fema.dhs.gov">Emily.meyer@fema.dhs.gov</a>
Tom Donnelly	CPCB Regional Coordinator, Region X	Bothell, WA	<a href="mailto:Thomas.donnelly@fema.dhs.gov">Thomas.donnelly@fema.dhs.gov</a>