

The IRC Gazette

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FEMA

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This Week in the IRC:

Community Assistance RSF

On 01/22, CA held an introductory meeting with Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), a regional non-profit organization that provides free technical assistance to communities, including grant application assistance, training for water and wastewater infrastructure systems, and geospatial data assistance, among other services. CA will coordinate with RCAC to provide supplemental capacity support and direct technical assistance for Maui County and rural community stakeholders as additional needs are identified throughout recovery.

Economic RSF

SBA in the IRC is supporting Community Assistance in promoting and sharing the Maui Business Health Survey. The County of Maui Office of Economic Development is reaching out to local businesses directly and indirectly impacted by the Maui wildfires. This survey is available at MauiRecovers.org and will be available through the end of February.

Health and Social Services RSF

HSS RSF, FEMA IRC HHS and FEMA FDRO-Philanthropy met with the Imua Family Services Executive Director, to view the IMUA outdoor preschool. Discussion about possible alternatives for a nature-based playground at a temporary elementary school being built due the damage of King Kamehameha III Elementary school in the August wildfires.

Infrastructure RSF

USDOT is coordinating with USACE, HHS, State & County, regarding student transportation and School bus driver shortage – Governor’s Emergency Proclamation waiving relevant state School Bus Transportation laws expires 02/10 and a need for extension is anticipated.

Natural and Cultural Resources RSF

The second NCR Meeting was held on 01/25 with approximately 70 participants from Federal, HI State and Maui County agencies, Kaliko Storer, Lahaina Advisory Team and select local community members who are engaged in NCR efforts. The new HI NCR Lead, participated in the meeting. Some participants have joined NCR project teams, and we are recruiting more. The meeting also featured brief report outs from officials working on NCR efforts.

Who’s Packing your Parachute?

“I’d like to nominate Judy Provitch for packing my parachute. She has provided essential continuity for the Infrastructure RSF, both in our relationships with each other and to all our external stakeholders. Relationships are key in Hawaii and to this mission, and Judy understands this intuitively. She has acted as the perfect conduit between us all and has facilitated keeping everyone well informed on multiple high-level issues. It is easy to jump back into a mission like this with Judy as our liaison.”

-Samantha Bishop

If you would like to recognize someone who has packed your parachute, send info to annie.sebastiani@fema.dhs.gov.

Civil Rights Advisor

Monitored exploratory calls and recovery scoping meetings in public assistance for compliance. Continue visits to NCS and DRC in conjunction with disability integration and CPTF.

Cultural Protocol Task Force Advisor

CPTF alongside Disability Integration Advisor visited NCS Marriot Kahului and NCS Royal Lahaina to help applicants with medical issues. CPTF assisted with the preparation and submittal of documentation necessary for 6 applicants with medical issues for Direct Lease licensing.

Disability Integration Advisor

Maintain communication with Ops, CVR, CPTF, and IA; advisory received regarding unmet needs, trends in the community, matters at the NCSs, and addressing community partners’ concerns. Continued IA support on identified survivor unmet needs by tracking these on our team’s Excel spreadsheet and leveraging disability partners relationship to meet unmet needs.

External Affairs Advisor

On 01/25, EA posted on the FEMA wildfire page: the EHP’s public notice on the environmental assessment for the temporary group housing site in Lahaina. Also prepared and distributed a media advisory for this public notice.



Get to know: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

By Spencer Whitaker



The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is a component of the Department of Homeland Security tasked as the operational lead for federal cybersecurity and the national coordinator for critical infrastructure security and resilience. As our Nation's risk advisor, CISA collaborates with State, Local, Tribal, Territorial governments (SLTTGs) as well as the private sector to build a more comprehensive understanding of the risk environment and the corresponding needs identified by our stakeholders. We aim to help all organizations better manage risk and increase resilience using all available resources, whether provided by the Federal government, commercial vendors, or their own capabilities.

Within CISA, the Infrastructure Security Division (ISD), assists the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National recovery mission through vulnerability and consequence assessments to help critical infrastructure owners and operators. Internally, CISA utilizes Protective Security Advisors (PSAs) to serve as a link between SLTTGs, private stakeholders, and federal partners to assess physical site security, resiliency assessments, incident management assistance, and vulnerability and consequence information.

While working for the recovery phase of the Maui Wildfire disaster within FEMA's Interagency Recovery Coordination center, CISA is coordinating with State, Local, and federal agencies on various resiliency issues. Particularly, CISA is working with USDOT to provide solutions to the rebuilding of the damaged Lahaina ferry terminal as well as the Kula Bridge. Additionally, CISA is working in conjunction with the Maui Department of Water Supply and EPA to provide resiliency assessments on the water treatment facilities as well as the well and pump stations. Most recently, CISA, in a joint effort with DOE, are working to better understand the dependencies, security, and resiliency of the Maalaea Power Plant.

Philanthropic Advisor

Coordination with United Way to support Vision Link operation. Identifying the funder and potential resources for the temporary school playground with the 04/01 deadline for school opening. Provided grant resources for the Paia Youth Center for building relocation.

Public Assistance Advisor

Completed field site inspections for Princess Nahienaena Elementary School and Department of Education. Also completed Recovery Scoping Meetings for Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Centers, Inc.

USDA Advisor

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announced a cooperative agreement with the State of Hawaii under the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program to offer \$2.5 million in competitive grant funding for projects designed to build resilience across the middle of the supply chain. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture is accepting applicants for the Infrastructure and Equipment Grants until 02/26. The primary focus of project funding is to expand capacity and infrastructure in the middle-of-the-supply-chain, and thereby strengthening the local food system.