



**To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority**  
**From: Janell Myhre, Regional Program Manager**  
**Date: January 9, 2014**  
**Re: Item 8: Whole Community Conference Report**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Information only

**Action or Discussion Item:**

Discussion only

**Summary**

As Bay Area Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT) representatives Mary Landers, Janell Myhre, and Caroline Thomas-Jacobs attended the national RCPT Whole Community Conference from November 19-22, 2013 held in Lisle, IL. The conference was hosted by the Chicago RCPT which is comprised of the Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin (IL-IN-WI) regional partners. Presenters included James Garrow, Operations and Logistics Manager, Bioterrorism & Public Health Preparedness Program, Philadelphia Dept. of Public Health, Angie Cloutier, District One Coordinator, Indiana Dept of Homeland Security, Cheryl Eia, JD, DVM, MPH, Emergency Preparedness & Response, American Veterinary Medical Assn, Jeannette Tandez, MPH, Region V MRC Coordinator, Div of Civilian Medical Reserve Corps, US Surgeon General's Office and Jessica Mitchell, Regional Disability Integration Specialist, FEMA Region V.

More than 300 local, regional, state, and federal representatives attended the three day conference, as well as representatives from the region's private sector. This conference was designed to discuss programs from across their region, as well as national programs that could be considered for operational standards and future implementation.

Presentations focused on topics such as:

- The role of social media in the whole community
- Communication with volunteer programs
- Pets and Animals in Disasters
- Collaboration between Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disasters (VOAD) and Faith Based Organizations (FBO)

- The role of volunteers in a disaster
- Collaborative whole community planning with limited resources
- Establishing relationships with private sector partners before a disaster

In addition to the Bay Area, the conference was also attended by the East Coast (New York-New Jersey-Connecticut-Pennsylvania), Puget Sound, and Hampton Roads RCPTs. Each group made a presentation that described their geography, governance structure, and projects. The Bay Area presentation was well received and there was a great deal of interest in our catastrophic plans sustainment activities, as well as our community outreach projects (GR-5 and Learn.Lead.Lift.). There were also many questions about this year's Urban Shield Full Scale Exercise coordinating with the EOC Yellow Command Functional Exercise to test the Mass Fatality catastrophic plan with first responders.