

Regional Emergency Support Function 16 – Volunteer and Donations Management
UASI 2010

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RESF 16 – Volunteer and Donations Management Working Group Funding Request

The current level of funding is \$2.1M over two years. The working group would like to maintain said funding to continue and increase the level of public outreach, volunteer recruitment and management, and pertinent exercising in the National Capital Region.

RESF 16 – Volunteer and Donations Management Gaps in Capabilities

The following are gaps in the volunteer and donations management program's capabilities.

- The average retention of a DC resident is 4.5 years. To that end, volunteer recruitment is always a top priority.
- The general public needs to create individual, family, community, and business emergency plans.
- Volunteers are difficult to engage. To that end, the programs provide proper management, meaningful volunteer opportunities, and consistent recognition serving as incentive for future volunteering.
- Volunteers require significant on-site management. To that end, RESF 16 invests in training programs and exercises to boost the knowledge of the volunteer pool.
- Spontaneous volunteers take First Responders away from needed services during emergencies. To that end, RESF 16 has a plan to intake, orient, and appropriately distribute self-deploying volunteers.

RESF 16 – Volunteer and Donations Management Funding Stop Consequences

UASI heavily (if not solely) funds the RESF 16 programs that are responsible for readiness outreach and recruiting volunteers who assist in regional emergencies. The following activities are a sample of activations for which RESF 16 programs have provided volunteers. A drop in funding would compromise future involvement in like events.

- In Alexandria, volunteers shoveled out seniors and special needs families during a snow emergency
- RESF 16 programs in six jurisdictions contributed to the 2,500 volunteers who assisted with the 2009 Presidential Inauguration. Volunteers reunified separated families, provided directional support to the two million visitors, provided surveillance for the various security First Responders, and assisted in the walk out of the National Mall
- Volunteers assisted in the Prince William County Flooding
- The Fairfax Neighborhood Watch program was involved with the Pimmit Hills homicide shut-in
- Five jurisdictions have provided 2,500 volunteers who have supported the H1N1 vaccination effort
- Volunteers assisted with outreach during the December Measles Outbreak in Arlington
- Volunteers provided on-site support at the Lockwood House Sheltering in Arlington
- 45 volunteers assisted with family reunification and phone bank support during the DC Metro Crash
- 100 volunteers dropped off water, ensured the health of seniors, and directed the general public to warming stations during the double gas outages in NE and NW Washington DC in December '08
- Volunteers delivered furniture and provided other long-term recovery assistance to the Mt. Pleasant Fire victims who have since identified permanent housing.
- 50 volunteers stuffed and distributed sandbags during Hurricane Hanna
- Volunteers consistently provide support during special events in the nation's capital (ie. 4th of July, Caribbean Festival, All Hands on Deck, SAVU)
- Volunteers assisted with the tornado touchdown in Prince George's County
- Volunteers provided support during the relocation of victims of a 3-alarm fire in Prince George
- Volunteers help staff the heating and cooling stations during winter and summer (respectively)

If RESF 16 is overlooked during this UASI funding cycle, there will be fewer prepared citizens. First Responder and operational plans that call for volunteers will be compromised. Spontaneous volunteers will be mismanaged. Resources provided to nonprofits and community groups will vastly decrease. The community perspective will be lost at regional response working groups.