



FEMA

MEMORANDUM FROM Elizabeth M. Harman
Assistant Administrator

To: FEMA Senior Leadership

Subject: Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) National Conference,
“*Increasing Preparedness to Build Community Resilience*”
August 7 - 9, 2012

Date: March 29, 2012

I am very excited to announce that the Grants Program Directorate (GPD) will be hosting the 2012 National Conference titled, “*Increasing Preparedness to Build Community Resilience*” scheduled for August 7-9, 2012, in Washington, D.C. The conference is designed to provide a platform for grantees and federal agencies to share updates and information on grant policies to gain a better understanding of available resources in an era of diminishing federal dollars. The conference will provide a forum for discussions with our stakeholders from the States, Territories, Local, and Tribal governments, private sector, nonprofit and faith based organizations. The conference will include plenary sessions, workshops and breakout sessions focusing on grant policy, technical assistance, leveraging grant dollars, information on regionalization, and ways to encourage private sector partnerships, with emphasis on:

- Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8)
- National Preparedness System (NPS)
- Vision of FY 2013 National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP)
- SAA focused breakouts
- FY11 after action for TSGP and PSGP
- State and Urban Area Risk Methodologies
- State and Regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)
- State Preparedness Report (update)
- Focus on leveraging grant dollars and resources
- Whole Community and Inclusive Emergency Management

Additionally, I am pleased that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Office of Safety will be co-sponsoring this event. We will also have other DHS components such as: the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD), and Health and Human Services (HHS) as well as other directorates within FEMA. Staff from TSA, USCG, DOT, and FEMA will facilitate breakout sessions, which will focus on audience member questions and surveys distributed prior to the conference.

GPD anticipates substantial attendance from across the Nation which will allow an array of representatives to be utilized as speakers, panelists, and participants in breakout sessions and discussions. We will have approximately 1,200 participants; 900 from the state, territory, tribe, local, non-profit, faith-based and private sector along with 300 Federal representatives. The conference will also serve as a venue for GPD's annual FY12 annual After-Action Conference for HSGP, PSGP and TSGP as well as the 2012 Transit Safety and Security round table will be also be incorporated.

I strongly encourage all directorates that are interested in contributing ideas for additional breakout sessions, town halls or other innovative sessions to please reach out to Adria Martínez at adria.martinez@fema.dhs.gov, or 202-786-9603.

Please mark your calendars with the conference date; GPD will be providing additional updates as the conference plans are solidified.

Thank you,



Elizabeth M. Harman
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