

SUPPORTING HOUSING RESPONSE AND RECOVERY: UPDATE ON THE HURRICANE IAN DISASTER TASK FORCE

CJ REYNOLDS, DIRECTOR OF RESILIENCE AND DISASTER RECOVERY

In the fall of 2022, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), under the Executive Office of the Governor, formed the Florida State-Led Disaster Housing Task Force (DHTF or Task Force) in partnership with the Florida Housing Coalition. The Task Force continues to provide a forum for local, state, and national disaster professionals and partners to convene and build the capacity of local and state disaster response to address short and long-term housing recovery.

The Florida Housing Coalition had the exciting opportunity to once again partner with FDEM to provide robust training at the 2023 Governor's Hurricane Conference. Professionals focused on hurricane planning, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation packed the day-long training session.

Task Force members and experts, including FHC staff CJ Reynolds, Michael Chaney, and Dayna Lazarus, presented information on best practices related to housing recovery, FEMA appeals, funding programs, disaster case management, legal aid, social equity, and long-term housing recovery.

Lessons from Hurricane Ian and the State's first Disaster Housing Task Force will be the focus of the Resilience and Disaster Recovery Forum at the Coalition's upcoming Annual Conference. Representatives from federal and state agencies, local government, and expert Coalition staff will present key insights and new best practices

gleaned from case studies and findings from the DHTF. Panelists will also discuss the Housing Impact Assessment, state and local programs, and engage attendees in discussion about strengthening local disaster preparedness.

The Florida Housing Coalition's Disaster Housing Task Force efforts and participation in the Governor's Hurricane Conference were supported by a grant from Wells Fargo Foundation. DHTF meetings are recorded and are available on the FHC's Disaster webpage. The GHC training presentations are available at conference website at www.flghc.org.



CJ REYNOLDS is the Director of Resilience and Disaster Recovery for the Florida Housing Coalition. She served as the Director of Resiliency and Engagement at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning for nearly four years and led the Regional Resilience Coalition which includes 32 local governments.

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