

CHARTER

for the

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DISASTER RECOVERY LEADERSHIP NETWORK

The Health and Human Services Disaster Recovery Leadership Network (DRLN) consists of representatives from funding agencies, government bodies, the school board, and health and human services agencies that play or could play a role in disaster recovery in Pinellas County. Members are recruited to the Network based on the needs and work plans of the Network. Its job is to deliver the mission and goals below.

MISSION

The mission of the Health and Human Services Disaster Recovery Leadership Network is to ensure that priority human services are made available to the public at the earliest opportunity should a major disaster occur in Pinellas County.

MAJOR OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the DRLN are to:

1. Help ensure that health and human service organizations in Pinellas County are optimally prepared for any major disaster
2. Work with community partners to develop and implement plans that will ensure that Pinellas County residents have access to health and human services during long-term recovery from a major disaster
3. Facilitate coordination and communication amongst Network stakeholders during all phases of a disaster.

STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Network is a self-organizing group, but has no official status as a stand alone organization. The Network elects its own Chair and Vice-Chair, each to stand for a term of one-year, though either may serve for additional terms if agreed to by the Network membership. Nominations for officers are solicited one month prior to the last meeting of the calendar year, with elections being held at the last meeting of the calendar year. New officers assume their duties on Jan. 1.

The DRLN participates in the structure and activities of the Health and Human Services Coordinating Council for Pinellas County (HHSCC). Both groups participate within the spirit of collaboration and mutual accountability while remaining autonomous entities. Staff support is provided by the HHSCC.

Ultimately, the Network and its various committees are accountable to one another for the successful implementation of its objectives. As well, each of the members of the Network is responsible for his or her own disaster mandate(s) as assigned by their host organizations.

NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

Core members of the Network represent organizations that are generally county-wide in scope and either have clear emergency management functions or are a major funder of health and human service programs in Pinellas County.

Members of the DRLN include representatives of: Area Agency on Aging, American Red Cross (Tampa Bay Chapter), City of St. Petersburg, Department of Children and Families, Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Pinellas County Government, Pinellas County Health Department, Pinellas County Schools, Salvation Army (St. Petersburg Area Command), United Way of Tampa Bay, and 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares.

MEETINGS

The DRLN meets 6 to 12 times per year.

TIME COMMITMENT

DRLN members are expected to attend all meetings as well as engage in work in between meetings, such as reviewing materials, participating in planning and implementation, and representing the Network when required to other groups and forums. Members serve for an indefinite term.

CONTACT

Questions about the DRLN may be addressed to:

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