



Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016

I. Welcome/ Introductions

II. Baton Rouge Area Housing Alliance Overview

- GNOHA is assisting nonprofits in the Baton Rouge Area in developing their own housing alliance
- GNOHA members will be called upon to help Baton Rouge throughout this partnership

III. Roundtable Discussion

- In October, GNOHA will have a Planning & Advocacy Summit for Baton Rouge non-profits who are dealing with the aftermath of the recent flooding. This Summit will focus on best practices/lessons learned from Katrina. Topics of discussion include:
 1. Partnerships between Baton Rouge and New Orleans non-profits
 2. Connecting New Orleans resources to Baton Rouge
 3. Starting a planning process for strategic use of disaster funds
 4. Coordinating housing for volunteers
 5. Resources and programs for renters
 6. Temporary housing units/addressing homelessness
 7. Case management services: social services, mental health, budgeting/financial assistance
 8. How non-profits can build capacity to accept federal funds
 9. Language access
 10. Education and advocacy around mold/dampness remediation
 11. How to engage the community in post-disaster planning
 12. Other needs as identified by Baton Rouge nonprofits in planning process

IV. GNOHA Member Pledges

- Volunteer Coordination: Cat Crowell/RTNO
 - A call will be scheduled this week
 - Getting access to volunteer pipelines
- Summit Planning Team: Michelle Thompson/UNO



V. GNOHA Emergency Preparedness Plan Development

- In order to assist disaster recovery, members will be asked to keep GNOHA updated on their available units. GNOHA will use this list when advocating for State and HUD disaster waivers.
- Every organization should have a “Continuity of Operations Plan” (COOP)
- Organizations can register with [Good360](#), a nonprofit that delivers goods to other nonprofits in times of emergency
- Emergency Preparedness Committee volunteers
 - Scarlet Garcia
 - Michelle Thompson (volunteered on behalf of a coworker)

VI. Member Announcements

- Capital One has added a Closing Cost Grant to their **Dream Mortgage Program**. Borrowers qualified for the Dream program will be automatically eligible to receive up to **\$2,500** to cover some closing costs (started September 6th).
- Jane Place has scheduled a [Tenant Rights Training](#) – Saturday, September 17th

VII. Next GNOHA Meeting: October 10th (Sponsor Needed)

- Time: 12p-1:30p
- Location: Brown Foundation Center, 320 Hammond Hwy