

# LONG ISLAND'S SANDY RECOVERY: A PARTNERSHIP WITH NON-PROFITS



# Discussion Points

- HWCLI Background
- The Impact
- The Response
- Long Island's Future

# HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL OF LONG ISLAND (HWCLI)

is Long Island's regional, most comprehensive, nonprofit membership organization for health and human service providers.

**ESTABLISHED IN 1947**

## MISSION

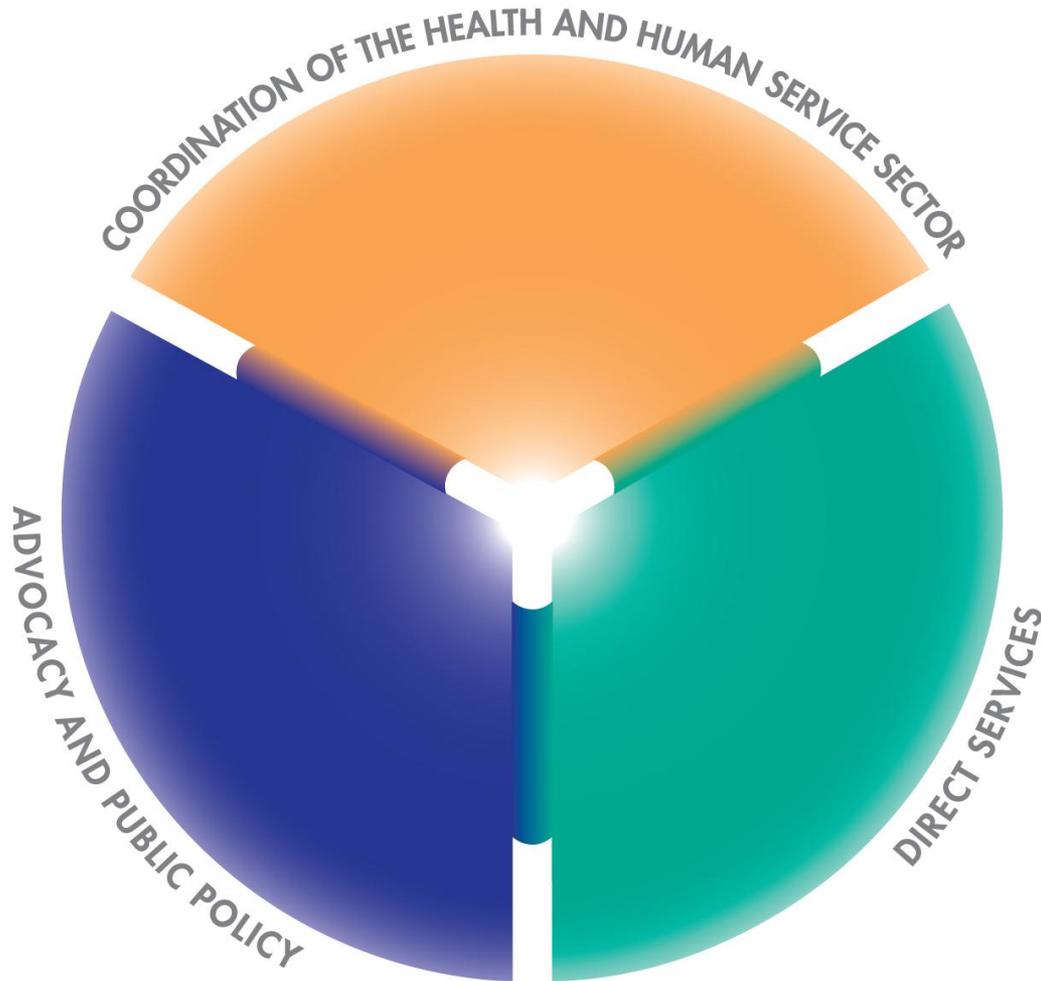
HWCLI serves the interests of poor and vulnerable people on Long Island by convening, representing, and supporting the organizations that serve them; and through

- Illuminating the issues that critically impact them
- Organizing community and regional responses to their needs
- Advocacy; Research; Policy analysis
- Providing services, information and education

# ABOUT HWCLI

## BACKGROUND

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- **Impact on Long Island**

- More than six months after Sandy struck Long Island, tens of thousands of households continue to struggle with the devastation of their homes, neighborhoods and livelihoods.



# • Impact on Long Island

- Applications for FEMA assistance exceed 113,000, with 10% from the most vulnerable populations.
- 20% of registrants are older than 65.
- 56% have household incomes less than \$90K, the self-sufficiency standard on Long Island



- Long Island Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (LIVOAD)

- HWCLI convened the LIVOAD in response to 9/11, the economic disaster in 2007-08 and after Tropical Storm Irene.
- LIVOAD is based on national model of disaster response, emphasizes 4 Cs:
  - Cooperation
  - Communication
  - Coordination
  - Collaboration

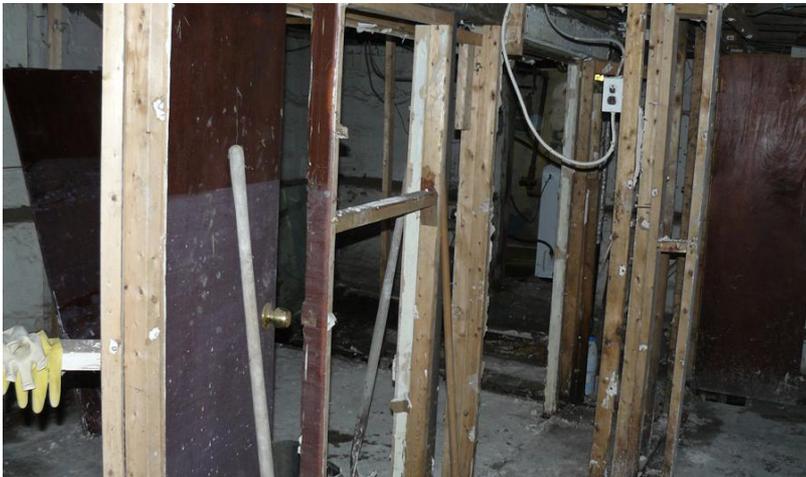
- Long Island Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (LIVOAD)

- In response to Sandy, LIVOAD has been meeting since Oct. 25, 2012 and has grown to more than 100 governmental and non-governmental organizations.



# • LIVOAD's Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG)

- LTRG is coordinating body to ensure maximum leveraging of all resources
- Subcommittees created to help coordinate response related to specific issue areas, including Housing, Construction, Case Management, Volunteer Coordination, Legal Needs and Health and Safety.



## • LIVOAD's Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG)

- The Long Term Recovery Group has secured a headquarters – the Volunteer Recovery Center – in a former warehouse, where meetings are held and where organizations providing disaster services are based.
  - AmeriCorps St. Louis: muck-and-gut services
  - NECHAMA: home repair services
  - American Red Cross
  - Long Island Volunteer Center
  - Project Hope
- HWCLI is communications arm of LTRG, providing regular updates on LTRG activities, government decisions, programming, events, meetings and more.

# • LIVOAD's Long Term Recovery Group

## EXAMPLES OF COMMITTEE WORK:

- Case Management Committee allows organizations providing services through state's crisis counseling (Project Hope) and Disaster Case Management programs to coordinate and share information.
  - Because of this coordination, the state's Disaster Case Management program was up and running on Long Island before other storm-affected areas.
- Health and Safety committee holding community events to educate Long Islanders on the science and threats of mold, with help of industrial hygienist.

## • LIVOAD's Long Term Recovery Group

- Volunteer Coordination committee has secured a “volunteer village” at a former dormitory at SUNY-Old Westbury, where more than 80 volunteers can be housed each night.
- Legal Committee brings together legal services providers from across Long Island – including Touro Law Center clinic, Hofstra Law School clinic, Nassau Suffolk Law Services, NYLAG, Nassau County Bar Association and many more. Group is working on many issues, including:
  - Insurance
  - Environmental contamination
  - FEMA appeals

# • LIVOAD's Long Term Recovery Group

- LTRG hosted team of skilled volunteers from international disaster relief organization World Renew -- “the Green Shirts” -- to provide needs assessments.
  - Identifies unmet needs
  - Prioritizes cases
  - Connects with Disaster Case Management



## • Unmet Needs Roundtable

- Builds capacity of case workers and donors to match unmet needs of disaster impacted people with resources
- Ensure a disaster survivor's sustainable recovery on a case-by-case basis
- Transparent and accountable
- \$5 million raised to date with goal of additional \$5 million

# • Long Island's Future

- As families attempt to rebuild, they experience psychological, physical and financial impacts while navigating complex world of disaster recovery.
- Many are contending with previous challenges and obligations ranging from past debts, foreclosures, unemployment and illnesses.
- For many, Hurricane Sandy is final element pushing them over financial cliff.



- Long Island's Future

## Next Steps

<http://nysandyhelp.ny.gov/>

- Long Island's Future

The one commonality for Long Island's struggling families is that none will be successful in reaching full recovery without additional support.

- Thank you!

For more information:  
[www.hwcli.com](http://www.hwcli.com)

