

# In Response

san francisco

card

A Publication of San Francisco Community Agencies  
Responding to Disaster –  
Made possible by a grant from the United Way

community  
agencies  
responding to  
disaster

The Disaster Files: SF CARD's In Response Newsletter

## Top Disaster Agencies Sign Pact to Prepare Bay Area



Pictured from left: Noah Simon, CAN National Program Manager; Anne Wilson, United Way of the Bay Area - CEO; Harold W. Brooks, American Red Cross Bay Area - CEO; Laura Phillips, SF Department of Emergency Management - Exec. Director; Major Joe Posillico, The Salvation Army, Divisional Commander; Michael Braude, SF CARD - Chair; Brian Cahill, Catholic Charities CYO - Exec. Director; John Power, The Volunteer Center - Exec. Director.

### February 5, San Francisco

Top executives from seven of the Bay Area's disaster preparedness and response agencies formalized an agreement for an unprecedented level of collaboration Monday.

- American Red Cross
- Catholic Charities CYO
- The Salvation Army
- San Francisco CARD
- SF Department of Emergency Management
- United Way of the Bay Area
- The Volunteer Center

The agreement codifies the group's goals and level of commitment to cooperate with each other before and after a disaster. Known informally as San Francisco CAN (Coordinated Assistance Network), the group came together in a national pilot program with seven other cities.

While SF CAN members already have collaborative outreach programs in place, the charter establishes a first-of-its-kind

comprehensive, cross-agency platform for ongoing planning and information sharing based around a comprehensive national database to track disaster survivors and services provided to them. SF CAN's focus is on filling the gaps in resources, recruiting and organizing other capable nonprofits to assist, and teaming with public sector first-responders to streamline response and recovery efforts.

The effort takes on more meaning in light of the recent report on the state of preparedness in the Bay Area, released by United Way of the Bay Area in partnership with Northern California Grantmakers. Based on in-depth interviews with over 50 disaster response leaders in 9 Bay Area counties, the report identifies 3 major areas of concern:

Existing plans fall short; The worst is yet to come; Lack of standards and protocols. You can see a summary of the report at the United Way of the Bay Area website: [Ready or Not - Ensuring Bay Area Nonprofits Can Serve During Disaster.](#)

## Upcoming Events, Training, & Services

### **REACH – PLUS: Help with Paying your PG&E Bills**

- Wednesday, February 21, 2007. 10:00am – 4:00pm
- The Salvation Army, 360 Fourth Street, San Francisco

You will need:

- A residential PG&E bill with a 15 day or 48 hour notice
- Identification for all household members
- Income verification for all household members
- Meet low-Income guidelines

Sponsors: The Salvation Army & PG&E

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### **Disaster Readiness Training**

Free on-line classes. Self-study program to increase your knowledge on preparedness and response.

- Get Started: [www.dhs-ngo-pilot.org](http://www.dhs-ngo-pilot.org)
- Download Instructions
- Select 'San Francisco'
- Self-register (free)

Questions: Betsy Madden 510-595-4470, [MaddenB@usa.redcross.org](mailto:MaddenB@usa.redcross.org)

Sponsors: American Red Cross and Department of Homeland Security

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### **Disaster Preparedness for Small Business, Nonprofits & Faith-Based Organizations**

Free workshop provides the practical tools to create a disaster preparedness plan and to help ensure continuity of operations.

- Thursday, March 29, 2007. 8:30am – 4:00pm (all day, with lunch sponsored by SF Department of Emergency Management).
- Federal Reserve Bank, 101 Market Street at Spear
- Registration required (space is limited)
  - RSVP by March 21 to: [intern.sfoes@sfgov.org](mailto:intern.sfoes@sfgov.org) or 415-503-2073

Sponsors: California Volunteers Office of the Governor, SF Citizen Corps Council, American Red Cross Bay Area, SF Department of Emergency Management, San Francisco CARD.