

REGION 2 BI-WEEKLY

Volume 2, Issue 7

April 23, 2010

TWO JFOs HUM WITH RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

This week, Region II has five open disasters — four in New Jersey, one in New York — and the JFOs are humming.

This Monday, Preliminary Damage Assessment teams in New Jersey are scheduled to tour four additional counties for Individual Assistance, two of which will also be re-assessed for Public Assistance. An additional two counties will be reviewed with an eye toward PA only add-ons. DR-1897 was initially declared for 10 counties eligible for Individual and Public Assistance, with two additional counties eligible for IA only.

DR-1897's Community Relations teams have likewise been hitting the road. CR Specialists Paul Williams and Joseph Bonaccorse (in FEMA blue, right) team up with NJ CERT members Nancy and Dwight Neglia (green hats) to reach out to residents of flood ravaged Atlantic County.



This partnership of FEMA's CR teams with the state's Citizens Emergency Response Teams is a first for the Region, and a concrete illustration of increased coordination in the state-federal response.

Meanwhile, New Jersey's three earlier PA disaster are humming along, according to FCO Bill Vogel.

In the Albany JFO, the leadership of DR-1899, reports that applicant briefings will kick-off Monday in Rockland and Orange counties. In addition, four Public Information Officers have been assigned to the widely dispersed, six county Public Assistance disaster prompted by the nor'easter' of March 13-15.

At left, DR-1899's Chief of Staff Michael DePaolo (seated), Deputy FCO Tom Fargione, and Security Officer Dave Best finalize JFO staffing.

FIRE GRANT WORKSHOPS IN PUERTO RICO



R2 Fire Programs Specialist David Gronsbell lead a successful AFGP, SAFER and FP&S workshop which had the participation of PR Fire Department Chief Carmen Rodriguez, PR Fire Department's regional supervisors, and Operations, Finance, Logistics and Training staff members. The special interactive bilingual presentation was supported by CAD Preparedness & Training, and External Affairs staff. David delivered valuable information to the participants and met with Chief Rodriguez to provide guidance concerning the application process. Furthermore, David and Jesus Frau, CAD Preparedness Program Manager, joined Chief Rodriguez in site visits to several fire stations in rural areas to appraise challenges faced.

New Secure Housing Program Débuts in Puerto Rico



HMGP's *New Secure Housing Program* (NSHP) acquisition and relocation project launched a new project site in the Municipality of Dorado, Puerto Rico. The project provides disaster – resistant homes to twenty-six (26) families. CAD Director De La Campa (seated third from right) joined PR Governor Fortuño, (standing) the PR GAR, the Secretary of PR Housing Department, the Mayor of Dorado, and other state officials in the inauguration event. As of today, 608 families in Puerto Rico have been removed from high-risk zones, including flooding and landslides areas, under this successful mitigation program.