



2020-2021 Annual Report

Introduction

For 25 years, Emergency Network Los Angeles, Inc. (ENLA) has been LA County's premier coordination agency for Los Angeles County-based nonprofits and for government agencies at the municipal, county, state and federal level. Founded in response to the devastating Northridge Earthquake, ENLA has been involved in mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery efforts for disasters across the county, promoting the "Four C's" – communication, cooperation, coordination, collaboration – to streamline interagency emergency management efforts.

ENLA is Los Angeles County's official VOAD (Volunteer Organization Active in Disaster) and is under the umbrella of Southern California VOAD, California VOAD, and National VOAD (NVOAD).

Following the receipt of new grant funding, ENLA was able to hire a full-time Program Director, Yosef Jalil. Throughout ENLA's history, grant funding has been the key determinant whether ENLA has been able to support staff positions which significantly increases the effectiveness of the organization.

ENLA Board and Leadership

Michael Flood, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, *Chairman*
Nick Nguyen, Salvation Army, *Vice-Chairman*
Curtis Hsing, Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation, *Secretary*
Andrew Grundig, Volunteers of America, *Treasurer*
Alexis Agrinoni, American Red Cross
Jennifer Campbell, Los Angeles Region Community Recovery Organization (LARCRO)
Larry Grable, Service Center for Independent Life
Alana Hitchcock, 211 LA County
Dawkins Hodges, Habitat for Humanity
Eric Honanie, United American Indian Involvement
Sandri Kramer, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Foundation
Jesse Marquez, Coalition For A Safe Environment
Matthew Pederson, Team Rubicon
Julie Rattray, Neighborhood Legal Services LA
Farah Shamolian, IsraAID
Scott Tanner, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Janet Weiland, Church of Scientology

Non-Voting Members (Government)

Charles Craig, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
John Cvjetkovic, LA County Department of Public Social Services
Bennett Cummings, LA County Office of Emergency Management
Carol Parks, City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department
Lisa Patrick-Mudd, LA County Department of Public Health

Staff

Yosef Jalil, ENLA Program Director



*ENLA Program
Director Yosef Jalil*

Functional Committees

Six functional committees meet regularly and work on various projects supporting emergency management infrastructure of LA County. These committees include:

DONATIONS MANAGEMENT Committee will involve the handling and distribution of in-kind donations before, during, and after a disaster has occurred.

Members associated with this group: Michael Flood (LA Regional Food Bank; *Co-Chair*), Nick Nguyen (Salvation Army; *Co-Chair*), Larry Grable (SCIL), Michael Ward (St. John the Baptist Social Services, Francisco Soto (City of Long Beach EMD), Marisa Muma (Baby2Baby), Mehul Patel (BAPS Charities)

EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL CARE Committee will look after the mental health and wellbeing of Los Angeles County residents, with special emphasis on individuals affected by disaster.

Members associated with this group: Sandri Kramer (Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services; *Co-Chair*), Janet Weiland (Church of Scientology; *Co-Chair*), Andrew Grundig (Volunteers of America), Rene Martin (Christian Church, Disciples of Christ - Pacific SW Region), Jenni Campbell (LARCRO), Natalie Samuels (West Valley Counseling Center), Nick Nguyen (Salvation Army), Syed Hussaini (Islamic Relief), Mikey Latner (Project:Camp)

COMMUNICATIONS Committee provides for the coordination of ENLA communications services by ensuring that key information and updated status reports are distributed among ENLA members and government emergency response agencies during disaster or emergency events. Preparing for this role is an on-going function of the committee.

Members associated with this group: Matthew Pederson (Team Rubicon; *Chair*), Alana Hitchcock (211 LA County), Sandri Kramer (Didi Hirsch Mental Health Foundation), Andrew Grundig (Volunteers of America), Rene Martin (Christian Church - Disciples of Christ), Valeri Mihanovich (Cal OES), Ken Kondo (LA County OEM)

MASS CARE Committee is responsible for analyzing and implementing the preparedness, response and recovery efforts of ENLA members to feed, shelter, provide short-term housing and meet other immediate needs for persons adversely affected by disaster. It will include efforts to help organizations serving those with special needs (seniors, DAFN, homeless, limited English proficiency, animals, etc.) to better prepare for emergencies or disasters.

Members associated with this group: Alexis Agrinoni (Red Cross; *Co-Chair*), Scott Sapers (Red Cross; *Co-Chair*), John Cvjetkovic (LA County DPSS), Michael Flood (LA Regional Food Bank), Nick Nguyen (Salvation Army), Francisco Soto (City of Long Beach), Mikey Latner (Project:Camp), Marquis Quinton (Service Center For Independent Life), Rene Martin (Christian Church, Disciples of Christ - Pacific SW Region)

RECOVERY Committee activated in a declared emergency or disaster, consists of organizations involved with case management and other activities related to recovery on an on-going basis after an emergency or disaster. These services are delivered under difficult environmental conditions that typically result in loss of infrastructure, disruption of operations, and special challenges for communication, record keeping, coordination, and efficiency. The committee will stay connected

to local, regional, state and, in a declared disaster area, federal assistance and will stay connected to local FEMA activated entities.

Committee members associated with this group: Jenni Campbell (LARCRO; *Co-Chair*), Larry Grable (Service Center for Independent Life; *Co-Chair*), Nick Nguyen (Salvation Army), Julie Rattray (Neighborhood Legal Services), Dawkins Hodges (Habitat for Humanity), Eva Nguyen (United Policyholders), Mehul Patel (BAPS Charities), Syed Hussaini (Islamic Relief), Natalie Samuels (West Valley Counseling), William Simonsick (Neighborhood Legal Services LA)

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT Committee is charged with planning for the influx of volunteers that occurs during and after an emergency or disaster. The committee will help to match volunteers with organizations providing direct services to those affected by the disaster.

Members associated with this group: Farah Shamolian (IsraAID; *Chair*), Michael Flood (LA Regional Food Bank), Carmela Burke (Red Cross), Francisco Soto (City of Long Beach), Scott Tanner (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), Tony Safford (Habitat for Humanity), Noel Middleton (Team Rubicon)

Disaster Response

Throughout 2020 and 2021, LA County was faced with a series of challenging crises, with the COVID-19 being chief among them. These crises, both natural and manmade, have ravaged county residents, causing the deaths of thousands and leading to substantial property destruction in the area of South Los Angeles, Lake Hughes, and the Angeles National Forest and outlying townships.

ENLA has worked around the clock to assist support our partners' efforts to support LA County residents affected by an inordinately difficult year, with particular emphasis on vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

COVID-19

In November 2019, a new virus dubbed "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2" (SARS-CoV-2) or "COVID-19" was found in Wuhan, China, later spreading across the country and across international borders. On March 19, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a "Stay at Home Order," closing all non-essential businesses and discouraging residents from congregating with others. As the virus continues to ravage county residents and overwhelm medical systems, Emergency Network Los Angeles is doing what it can to support its partners assisting residents in staying safe.



The Salvation Army handling an order of PPE at a local warehouse

To date, ENLA has facilitated the donation of approximately 3,000,000 units of personal protective equipment (PPE) to its nonprofit partners and their in-state affiliates. The PPE, which was sourced from local, state, and federal sources, as well as the private sector, includes masks, gloves, gowns, goggles, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes.

Moreover, ENLA Program Director Yosef Jalil served as Co-Chair of the Communications Committee of LA County Department of Public Health's COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup. The committee was responsible for crafting and putting out strategic messaging that would encourage LA County residents to follow CDC guidelines on social distancing, masking, and hygiene, and promote the uptake of vaccines.

To date, the pandemic has infected 1.4 million LA County residents, taking the lives of over 25,000 of them. 75% of Los Angeles County residents ages 12 and up have received at least one vaccine, making it one of the most vaccinated metropolitan areas in the country.

Bobcat and Lake Wildfires

As the planet continues to heat up and the Western United States suffers from a lack of precipitation, California's wildfires are growing in frequency and intensity. In 2020 the Lake (August 12th – September 28th) and Bobcat (September 6th – December 18th) wildfires burned through 31,089 acres and 114,963 acres, respectively, collectively destroying approximately 150 structures in the Antelope Valley.

ENLA, by request of LA County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), activated its network, enlisting, among others, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Los Angeles Region Community Recovery Organization (LARCRO), Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation, and United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in order to provide intake at the Local Assistance Center (LAC) for those affected and respond to their immediate needs (food, cash cards, blankets, shelter etc.)



The Bobcat Fire burning through the Antelope Valley, September 2020

In October 2020, a Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) was established in order to support those affected by both the Bobcat and Lake fires, including members from the aforementioned nonprofits and ENLA allies and affiliates Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles, United Policyholders, Habitat for Humanity of Greater LA, and others, together with Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, FEMA, and CAL OES. This group has been meeting on a weekly basis, providing services for communities affected by both fires, including Disaster Case Management (DCM) services by way of Catholic Charities (Bobcat) and Salvation Army Lake.

In concert with VOAD guidelines, this group's leadership has passed from the VOAD to community leaders, with support from LARCRO. The LTRG will be functional for an indefinite period of time, as it is to promote the community's recovery until it is no longer deemed necessary.

27th Street, Los Angeles Incident

On June 30, 2021 at approximately 7:00pm, a joint task force headed by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) seized an illegal cache of fireworks from a residence near the corner of 27th and San Pedro in South Los Angeles. The material was detonated onsite, as it was deemed too combustible to transport. Tragically, an unfortunate miscalculation caused a massive explosion, injuring 17 (9 LAPD officers, 1 ATF agent, and 7 civilians) and causing extensive damage to the surrounding neighborhood.



Team Rubicon assisting affected residents in South LA, July 2021

ENLA, by request of the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department, activated its VOAD network, deploying its partners to provide services in the areas of intake, feeding, shelter, mental health, legal assistance, case management, debris removal and more, while also overseeing the distribution of food and non-food items for the community. Running through the entire month of July, the response efforts were among the most robust in recent years, directly involving approximately a third of our nonprofit agencies, including 211 LA,

Team Rubicon, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR), IsraAID, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, United University Church, West Valley Counseling Center, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Volunteers of America, D'Andre D. Lampkin Foundation, Compton Veterans, Los Angeles Region Community Recovery Organization (LARCRO), BAPS Charities, and the African Communities Public Health Coalition.

ENLA currently serves on the City of Los Angeles' Long Term Recovery Committee servicing the households affected by the 27th Street Incident, offering its expertise in properly managing the long-term needs of the area's residents.

Recruitment

Part of the Program Director's directives has been the recruitment of nonprofit and government partners, as well as resurrecting ties with lapsed members. In the last twelve months, our nonprofit membership has grown by over 40 percent.

New members (nonprofit)

African Communities Public Health Coalition
BAPS/BAPS Charities
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST LA)
Compton Veterans
D'Andre D. Lampkin Foundation
Immanuel Presbyterian Church
Meals on Wheels of West Los Angeles
Mercy Chefs

New members (continued)

Operation BBQ Relief

Project: Camp

Service Center for Independent Life

St. John the Baptist Social Services

United University Church, Hope on Union

West Valley Counseling Center

Reestablished ties

City of Los Angeles, Personnel Department, Administrative Services Division

Cooperative ties (non-formalized)

City of Long Beach Emergency Management Department

DMAC Coordinator, Area E

VOAD Activities & Events

Following the onboarding of a program director and the widespread adoption of virtual conferencing platforms, ENLA has been able to host significantly more activities for its members, promoting capacity building and communication between our partners.

Update Calls

Held on a biweekly basis since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, ENLA Update Calls have served as a venue that fosters dialogue between our community, faith-based, and government partners. Scheduled for one-hour blocks on Fridays, these meetings provide a platform for our members to provide us with organizational updates, providing insight into relevant operations and events relevant to our community.

Update calls also include an update from ENLA's Program Director, providing members with the opportunity to hear about upcoming events and the various projects the VOAD is working on.

Membership Meetings

ENLA Membership Meetings are held bimonthly and are, by all measures, equal parts informative and educational. At each membership meeting two guest speakers are invited to present on topics such as operating a local assistance center, the rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans, COVID-19 in LA County, the history and current welfare of Native Americans in California, Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), and more.

Membership meetings generally range between one and a half to two hours in length and review, in detail, the ongoings of the ENLA Board and the operational activities of the VOAD. Like update calls, time is afforded to our members to announce the various activities of their own organizations.

Workshops

Starting in March 2021, ENLA has been hosting highly informative workshops on a monthly basis that are *exclusive* to our members. Typically two hours in length, these events are designed to be an interactive way to capacitate our members on subjects relevant to the field of emergency management.

Such topics have included: Trauma Informed Approach to Long Term Recovery (West Valley Counselling Center); Access Functional Needs (AFN) Sensitivity Training (Service Center for Independent Life); Healthcare in the COVID Era (Neighborhood Legal Services Los Angeles); Personal Emergency Preparedness (Volunteers of America); and Emergency Management Lessons Learned (LA Department of Water & Power).

Financial Information

**Emergency Network Los Angeles, Inc.
Fiscal Year 2020-21 ending June 30, 2021**

Revenues

| | | |
|----------------------|----|--------|
| Grants/Contributions | \$ | 55,164 |
| Membership Dues | | 4,800 |
| Other Contributions | | 75 |

Total \$ **60,039**

Expenses

| | | |
|----------------------------|----|--------|
| Personnel Expenses | \$ | 62,579 |
| Insurance | | 3,204 |
| Professional Services | | 6,254 |
| Computer & Office Supplies | | 288 |
| Other Expenses | | 686 |

Total \$ **73,011**

Surplus/Deficit \$ **-12,972**

Net Assets \$ **92,113**

Emergency Network Los Angeles – Los Angeles County VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster)
5211 E Washington Blvd Ste #2-294, Los Angeles, CA 90040 * enla.voad@gmail.com * www.enla.org