



# ICAR

THE INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

## ICAR & Storm Squad Community Annual Review 2024

G-SAL Lab



UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**  
ST. PETERSBURG

# Our Mission

- Use research and education to provide the understanding and ideas needed to make critical decisions regarding our changing and vulnerable coasts
- Engaging stakeholders to facilitate adoption of policies and practices focused on coastal adaptation and resilience
- This transdisciplinary initiative includes the science, engineering, policy and social sciences and will examine the interactions between climate change, water systems, land use, the built environment and ecosystem functions.

# Engaging With The Community

With our sponsors and partners such but not limited to NSF, Duke, and FLFPC... We were able to provide a monthly safe space for individuals who wanted to share personal experiences and major community concerns.

## Thank You Sponsors & Partners

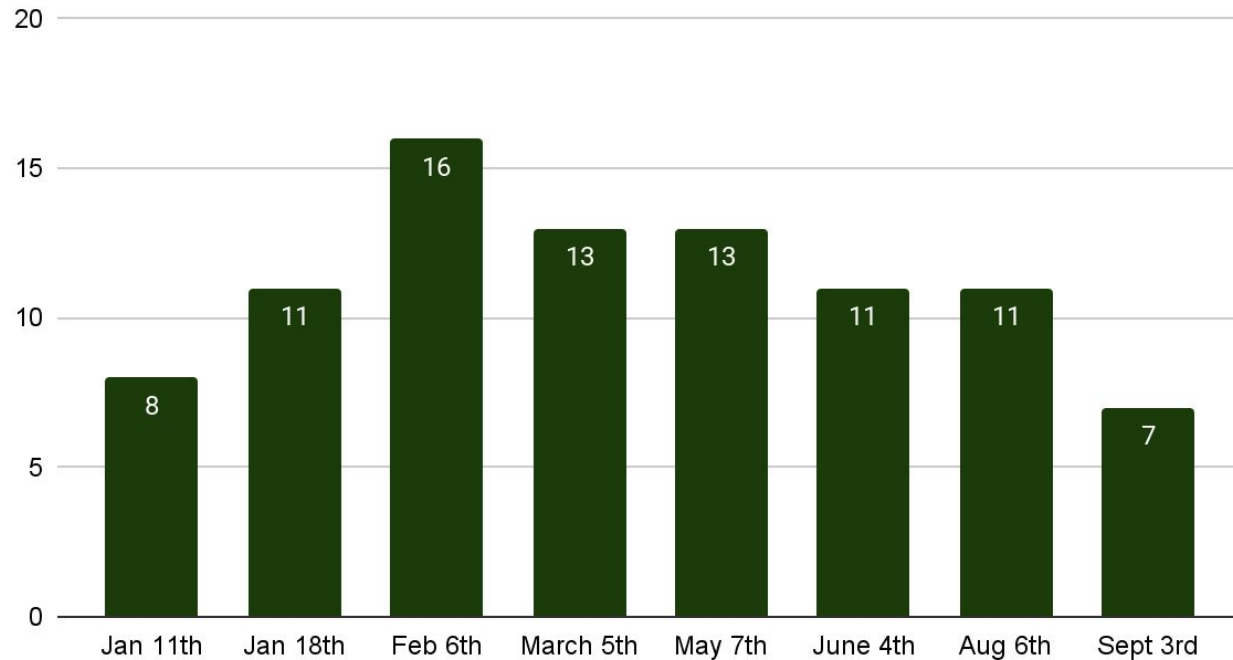


# Monthly Meetings

Monthly Meetings for Storm Squad members  
were held at 6 PM at the Enoch Davis  
Community Center

# Monthly Attendance

Monthly Meetings





# Monthly Meetings



January 18th, 2024



February 6th, 2024



March 5th, 2024



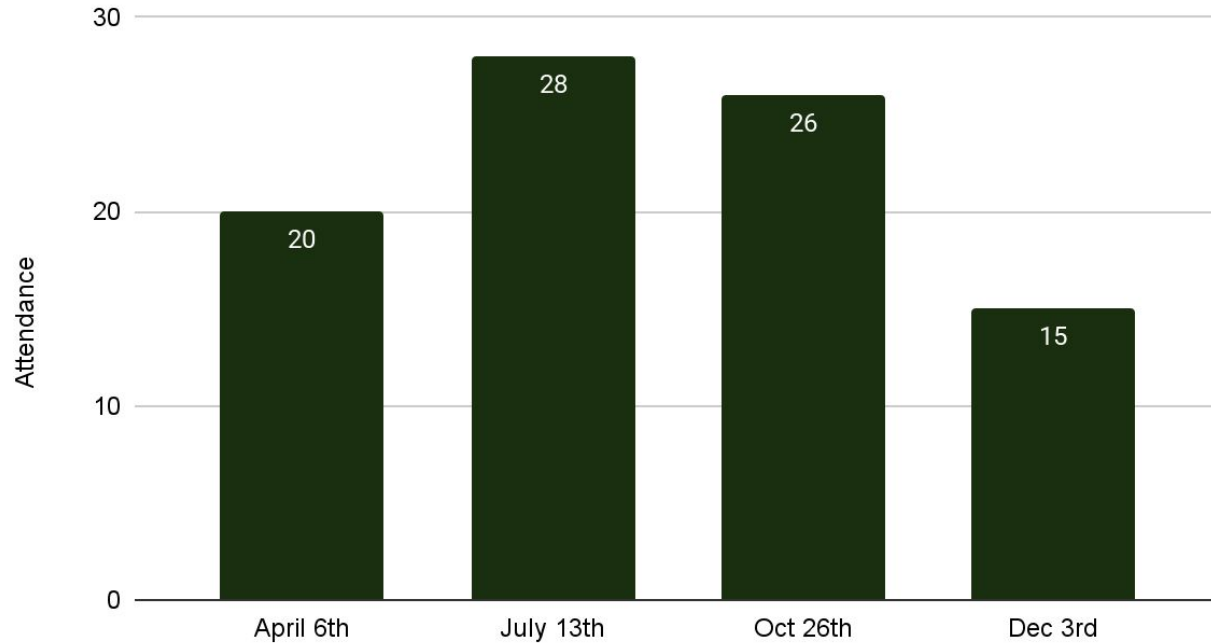
September 3rd, 2024

# Community Town Hall Events

Quarterly town hall events were held in various locations in the local area. These meetings were held on Saturdays from 10 AM to 1 PM and were intended to share resources and the Storm Squad with the Community!

# Town Hall Attendance

Townhall Events





# April Town Hall Event



**CHANGING THE CONVERSATION  
AROUND COASTAL FLOODING  
AND SEA LEVEL RISE TO FOSTER  
EQUITY IN ADAPTATION AND  
RESILIENCY**

## TOWNHALL MEETING

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6 FROM 10AM – 1PM**

ENOCH D DAVIS CENTER  
1111 18th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33705

**FREE ADMISSION & LUNCH**

- Learn about Disaster Preparation, Resource Availability and CRIS
- Share your major concerns:  
Issues that impact your ability to prepare for and recover from a disaster (inflation, food insecurity, housing, health concerns and more)
- Learn about neighborhood level upcoming initiatives
- Give us feedback on CRIS smart phone interface
- Please scan or [click here](#) to participate in the Community Experience & Resiliency Survey



**FIRST 20 ATTENDEES WILL RECEIVE \$15 PUBlix GIFT CARD AND A HURRICANE/HYGIENE KIT\***

**AND**

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN RAFFLE DRAWINGS**

**PLUS A SPECIAL RECOGNITION PRIZE**

**BRING THE MOST NEIGHBORS TO THIS EVENT AND RECEIVE A \$50 GIFT CARD**

\*while supplies last



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# April 6th Event Summary

- Event held at Enoch Davis Recreation Center (1111 18th Ave S St. Petersburg, FL 33705)
- 20 people in attendance
- iCAR survey distributed at sign-in
- Dr. Barnali Dixon provided a Storm Squad update and reviewed flood data from last year's storms
- Shania Bent, Chief Executive Officer of the St. Pete Free Clinic gave a presentation on the Fresh PACE Healthy Neighborhood Store Program.
- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management shared resources, preparation tactics and timelines to ensure safety in future potential natural disasters.
- There was an open discussion for community members to express questions, concerns, challenges, and possible solutions to preparing for Hurricane Season
- Bay Area Legal Services presented resources and contact information for after disaster assistance.
- The App for flood reporting was tested and our 2 first Storm Squad Ambassadors we recognized!

# April 6th Agenda



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## Storm Squad Town Hall

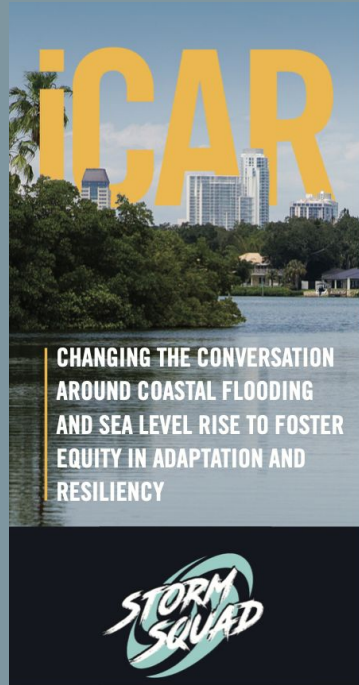
April 6, 2024 from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Time	Activities
10:00	Registration
10:05 - 10:10	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Erica Hall, Executive Director, Community Collaborative of Florida and Executive Director, the Florida Food Policy Council</li></ul>
10:10 – 10:15	Update on Storm Squad <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr. Barnali Dixon, Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (iCAR), University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus</li></ul>
10:15 – 10:30-	Evacuations: Special Needs Evacuation Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management</li></ul>
10:30 – 11:00	St. Petersburg Free Clinic Food program – Shanina Bent CEO <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Medical and dental services</li></ul>
11:00 – 11:20	Break Focus Groups
11:20 – 11:35	Bay Area Legal Services
11:35 – 11:50	FEMA
11:50 – 12:00	Recognition of Ambassadors and CERT members Closing remarks
12:00 – 12:30	Q&A CRIS Survey Assistance with Special Needs Evacuation Program registration



April 6th Event Photos

# July Town Hall Event



**CHANGING THE CONVERSATION  
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## STORM SQUAD TOWNHALL MEETING

**SATURDAY, JULY 13 FROM 10AM – 1PM**

NEW FAITH FREE METHODIST CHURCH  
2427 Irving Ave. S. Petersburg, FL 33712

### FREE ADMISSION & LUNCH

- ▶ Learn about your risks from hurricanes
- ▶ Hear about resources available to help you
- ▶ Tell us what you need to prepare
- ▶ Give us feedback on CRIS smart phone interface

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD OPPORTUNITY TO WIN HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ITEMS**

LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING:  
[STORMSQUADFL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STORMSQUADFL@GMAIL.COM)



FOR INFO:  
[STORMSQUAD.ORG](http://STORMSQUAD.ORG)



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# July 13th Event Summary

- Event held at the New Faith Free Methodist Church (2427 Irving Ave S St. Petersburg)
- 28 people in attendance
- iCAR survey distributed at sign-in
- A Storm Squad team presented how to build a plan to prepare for hurricane season.
- Bay Area legal services presented resource availability for after a disaster.
- TaVon Holmes a Disaster Case Management Resource Coordinator from Endeavors presented on long-term recovery and unmet needs from Hurricane Idalia.
- The CRIS Survey and Flood Data Reporting App were shared with the attendees.
- A breakout session gave attendees the opportunity to share their concerns for hurricane season.
- Attendees had an opportunity to look up their evacuation zone, to sign up for ALERT Pinellas, to download the Ready Pinellas app and to register for the Special Needs Evacuation Program.
- Raffle prizes were given to attendees!



# July 13th Event Agenda



**Storm Squad Town Hall**  
**July 13, 2024 from 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Time	Activities
10:00	Registration
10:05 - 10:10	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Erica Hall, Executive Director, Community Collaborative of Florida and Executive Director, the Florida Food Policy Council</li> </ul>
10:10 – 10:45	Get ready for hurricanes: Help build a plan to preparing on a budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management</li> </ul>
10:45 – 11:00	Grocery Co-Op <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Erica Hardison, Founding Member/President</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:15	Stay informed: The Weekly Challenger's role in community communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lyn Johnson, Publisher</li> </ul>
11:15 – 11:30	Unmet needs from 2023 Hurricane Ian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shanon Granado, Regional Program manager disaster services, Society of St. Vincent de Paul - USA</li> </ul>
11:30 – 11:45	Residential program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. B.</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:15	Lunch
12:00 – 12:15	CRIS survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Barnali Dixon, Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (iCAR), University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus</li> </ul>
12:15 – 12:30	Take action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sign up for Alert Pinellas emergency notification system</li> <li>- Download Ready Pinellas app</li> <li>- Register for the Special Needs Evacuation Program</li> </ul>
12:30 – 12:45	Recognition of Ambassadors and CERT members Drawings and Gift Certificates
12:45 – 1:00	Q&A



July 13th Event Photos

# October Town Hall Event



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## STORM SQUAD TOWNHALL MEETING

**SATURDAY, OCT. 26 FROM 10AM – 1PM**

CHILD'S PARK RECREATION CENTER  
4301 13TH AVE. S. ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33711

**FREE ADMISSION & LUNCH**

- Learn about your risks from hurricanes
- Hear about resources available to help you
- Tell us what you need to prepare
- Give us feedback on CRIS smart phone interface

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD  
OPPORTUNITY TO WIN HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ITEMS**

LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING:  
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FOR INFO:  
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# October 26th Event Summary

- Event held at the Child's Park Community Center (4301 13th Ave S, St. Petersburg, FL 33711)
- 26 people in attendance
- Surveys distributed at sign-in
- The event was opened with grounding and a drum circle to help provide support for those who were significantly impacted by the two hurricanes that impacted the area.
- A listening session allowed attendees the opportunity to discuss how they fared, if they felt prepared, and communication gaps they found.
- A resource expo was held for attendees to gather resources. Bay Area Legal Services, Endeavors, Red Cross Emergency Management, and the Small Business Administration were in attendance.
- A storm squad update was provided along with data that was collected during the two hurricanes.
- Attendees had an opportunity to fill out the CRIS survey and to test the flood app.
- Flood recovery supplies were distributed and a closing drum circle concluded the meeting.

# October 26th Event Agenda



Storm Squad Town Hall

October 26, 2024 from 10 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Time	Agenda
10:00	Registration and Survey
10:10 - 10:15	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Erica Hall, Executive Director, Community Collaborative of Florida and Executive Director, the Florida Food Policy Council</li></ul>
10:15-10:20	Grounding <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Erica Hardison, Cooperation Work</li></ul>
10:20-11:00	Listening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How did you fare (so far)?</li><li>- Did you feel prepared? Why? Why not?</li><li>- What communication gaps did you find?</li></ul>
11:00 – 12:00	Resource Expo: Bay Area Legal Services, Endeavors (long-term disaster recovery), Red Cross, Salvation Army, 211, Emergency Management, Storm Squad Ambassadors
12:00-12:30	Lunch and Survey
12:30-12:45	Neighbors helping neighbors Dr. Barnali Dixon, Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (iCAR), University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus Key Apps Helpful for Disaster <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CRIS</li><li>- Ready Pinellas</li></ul>
12:45-1:00	Door Prizes and Closing Circle





October 26th Event Photos



# Annual Community Appreciation Dinner

The Annual Dinner was held on December 3rd from 6 PM to 7:30 PM at the Enoch Davis Recreation Center.

# December 3rd Event Summary

- 15 Attendees were present
- Surveys were distributed at the event sign-in
- The event was opened with a moment of gratitude and storm squad updates for the 2024 year.
- Dinner was commenced as attendees participated in a flood-related activity- photos were presented and attendees answered on what they felt was the severity of the flood.
- An open discussion was had on the hurricane season successes and challenges.
- Attendees had an opportunity to fill out the CRIS survey.
- Special recognition awards were presented to those who had a significant role in recovery from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Raffle drawings were pulled for holiday gifts and storm supplies.

# December 3rd Event Agenda



## Community Appreciation Dinner



Time	Activities
6:00	Registration & Survey
6:05 – 6:10	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Erica Hall, Executive Director, Community Collaborative of Florida and Executive Director, the Florida Food Policy Council</li></ul>
6:10 – 6:15	Moment of gratitude & Storm Squad Updates
6:15 – 6:25	Break bread
6:25 – 6:35	Hurricane Season Successes & Challenges
6:35- 6:45	CRIS App & Flood Related Activity
6:45 – 6:55	Drawing - Mary Burrell and Erica Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Gift cards for first 20 attendees who completed surveys</li><li>b. Special recognition awards</li><li>c. Free Drawings</li></ul>
6:55 – 7:00	Q&A and Closing Remarks
NEXT MEETING JAN 14TH AT 6 PM! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!	



December 3rd Event Photos



**Barnali Dixon, Ph. D**  
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Analytics Lab

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