

Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness

SUCCESS STORY

ATLANTA

Meta-Leadership Committee Formed and Functioning in Atlanta

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"...cross-sector organizations continue to get together to coordinate and collaborate..."

Margianna Langston, Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Director for the United Way in Atlanta, is working with a committee of cross-sector leaders representing healthcare, emergency management, non-profit and faith-based organizations, and the hospitality industry to continue cross-sector collaboration since attending the Metro Atlanta Meta-Leadership Summit in February 2010 and the follow up post-Summit meeting in January 2011.

Langston, who has participated in the planning of the Summit and Post Summit activity and now chairs the cross-sector committee, is "excited by the continued momentum and encouraged that cross-sector organizations continue to get together to coordinate and collaborate in hopes of ensuring a safer Metro Atlanta."

Meta-Leadership inspires a cross-sector, multi-jurisdictional committee

The goal of the committee is to develop sustainable disaster response and recovery plans via cross sector collaboration and coordination. The committee, which has met several times since the Summit, recognizes unique aspects of Metro Atlanta that differ from many other communities. For example, one aspect that can pose a challenge is that Metro Atlanta is comprised of 15 counties, each with their own plans and procedures. Although it is not their role to dictate plans, the committee recognizes that it can assist businesses, faith-based organizations, and non-profit organizations in working more seamlessly with local government.

Pilot Program with Local Area Hotels

The committee plans to move forward with a pilot program that will assist local area hotels to build connections with local police and fire agencies. Hotel assets will be integrated into existing preparedness plans and utilized during response efforts. Results of the pilot program will be shared at a follow-up meeting expected to be held in May 2012.

The Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness empowered business, government and nonprofit leaders to act together in times of crisis. The five-year initiative connected 5,000 business, government and nonprofit leaders in 36 communities. For resources and more information about Meta-Leadership visit the [CDC Foundation Meta-Leadership Website](#).



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