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Subject: Long Term Recovery Situation Report (SITREP #5)

Governor - this week's SITREP for your review and comments.

1. Per your guidance, we have completed briefing the Executive Committee of the One SC fund. They were very receptive to our methodology and our established priorities. We have provided them our basic data and will return when they meet again to further inform them on our work.
2. As we continue to add data sets (FEMA damaged homes) to our current model, we are getting greater visibility of the damage in "medium high vulnerability areas" (we internally refer to this as light red or pink areas) and are seeing targetable patterns. Specifically, as you would have expected, we are seeing large vulnerable populations in Williamsburg and Sumter County. While we previously reported Sumter County, we had not discussed Williamsburg County with you in any depth. Again, these are areas of Medium High Vulnerability and reflect our highest follow-on priorities.
3. We engaged the Clemson Agricultural Agency and discussed Agricultural impact. Per my previous to you, their best estimate at this time is an approximate total loss of approximately \$340M, with almost \$168M not covered by crop insurance. This data does not include vegetables or trees. We will undertake the mission to map damage by county during the coming weeks and will graphically portray the estimated loss by county.
4. We continue to work on an implementation strategy for the Case Management grant. We met with SCEMD and are in agreement that this critical area requires detailed planning. The plan is to have "awarded" contractors to hire case managers and assign them impacted areas as early as late January or early February. Further, we see them coordinating activities between local Long Term Recovery Committees and VOADs throughout the state and working diligently to provide community level case management.
5. While we have retained our original lines of coordination, we are now going to regionalize these efforts. Our plan is to provide these same coordination abilities except focused on specific areas. We expect this to enable us to build stronger local relationships, providing county administrators and council chairpersons a team with

whom to build relationships.

6. We continue supporting a myriad of VOAD resourcing challenges. We are making requisite coordination to receive 280+ donated refrigerators from Anderson, SC next week at our Winnsboro storage facility. The Department of Corrections will assist with the labor force requirements required to unload all refrigerators. We've continued our search for warehouse storage closer to the coast to support refurbishing operations in the Georgetown and Williamsburg areas. There are several promising leads that we are exploring now. The team is also assisting in developing life support arrangements [for volunteers that](#) include the possibility of using National Guard tents and armories as living quarters, while surging operations in these most vulnerable areas.
7. Our team met with Stefanie Kitchen of 'Plant It Forward' on Tuesday. They have grants available to farmers up to \$5,000 for seed or hay.
8. The collective team continues to support the launch of the [Long Term Recovery Committees and VOADs](#). There are now 11 [Committees](#) around the state, including Darlington which has almost finished standing up, and Marion [who is](#) starting the process. Our team attended the Steering Committee in the Jerusalem Center in Andrews, SC which is forming the basis for the [Long Term Recovery Committee](#) in Georgetown and Williamsburg Counties. This was one of the best local group meetings that we have attended. There were over 30 people in attendance from 17 different organizations. The group was vocal on their needs and goals, and were ready to begin the organization of the facilities (Jerusalem Center), the work forces (VOADS) and assignment/choosing of work locations. We do not think that motivation will be a problem for this area. We have a trip report on the details of meeting if desired.
9. In coordination with the Departments of Commerce and Revenue, we are gathering information on small businesses in the hardest hit counties and will continue to follow up with them. In our meeting with Commerce today, it was agreed that Commerce would call down to all small business owners [in the impacted area](#) for an update on their status. This will be a coordinated effort by multiple agencies. We will use SoVI to identify vulnerable populations, extent of the flood damage, and locations of businesses. DEW [as agreed to use Veteran Success personnel](#) to assist with phone calls to verify the business status [and requests for help](#).
10. The VOADs report having isolated trouble in a small area of Florence County with obtaining permits by the homeowners, which are causing delays in completing their work. This is the first instance of resistance by citizens distrustful of government, directly impacting the repair and refurbishing of their own dwellings. We will work with both communities to see if there may be some compromise options available.
11. VOAD funding across South Carolina continues to be of concern. On-going funding must be funneled into the VOADs to ensure continued progress on the recovery. Each VOAD has expressed some concern about making progress due to lack

of funding/resources.

12. One of the biggest roadblocks to flood relief is the lack of contractors available for estimates due to increased demand for building starts across the state. FEMA and the SBA have money available, but have to have damage estimates before anything can get started. Contractors are in such demand they aren't bothering to return calls, in some cases. A former contractor said there may be active licensed retirees or those with a lapsed license, that might be willing to have the license renewed, who could assist the recovery effort. We received word that the SC Home Builders Association offered training to assist in assessments with FEMA several weeks ago but was turned down. We will continue to look for viable solutions.
13. As we enter the Holiday season, we expect FEMA support staff to continue to decrease, while some VOADs have a minor surge in capacity to support refurbishing operations. *We do not expect that contraction to adversely impact VOAD support at this time.*

Respectfully,

Kevin

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