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SANDY CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH (S-CAFH) STUDY

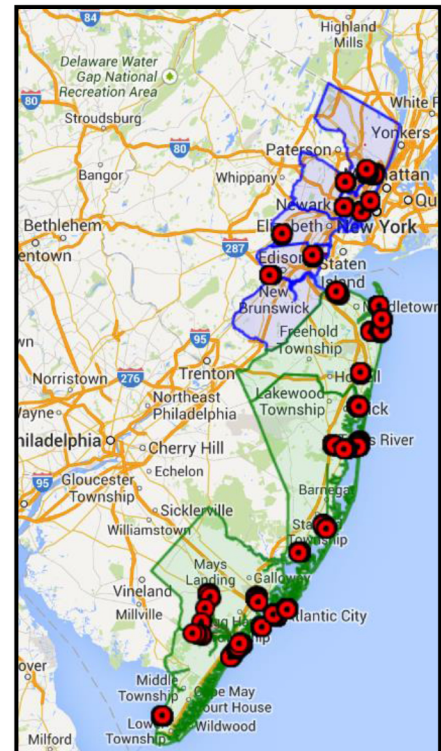
**Taking it to the Teams: Status Update II
October 13, 2014**

Greetings! Welcome to the second status update from the Sandy Child and Family Health (S-CAFH) Study Team. This issue focuses on the training, coordination, and operations of our field team. These are the survey interviewers who are currently knocking on doors throughout the nine most affected counties in New Jersey (see the map below) and interviewing eligible New Jersey residents.

Training the Field Team

The S-CAFH Study Team from Rutgers and Columbia spent three weeks this past June and July of 2014 training over 30 field interviewers. Follow-up trainings were also provided in September 2014. These individuals comprise our field team, which is responsible for canvassing neighborhoods, speaking with local residents, and conducting survey interviews using mobile data technology (the subject of one of our next Status Updates!).

The interviewer training modules included a detailed review of the survey instrument plus a discussion of operational procedures and interviewing techniques. At the conclusion of the training process, the interviewers were split into three regional teams with approximately 6-10 interviewers per team as well as one team captain each. Teams were each assigned a specified area of 2-4 counties where they are responsible for collecting survey data. These counties were selected based on the disaster footprint in the nine most affected counties in the state.



The survey teams have been in the field since early August and are about halfway done recruiting and interviewing the S-CAFH cohort.

Meet the Captains

For this status update, we asked each of the S-CAFH Field Team Captains to share a bit more about themselves and their interest and involvement in S-CAFH. This is how the captains have described their experience thus far:



Matthew Mayo, Team Alaska: Union, Hudson, Essex, and Bergen Counties

I got involved with S-CAFH because I understood the impact Hurricane Sandy left on the state, not only for myself but everyone around me. Being able to participate in a study of this magnitude [has given] me an appreciation for a statewide needs assessment in regards to disaster recovery relief. I have Program Management experience through Catholic Charities that has helped me understand the importance of communication throughout a project/program – top to bottom.



Asena Terry, Team OMM: Ocean, Middlesex, and Monmouth Counties

I moved from Maryland to New Jersey about two months before Sandy. I was fortunate enough to have my apartment restored after one week, but I know that there are many people who still have needs today. I want to take part in this study because it is so important and New Jersey is now my home, too! Working at the Institute for Families at Rutgers University over the past two years has given me a lot of experience with research and evaluation.



Gina Blonar, Team Florida: Atlantic and Cape May Counties

My interest in this research came from working on Project Hope and Healing as a crisis counselor just after the storm. It is important to me to understand which efforts to support our neighbors made the most impact and were the most helpful. I also want to learn how we can improve in the future. [So far], I have learned that simply giving others the opportunity to share their experiences and showing them compassion is some of the most important work we can do.

Field Team Operations

Our field teams are out in the communities seven days a week, and often make a point of being available early evenings to accommodate our interviewees' schedules. Interviewers are equipped with S-CAFH identification badges, and often wear our distinctive "Rutgers-red" team shirts as well.

If you are interested in reading the first status update or finding out more about the study, please visit www.scafh.org. If you would like to be added to our mailing list or have further questions, please contact us at info@scafh.org.