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| **Title:**  | Emergency Shelter support subgroup of ESF-6 Mass Care & Shelter Humanitarian Partners Meeting |
| **Date:**  | 24 October 2019 |
| **Venue:**  | National Training Centre, Meeting Room A |
| **Time:**  | 4:00 – 5:00 pm |
| **Present:** | Team Rubicon, NOPD, Social Services, IOM, UNFPA, IsraAid, UNHCR, Americares, UNFPA, H4H, Salvation Army, UNICEF, Samaritan’s Purse, UNFPA, Ferreira Foundation  |

**Chair: Leonard Cargill, Assistant Director Social Services**

**Co-chair:** Yasmine Colijn, IOM

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions/Overview**
2. **Adoption of minutes & Review of Action points**
3. **Updates – per sector**
4. **AOB**
5. **Introductions / Overview**
6. **Adoption of minutes & Review of Action points**
	* Minutes adopted without comment.

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| ESF 6 - Emergency Shelters action points – 17th October 2019 |  |
| Action | Responsible | Update |
| Follow up on which information can be shared regarding needs assessments from Grand Bahama and Abaco | Social Services | Report not yet available |
| Draft for review by Social Services & sub-group:• Sub-group Terms of Reference/Key Purpose & Responsibilities• Draft action plan for coming months• Proposed meeting structure (including operational meetings at shelter level) | IOM/ ESF 6 | No feedback was received and as such the ToR is considered approved by the group.  |
| Share # of individuals require blood work to be processed with Social Services. | Americares | Americares to make this request directly to MoH. |
| Follow up issue of immunization possibilities with Ms. Cooper. | ESF 6 - Social Services | Americares to make this request directly to MoH. |
| Provide feedback on Mass Shelters - Humanitarian Support Proposal | Social Services | All requests are to be sent separately to Deputy Director Kim Sawyer (kimsawyer@bahamas.govs.bs)  |

1. **Updates**

**Shelter Management**

* **Department of Social Services (Mr. Cargill)**
* Possibility of community tensions at the Gym because of consolidation
* The current population of the Collective Shelters stands at 791 individuals. 292 in the main hall of Sir Kendall Isaac’s Gym + 136 in tent A, 67 in tent B, 108 in tent C). Calvary Church stands at 47 (dropped from last week’s 62), and Bahamas Academy remains stable at 141.
* Calvary Haitian Church is set to be consolidated into Sir Kendall G Isaac’s Gym tomorrow – Friday 25th October. Evacuees in the Gym have mentioned to Social Services that they do not want the population of the Gym to increase and for Calvary Haitian Church to be consolidated into it.
	+ Support is available on communication with communities and managing community tensions – Social Services has been made aware of this on multiple occasions.
* No date is currently set for the consolidation of Bahamas Academy in to the Gym.
* There is an urgent need for temporary large tents at Sir Kendall G Isaac’s. This as the owner of one of the main tents is withdrawing it from the premises tomorrow- Friday 25th October. He will erect a tent of the same size during the same day, but evacuees require temporary shelter to wait during the day and move their items into while the new tent is being erected. 20”x20” tents were requested from NEMA, but these were not available.
	+ Co-chair noted that these types of requests can be relayed to humanitarian partners soonest so that support can be provided.
	+ Co-chair noted the need for a “plan B” in case the new tent is not erected by the end of the day. Communication with the evacuees is critical during this process, so avoid unnecessary distress.
	+ Chair noted that security & police will be present to manage this move.
	+ All actors asked to reach out immediately to source tents.
* Joint WASH assessment was conducted at the Gym (update in minutes under WASH).
* **IOM**
* IOM continues to focus on supporting the government in their coordination of the emergency shelters. Current shelter figures can be seen in the snapshot shared in the Whatsapp group.
* ESF 6 – Emergency Shelters co-lead will be in Abaco all of next week, as such Social Services is to decide whether the meeting in Nassau takes place or not.

**Health**

* Americares noted that there are significantly more children around the Gym during the day now, due to the school break.
* Ministry of Health dispatched 12 visiting physicians to the Gym which caused a bit of a space issue due to the small space allocated to the Clinic in the Gym. Physicians have now moved on to another location for the rest of the week.

**Food/Cash**

* Discussions surrounding food coordination for the emergency shelters were concluded in that all communication would go through the EOC, ensuring that dry foods from the NEMA warehouse were dispatched. Perishable items & produce would be requested from food partners.
* The Life Empowerment Church is currently in discussions with World Central Kitchen regarding a transition as WCK phases out direct implementation.
	+ Currently receiving items from H4H and preparing 300 meals per day
* Question was raised by ESF 11 regarding the provision of food to children under 2.
	+ Social Services noted that in many cases children were eating whatever their parents were. This needs to be looked into.
		- **Action point:** Mr. Cargill to provide feedback to ESF 11 on food being provided to children under 2/any gaps.
* Social Services noted that there was a lack of food available at the distribution point that is serving evacuees.
	+ This is of concern as in previous meetings NEMA had stated that there were 24 containers of food, of which the key issue was that they needed to be sorted.
	+ **Action point:** Mr. Cargill to follow up on the food coordination e-mail to NEMA for clarity.
	+ Supply of food – Ferreira Foundation may be able to assist with items from Florida.

**WASH**

* Rapid WASH assessment was conducted at Sir Kendall G Isaac’s Gym today with UNICEF, Social Services, WSC, MoH, and IFRC; during which significant WASH needs were identified (as has been raised on several occasions in the ESF 6 meetings).
* Analysis of the assessment will be shared once approved by IFRC and Social Services.
* Unless there are blocks on the approval for IFRC, implementation will go ahead and the key issues should be addressed easily. IFRC/WASH capacity was never the issue – it was rather one of an access limitation to conducting activities at the Gym.
	+ The main focus will be on ensuring that minimum standards for WASH (in accordance with SPHERE) are met.
	+ Additional showers & latrines will be the priority.

**GBV**

* UNFPA is working with Gender Department on Capacity Building plan, which will also target Shelter Management staff. This is currently being discussed with Social Services, in order to identify key staff and ensure their availability for a 1 day training.
	+ **Action point:** IOM noted that there are several actors who are all proposing training for Social Services staff. As such it might be useful to put together a joint calendar to avoid overlap in proposed trainings.
* UNFPA noted that there are guidelines for essential actions on GBV mainstreaming – specific to each sector, which are helpful to guide activities and work to prevent and mitigate against GBV risks in emergency shelters.
	+ **Action point;** UNFPA to share GBV mainstreaming guidelines.
* PSEA Coordinator is in country for one month, who will focus on:
	+ Establishing a PSEA Network – with PSEA focal points from each organization.
	+ Rolling out PSEA trainings
	+ **Action point:** UNFPA to share link to online PSEA training. All partners recommended to take this 1.5 hour training.

**CP**

* IsraAid is establishing two Child Friendly Spaces (CFS); at Sir Kendall G Isaac’s Gym and the National Art Gallery, respectively.
1. **Presentation of the "Mass Shelters Humanitarian Support Proposal"**
* In previous meetings, Mr. Cargill noted that though support from the humanitarian community is appreciated, clarity was needed on the types of support that were being offered. As such, IOM coordinated a joint “Mass Shelters Humanitarian Support Proposal” for Social Services and other government departments to be able to consult. IOM expressed thanks to all actors who provided input under short timelines.
* The consolidated proposal was received by Social Services, and reviewed by relevant actors.
* The feedback from Social Services is that though the format was appreciated, all requests should be made separately and sent directly to Deputy Director Sawyer: kimsawyer@bahamas.gov.bs
	+ Some activities may require MoUs – and as such these are unlikely to be approved.
	+ Dep. Director Sawyer will work to fast-track requests.
* Concerns were raised that the purpose of the document was to respond to the request from Social Services to consolidate and reduce communications; and that the opposite was now being requested.
* Social Services reiterated that all requests should go individually to Deputy Director Sawyer.
1. **AOB**
	* Update from independent volunteer at Children’s Emergency Hostel; bilateral meeting to be held with Child Protection and Social Services to follow up.

***Next meeting: to be determined – due to travel.***

***Whatsapp group:*** <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JP6mG6zQYCh951H0axeVem>

