



ICAR

THE INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

ICAR & Storm Squad Townhall

Saturday, April 26th Townhall Meeting

G-SAL Lab



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
ST. PETERSBURG

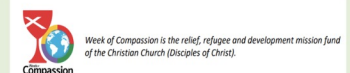
Our Mission

- 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

- The most recent community outreach and educational program was held locally at Mount Zion Human Services on Saturday April 26th, 2025.
- With our sponsors and partners such but not limited to NSF, Duke, and FLFP. This provided a safe space for individuals who wanted to share personal experiences and major community concerns.

Thank You Sponsors & Partners



Welcome & Registration



- At 10:00 A.M: Local residents of the neighboring communities gathered for pastries, signed in for the event and had the opportunity to pick up informational pamphlets provided by our tabling organizations. Surveys were distributed at sign in.



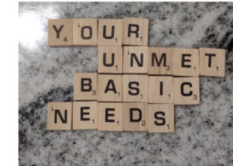
Agenda

Welcome and Introduction:

- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Reviewed the schedule for the day
- Attendees had the opportunity to fill out the iCAR Food Security, Health and Disaster Preparation survey



Food Security, Health, & Disaster Preparations



Food Security Survey

We want to hear about your experiences.

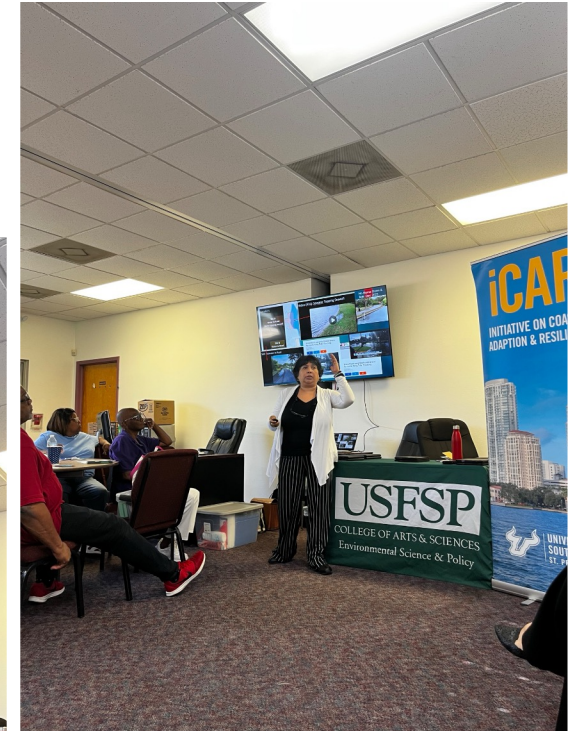
[Take Survey](#)



Promoting Resilience with Storm Squad:

Dr. Barnali Dixon, Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (iCAR), University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus

- Reviewed maps and data collected from the community.
- Discussed the need for data sharing and the importance of the Storm Squad in the event of disaster.



Hurricane Season 2025 Looking Ahead

- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Reviewed disaster resources and demonstrated an example hurricane kit.



Community Resources

- Attendees had the opportunity to stop by tabling organizations to learn more about available resources in the area.
- Each organization provided a brief presentation on their various services.
 - Bay Area Legal Services
 - Small Business Administration
 - First Contact
 - Endeavors



Community Resources:



Lunch

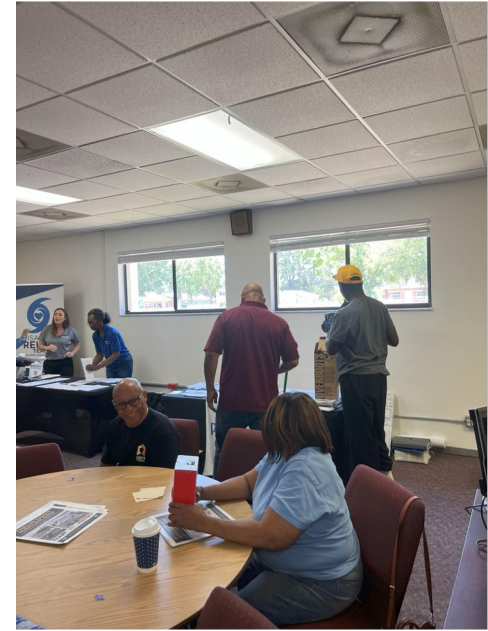
- Attending community members enjoyed a provided lunch consisting of salad, sandwiches, popcorn chicken, drinks, and snacks.
- Attendees also had this opportunity to connect with other community members and professionals presenting at the event.



Listening Session:

- Challenges before the hurricane?
- Concerns during the hurricane?
- Concerns after the hurricane?





Closing & Door Prizes

- Closing remarks on the activities of the day
- Raffle drawings for disaster recovery and preparedness items



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