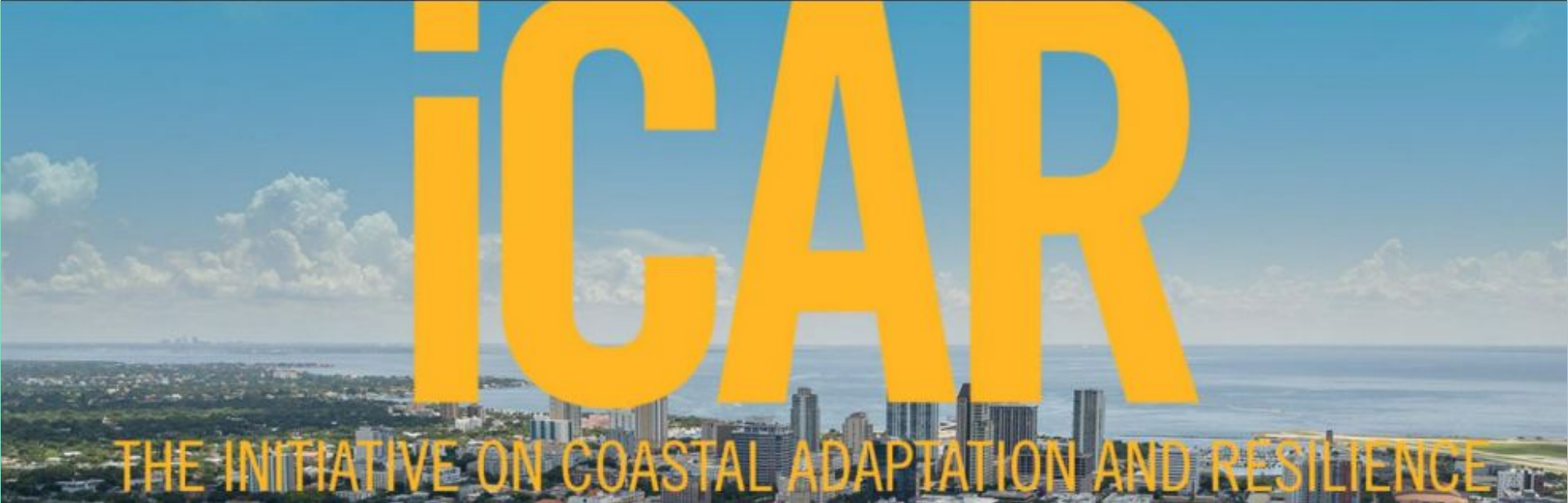




ICAR

THE INITIATIVE ON COASTAL ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

ICAR & Storm Squad Townhall

Saturday, October 11th Townhall Meeting @ Campbell Park Recreation Center

G-SAL Lab



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
ST. PETERSBURG

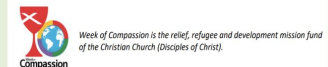
Our Mission

- 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.

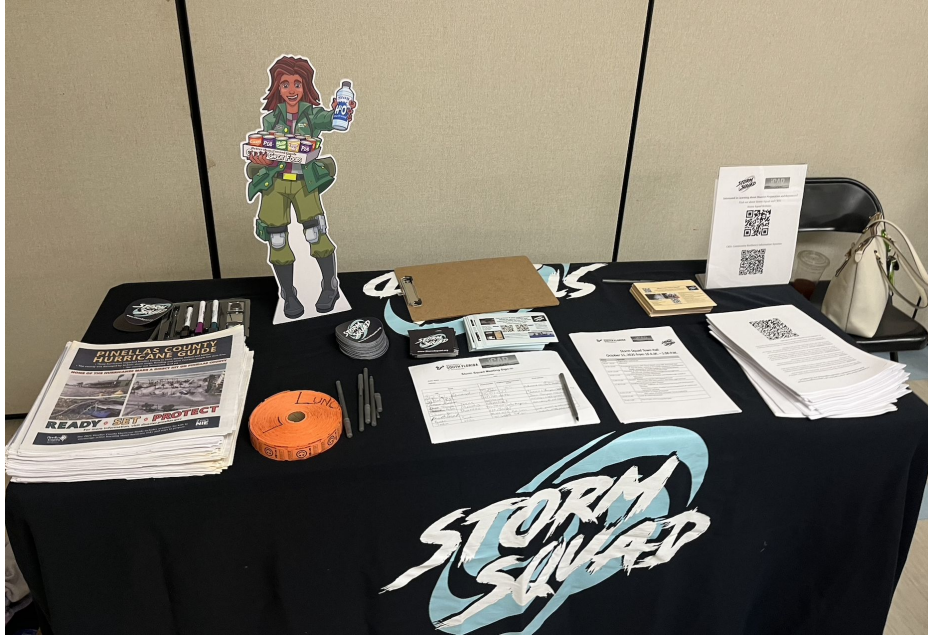
Engaging With The Community

- The most recent community outreach and educational program was held locally at **the Campbell Park Recreation Center** on Saturday, October 11th, 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 and signed in for the event. Attendees had the opportunity to pick up informational pamphlets provided by our tabling organizations. Surveys were distributed at sign in.

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions:

- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Reviewed the schedule for the day and attendees had the opportunity to grab coffee and pastries!



Promoting Resilience with Storm Squad using CRIS and Flood App

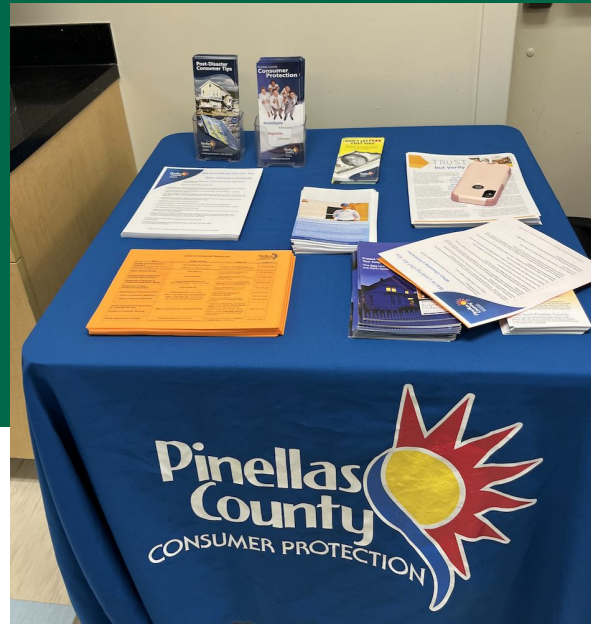
Dr. Barnali Dixon, Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (iCAR), University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus

- Reviewed maps and data collected from the community.
- Shared the Flood App and helped community members to download the app.
- Discussed the need for data sharing and the importance of the Storm Squad in the event of disaster.



Community Resources

- Tabling organization had the opportunity to share the resources their organizations offer
- Tabling organizations included: Pinellas County Consumer Protection, City of St. Petersburg Planning and Development Services, and Pinellas County Emergency Management



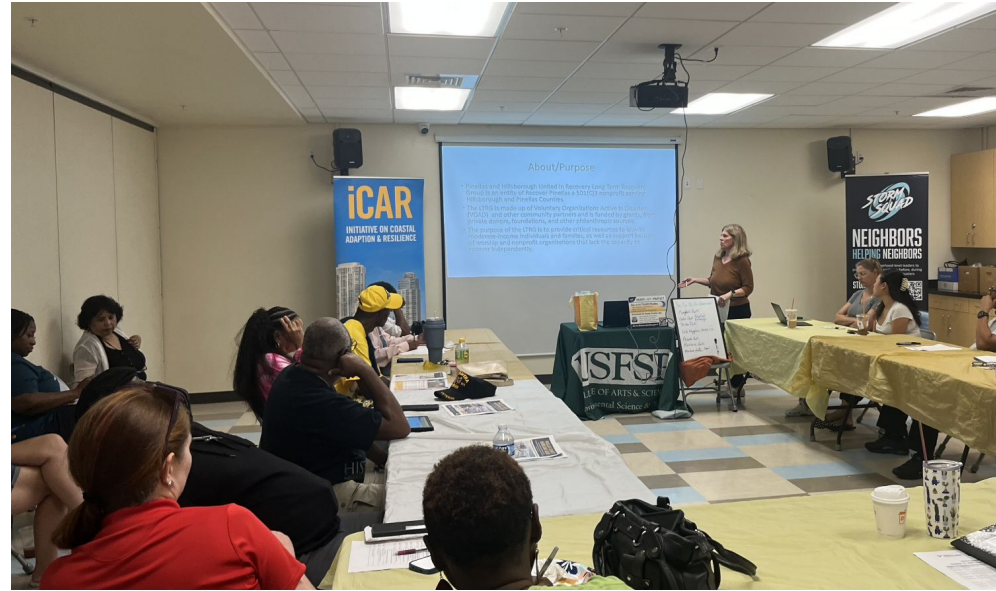
Overview of Alert and Ready Pinellas Apps

- Mary Burrell, Whole Community Engagement Program Lead, Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Reviewed the county emergency resources, how to know your evacuation zone, and how to receive emergency alerts.



Long Term Disaster Recovery Resources

- Kelly Milner, Director of Pinellas and Hillsborough United in Recovery
- Reviewed the Pinellas and Hillsborough United in Recovery Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG), a Recover Pinellas initiative that unites VOADs, nonprofits, and community partners to deliver disaster recovery assistance, such as home repairs, furnishings, and financial aid, to low- to moderate-income residents and organizations, with case management support from Endeavors and SALT.



Disaster Assistance Programs & Appeals Process

- Jason Susalla and John Lawless, Bay Area Legal Services.
- Reviewed the free civil legal aid BALS provides to low- and middle-income Floridians, offering services from brief advice to full court representation through specialized teams focused on specific legal issues and vulnerable populations.



Building & Repairing After Disaster

- Hannah J. Rebholz, St. Petersburg Planning & Development Services.
- Anna Marie Fiallos, Pinellas County Department of Justice and Consumer Services.
- Reviewed local planning, development, and consumer protection initiatives, including resources available to residents for housing, redevelopment, and consumer rights assistance.



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.



Transportation in Times of Disaster

- Bob Lasher, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority.
- Reviewed public transportation updates and resources, including new bus routes and services across Pinellas County.



Listening Session:

- The meeting ended with a listening session, where the following questions were asked:
- When you shop, what are you prioritizing for purchase and why?
- What are the major concerns that impact your ability to prepare?
- During hurricane season, what concerns do you have about a power outage?
- Any concerns about sheltering in place or transportation to the nearest shelter?
- Any health-related concerns when preparing for disaster, during and after?



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