Hurricane Sandy

_Dealing with a “Superstorm”_

South Carolina Hospital Association
The Community
Pre Sandy
Long Beach Hospital

Circa 1927
On the Waterfront
Emergency Dock
Notorious Storms of the Past

- “Long Island Express”, 1938, Cat. 3
- Hurricane Hazel, 1954, Cat.2
- Hurricane Donna, 1960, Cat. 2
- Hurricane Belle, 1976, Cat.1
- Hurricane Gloria, 1985, Cat 2
- “The Perfect Storm” 1991, Nor'easter
- Hurricane Isabel, 2003, Cat 1
- Hurricane Irene, 2011, Cat.1
Tracking Sandy
Preparations to Evacuate and Shelter in Place

- Stopped admitting
- Discharged patients
- Assessed level of care
- Located beds
- Copied records
- Transportation needs
- Coord. with OEM
- Meds and supplies to go
- Equipment to go
- Staff to accompany pts.
Evacuation
Sandy Arrives
As a Record Storm

“Sandy’s barometric pressure at landfall was 946 millibars, tying the Great Long Island Express Hurricane of 1938 as the most powerful storm ever to hit the Northeast U.S. north of Cape Hatteras, N.C.”

Jeff Master, Director of Meteorology, Weather Underground
The Loss

- Boiler plant
- Kitchen
- General Stores
- Pharmacy
- Emergency generators
- Main electrical panels
- 7 Elevators
- Laundry
- Central sterile supply
- Fire alarm

- Medical vacuum
- Communications
- Sewage ejection system
- Morgue
- Maintenance shops
- Medical clinics
- Behavioral health clinics
- Chillers of MR
Destruction
Damage to the Community
Immediate Response
DMAT
Immediate Repairs
Communications

- T.V. and Print
- Open letter to Community
- FEMA house to house
- Facebook
- Employee meeting
- Weekly email to staff
- Community meetings
- Medical staff meetings
Financial Issues

- Staff furloughs
  - Virtual temp agency
- NYS DOH advanced Medicaid funds
- Business interruption insurance
- Accelerated processing of A.R.
- Grants
- Vendor support
Sources of Capital

• Flood insurance

• Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013
  – Public Assistance Grants, sec. 322 for repairs and replacement
  – Remediation measures, sec. 406
  – Preventive measures for building that were not damaged, sec. 404 (competitive)
  – Community Development Block Grants
  – Social Services Block Grants

• All grants flow through State
FEMA Process
Public Assistance Program

- Hospital qualifies as “critical non-profit”
- Fed, State and facility share in cost
- FEMA will not pay for anything covered by insurance
- FEMA’s 50% rule
- Applicants must follow their own procurement rules
Project Worksheets

• Details scope of work and costs
• Categories:
  – Emergency protective measures
  – Debris removal
  – Temporary repairs
  – Permanent repairs
• FEMA meetings
Remediation

• Required in order to obtain flood insurance
• Relocate critical equipment above flood plain
  – For LBMC: Zone AE 8’ (500 year flood, add 1.5’)
    • Elevating equipment
    • Dry flood proofing
    • Wet flood proofing
• Plan to be approved by FEMA remediation team
• FEMA Publication: “Reducing Flood Effects in Critical Facilities”
  – Based in part on LBMC experience
Administrative Support

• Expense covered by FEMA
• FEMA consultants: David M. Shapiro Group
  – Represents LBMC to FEMA
  – Assembles documentation
  – Writes project worksheets
  – Assess proposed scope and cost of permanent work
• Project management: VVA
  – Solicits and evaluates bids
  – Schedules work and monitors progress
  – Interfaces with architect
• Architects: RBS&D
  – Designs plans and specifications for restoration of facilities
Current Situation

- Hospital did not reopen
- SNCH successor to LBMC
  - FEMA funds
  - Urgent Care Center
  - Free Standing ER
- Reopened:
  - Nursing Home
  - Faculty Practice
  - Family Care Center
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