

# NJVOAD

New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster  
Cooperation • Communication • Coordination • Collaboration



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NON-PROFIT BUILDERS GROUP WINS INNOVATIVE PROGRAM/PARTNERSHIP OF THE YEAR AWARD**

New Brunswick, New Jersey – The Non-Profit Builders Group - a non-official affiliation between A Future With Hope, Inc., Affordable Housing Alliance, Episcopal Diocese of NJ and SBP, Inc - was honored at the NJVOAD (New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) Conference held on April 5, 2017, and awarded the **Innovative Program/Partnership of the Year Award**. This award was developed to recognize and promote exceptional innovation or ingenuity through the development and implementation of programs or partnerships that provide a long-term solution to a specific community's problem utilizing cooperation, communication, coordination and/or collaboration; and/or creation of a unique project or program that fills a gap or unmet need in a community in preparing for, responding to, and/or recovering from disasters.

The aligning mission of the Non-Profit Builders Group is to repair owner occupied housing to safe, sanitary and secure conditions. These agencies first came together in May of 2015 to identify organizational synergies that could aid low- to moderate-income Sandy-affected home owners with demonstrated construction needs.

Between May of 2015 and October of 2016, these four organizations began to form a more cohesive affiliation, meeting every two weeks to share construction related recovery information and review family intake information, strengthen the impact of individual problem solving skills by collectively brainstorming construction solutions and pool remaining resources to get families home. In October of 2016 an opportunity for significant collaboration presented itself when individual organizations were approached regarding potential funding opportunities. The four agencies quickly went to work collaborating on grant applications targeting the construction needs of Sandy homeowners. This ultimately resulted in grant awards of more than \$1.45 million to fund rebuilding 60 homes.

As a result of this collaborative funding, the Non-Profit Builders Group has 34 construction projects under review, has started work on 21 homes and has completed work on 3 homes. A Future With Hope, Inc., Affordable Housing Alliance, Episcopal Diocese of NJ and SBP, Inc. have clearly demonstrated excellence in putting the needs of Sandy Survivor's at the forefront of their work.

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