DISASTER RECOVERY COLLABORATION - HURRICANE SANDY EXPERIENCE

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Resilient People. Healthy Communities. A Nation Prepared.
Sandy In Context
The Destruction
The Cleanup
The Cleanup
Who Came?

- Government programs, teams, officials
  - FEMA, HHS, EPA, USACE, Americorps
- Non-governmental organizations
  - International (MSF), National (ARC), Religious (Southern Baptist), Advocacy (AmeriCares)
- Private Business & Foundation
  - Robin Hood, Rockefeller
- Individual Citizens
What Did They Encounter?
What Did They Encounter?
Why Partnership

- Volume of disaster-caused need
  - Flooding = mucking & gutting
  - High number of volunteers & varying training skillsets
  - Low numbers (relative) of certified contractors

- Identified gap in training and education
  - Lack of knowledge on threats, safe handling materials, safe period of operations

- Conflicting information on debris removal, responsibility, action
  - Who clears my home? Where do I deposit?
Lessons Learned

- Ongoing communication is key
  - Situational awareness; what is working/not
- Language matters
  - Different people = different perspectives
  - Know your audience
- Mechanism for collaboration = important!
  - How do we coordinate? How do we relate to each other?
- Know your (local) role
  - Ensure the remedy connects with *proximate* issue
    - E.g. flooding v. fire v. wind damage