



**COO Peer Network Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday, September 8, 2005**  
**YMCA of the USA Washington Office**

1) Presentation on Strategic Planning by Terry Williams, retired Senior Partner with McKenzie and Company

--Most of the presentation and discussion focused on Mr. Williams' "Ten Ideas about Strategic Planning."

2) Notes from Group Discussion

a) COO group should collectively approach funders for meeting

--propose plan to integrate work to deal with issue

--collaborations among organizations

--dialogue with funders

--Board Source and Alliance for Nonprofit Management are part of group that meets periodically with funders

--must collaborate to really change communities

b) Response to Hurricane Katrina

--National Assembly should compile and share information on what members are doing in response to Katrina. (Note: The Assembly's website will include this information as well as a link to Independent Sector's site, which lists how its members are responding to the hurricane. Many National Assembly members are on the IS list. For more information, see "National Assembly Members Respond to Hurricane Katrina" at [www.nassembly.org](http://www.nassembly.org))

--National Assembly should convene a meeting on disaster response and planning for all Assembly members and others, such as the Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disasters (VOAD) coalition and the USA Freedom Corps.

Possible outcomes:

--collaborative response strategy of human service organizations, VOAD and USA Freedom Corps

--how to provide long-term support and services for people affected by hurricane

- identify and respond to human service needs (both short- and long-term)
  - think about these needs collectively
  - redeploy existing resources (i.e. volunteers)
  - resource assessment
- sharing information

(Note: Twenty-nine (29) National Assembly members co-signed a letter urging the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to allow nonprofit organizations to apply for economic injury disaster loans. The SBA can make federally subsidized *physical disaster loans* to nonprofit organizations to repair or replace damaged property not covered by insurance, but nonprofit organizations are NOT eligible for *economic injury disaster loans* from SBA that help with operations costs. To read the letter, [click here](#).)

### 3) Next Meeting

The next COO Peer Network meeting will be held in April or May 2006 at Girls Incorporated in New York City.

### 4) New Chair of COO Peer Network

Chair Bill Bentley (Points of Light Foundation) announced that Marie Lynch (YMCA of the USA) will be the new Chair of the group. In November 2004, we held a "virtual election" to select a Vice Chair to work with Bill and serve as a "Chair Elect". John Ratliff, formerly with Women in Community Service, was the only candidate and became the Vice Chair. Marie Lynch also expressed interest, but did not run for the position. John resigned as Vice Chair after leaving Women in Community Service and Marie has agreed to serve as the new Chair. We will soon issue a call for nominations for the Vice Chair position.

### Participants:

Bill Bentley, Points of Light Foundation  
Marla Bobowick, BoardSource  
David Carrier, National Human Services Assembly  
Phil Collyer, National Human Services Assembly  
Walt Decker, American Foundation for the Blind  
Joe Haggerty, United Way of America  
John Hall, EthicsPoint  
Marcia Kropf, Girls Inc.  
Jacquelyn Lendsey, Women in Community Service  
David Moore, Forum for Youth Investment  
Tom Plake, Community Partnerships with Youth  
Terry Williams (presenter)