

Options to Implement Disaster Recovery Activities Quickly

25

YEARS
POST-DISASTER
RESPONSE
EXPERIENCE

90+

MAJOR
DISASTERS

IN 23 STATES &
2 US TERRITORIES

\$3.2B

ANNUAL REVENUE

17,000

CLIENTS

\$10B

POST-DISASTER GRANTS

650+

FEDERAL GRANT-
FUNDED PROJECTS

10,000+

PROJECT WORKSHEETS (PWs)

99.8%

FUNDS
RETAINED

WORKS ON
70,000

PROJECTS ANNUALLY

22,000

ASSOCIATES

300+

STATE/LOCAL CLIENTS

470

OFFICES
WORLDWIDE

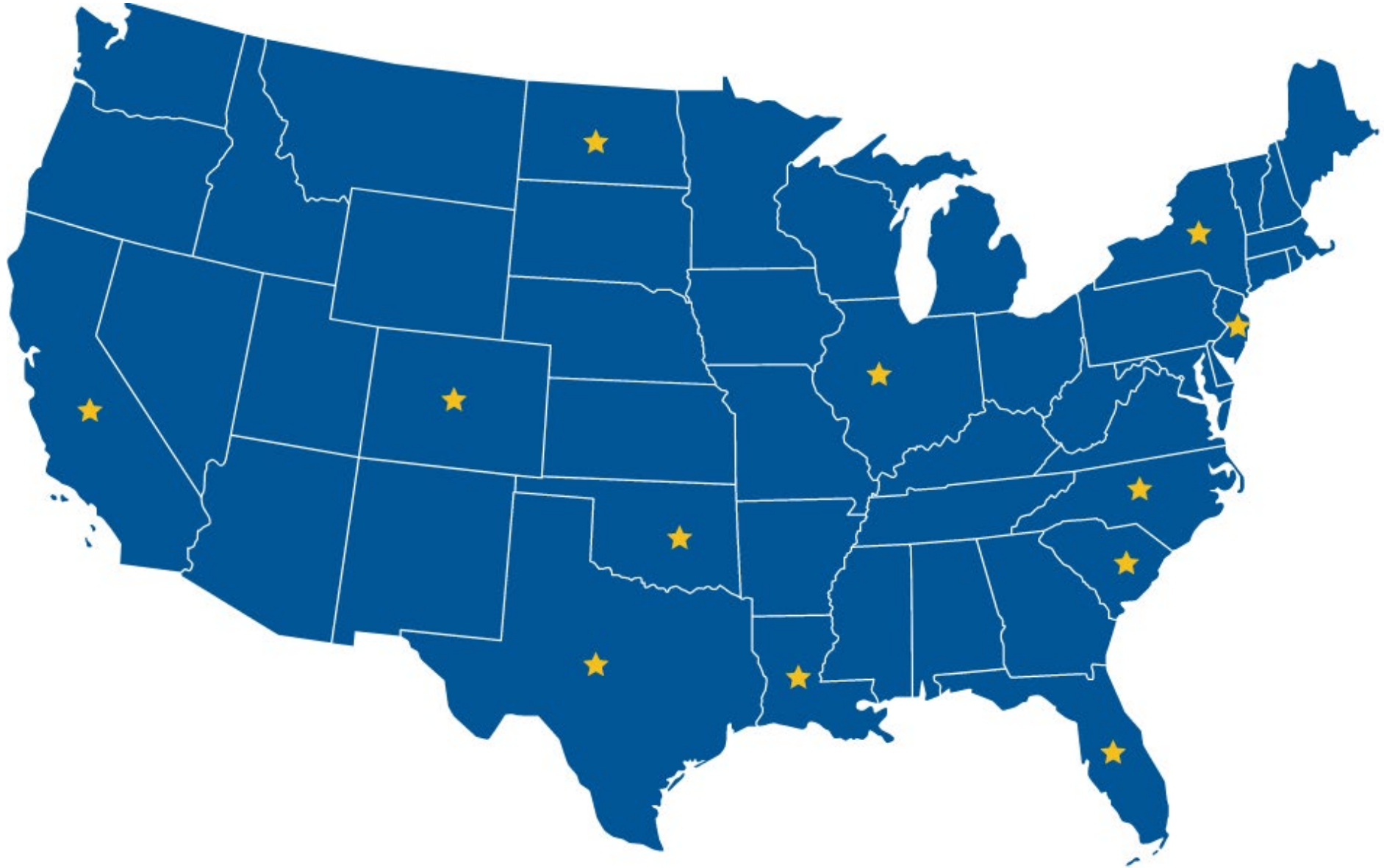
95%

REPEAT CLIENTS/
CONTRACTS

About Michael Spletto

- Started in CDBG and attended first COSCDA meeting in 1986
- Administered one of the first CDBG DR projects for the State of North Dakota in 1994
- Housing manager for the largest CDBG DR housing program in history, Katrina – \$10 billion and over 120,000 applicants
- Consultant for the last 15 years, remaining active with COSCDA





Managed or directed CDBG DR projects
in 14 states and territories



Issues That Slow Down Recovery

Issues we can not control

- Time from Disaster to Congressional Appropriation
- Time from Appropriation to HUD publishes FR

Issues we can control

- Overall program processes
- Staffing
- Procurement
- Environmental
- Policies/SOPs

Implementing DR Activities Quickly

Texas

- Completed prequalified contractors and construction plans and costs that communities could use for housing programs.
- Early Procurement for staff augmentation

Colorado

- Expedited their CDBG DR broad environmental review process by hiring a firm to complete broad review under “planning” rather activity delivery costs or administration costs.

Louisiana

- Banks managing construction activities like a construction loan
- One of first states to use the “bid book” concept
- One of first states to allow homeowners to keep their contractor or choose one from state pool

New Jersey

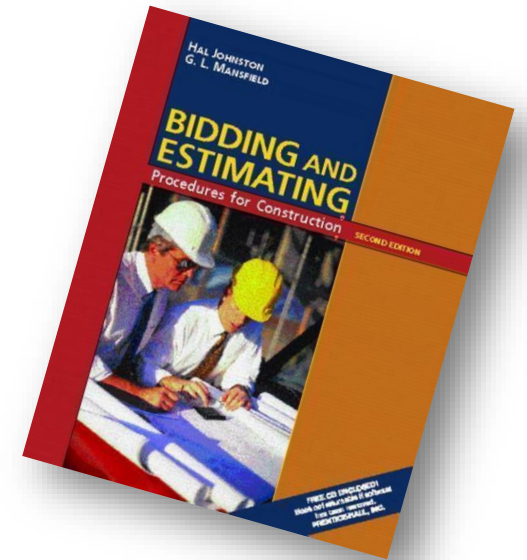
- Hired consulting firm to write an action plan 96 days after the storm (4 days after appropriation)

South Carolina

- Started new Office for Disaster Recovery immediately
- Hired very qualified management and staff to manage new office and CDBG DR dollars while working closely with state CDBG office
- Hired consulting firm with one-stop process for disaster management

State of Louisiana

- Louisiana was one of the only states in 2006 to manage a compensation program – **Did it start out that way?**
- In later disasters, Louisiana was one of the first states to use the “bid book” concept for construction. Why does this work better?
- Louisiana was one of the first states to allow more homeowner choice for contractors



State of New Jersey

The State of New Jersey only took 22 days from publication of the Federal Register to having their Action Plan submitted to HUD.

How could this happen so quickly?



New Jersey Superstorm Sandy	Date	Days Later
Sandy Hits New Jersey Coast	10/29/2012	
Congress Passes Appropriation	1/29/2013	92
HUD Publishes FR for Use of Funds	3/5/2013	35
State begins Public Comments on Action Plan	3/12/2013	7
State Ends Public Comments on Action Plan	3/19/2013	7
Action Plan Submitted to HUD	3/27/2013	8
Hud Approves Action Plan	4/29/2013	33
Days from Hurricane to Approved Action Plan		182
Days from Disaster to Appropriation		92
Days from Hiring Consultant to Action Plan Submitted to HUD		53
Days from FR to Action Plan Submitted to HUD		22
Days from Congress Appropriation to FR		35
Days from Congress Appropriation to Approved Action Plan		90
Consultant Hired to Write Action Plan	2/2/2013	

State of South Carolina

Just 93 days after the consultant was hired,
nine homeowners were in their new homes.

How could this happen so fast?



South Carolina 2015 Catastrophic Rain Event	Date	Days Later
Catastrophic Rainfall in SC	10/2/2015	
Congress Passes Appropriation	12/18/2015	77
HUD Publishes FR for use of funds	6/17/2016	182
State begins public comment on Action Plan	6/27/2016	10
State ends public comments on Action Plan	7/12/2016	15
Action Plan Submitted to HUD	7/19/2016	7
HUD Approves Action Plan	9/2/2016	45
Days from Hurricane to approved Action Plan		336
Days from Disaster to Appropriation		77
Days from Hiring Consultant to Action Plan Submitted to HUD		-72
Days from FR to Action Plan submitted to HUD		32
Days from Congress appropriation to FR		182
Days from Congress appropriation to Approved Action Plan		259
Consultant hired to implement the program	9/29/2016	
Days from Hiring Consultant to 1,059 applicants completed intake	12/31/2016	93
Days from Hiring Consultant to 67 DA and ER's completed	12/31/2016	93
Days from Hiring Consultant to 9 residents back into new homes	12/31/2016	93

What made this Possible?

- The state created a separate agency, South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office (SCDRO) before the public law was approved – November 2015.
- They staffed this agency with all new people with great experience in many needed fields such as project management, logistics, finance, procurement, marketing, environmental, legal and more.
- The state agency did a lot of upfront work to get ready to being the process. They created the agency all the way up to submitting the first action plan to HUD, then hired a consulting firm.
- The state bid out the process as an all-in-one consulting job.
- The consultant had completed a broad review 95% prior to being hired.
- Since the consultant was hired as an all-in-one firm, they were the implementers and contractors to complete the work.

Summary

You can not manage CDBG DR just like CDBG

Think out of the box and take the flexibility that HUD allows in CDBG DR. Depending on the size of the allocation, seriously look at creating a separate disaster unit.

Prepare early

As a state, you can pretty much predict that some disasters will create an allocation for you. Start preparing for that allocation the day after the event.

Begin procurement early for any help you will need.

- HUD allows Activity Delivery Costs that are reasonable and necessary.
- HUD allows your pre-agreement costs from the date of the incident period. Track costs from day one.
- Can you streamline procurement by using GSA process?

Summary



Don't let process get in the way of progress

Design programs that will benefit 85% of the population you are trying to serve. One can always make amendments to an action plan, but quick and continuous success is the best success.

Technology will become your best friend

Make sure you have (or hire a firm that has) the technology that can truly manage the program from portal intake to activity closeout – one that is extremely transparent with the applicant and public.

Thank you!

Question & Answer



(225) 573-4354



michael.Spletto@tetratech.com



tetratech.com/disasterrecovery