Highlights of Current Applied Research:

• CHART contributed a chapter to *The Private Sector’s Role in Disasters: Leveraging the Private Sector in Emergency Management*. The chapter explores the role of nonprofits and academic institutions in the disaster management cycle.

• CHART also published an article in *American Behavioral Scientist* entitled “Local Nonprofit Organizations in a Post-Katrina Landscape: Help in a Context of Recovery.” The article examines the role of New Orleans nonprofit agencies in disaster.

**The University of New Orleans’ Center for Hazards Assessment, Response & Technology (UNO-CHART)**

**LSU-SDMI and UNO-CHART Present Response and Recovery Lessons Learned since Hurricane Katrina**

UNO-CHART partnered with LSU-SDMI to provide an overview of response and recovery lessons learned since Hurricane Katrina.

The work was presented during a Walmart sponsored event entitled *Thought Leader Discussions on Disaster Preparedness*, held Friday, August 21, 2015 at Gallier Hall.

Using a literature review and multiple interviews with emergency management professionals, the report analyzes changes in preparedness, public-private partnerships, technology, and the global response to disaster since Katrina. It also delves into the heroes that helped respond and recover after Katrina and other disasters.

The purpose of the report was to examine the challenges for effective preparedness and response, and to illustrate the lessons learned in previous disasters. The report also identified gaps that, if filled, could lead to more effective and resilient emergency management.


**CHART Helps to Facilitiate Community Meetings for HUD’s National Disaster Resilience Competition**

Throughout the Fall of 2015, CHART assisted the state’s Office of Community Development in holding community meetings pertaining to the state’s application to HUD’s National Disaster Resilience Competition.

The workshops were held in Plaquemines Parish, Terrebonne Parish, and St. John the Baptist Parish, and were meant to present, discuss and receive feedback from residents on resilience measures the state is including in their application.

The application to the competition is a part of the state’s new resilience policy framework, entitled *Louisiana’s Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments (LA SAFE)*. This framework explores ways to reshape, retrofit and resettle Louisiana in a more resilient manner, so the state can adapt to environmental changes well into the future.

CHART Holds Outreach Meeting in Terrebonne Parish

CHART is currently completing an area analysis with the Bayou Cane area of Terrebonne Parish, and held an outreach meeting on October 27th to present mitigation recommendations for a repetitive loss area in the parish.

The meeting was attended by parish officials and local residents. At the meeting, the project team obtained feedback on the repetitive loss area analysis, hazard mitigation recommendations, and other issues that concern residents regarding flooding.

The analysis is currently in draft form and located on CHART’s repetitive loss website, floodhelp.uno.edu. Copies of past repetitive loss area analyses, as well as general information on how to protect yourself and your home from flooding can also be found at floodhelp.uno.edu.

Floodplain managers who would like access to their repetitive loss information through our web-based data portal should contact CHART’s director, Dr. Monica Farris, at monica.farris@uno.edu.

Since 2004, UNO-CHART has worked with communities to reduce their numbers of repetitive flood losses through three major deliverables: (1) a website and web-based data portal that allows access to accurate repetitive loss data including property portfolios; (2) area analyses (flood mitigation plans); and (3) education and outreach. The database portal and area analyses are useful to local officials for planning efforts, grant applications, and general floodplain management activities; all of which assist lead to reduced flood risk.

Project partners include FEMA Region VI, Solutient, French & Associates and communities across Louisiana and Texas.

About UNO-CHART...

Founded in 2001, UNO-CHART is an applied social science hazards research center that partners with and supports Louisiana communities in efforts to achieve disaster resilience. The objectives of UNO-CHART projects are to assist residents and local and state officials in reducing risk to natural hazards, especially hurricane and climate hazards, and to help them gain a better understanding of their risk and what they can do to protect themselves from these hazards.

UNO-CHART is comprised of a multi-disciplinary group of faculty, staff, and graduate research assistants representing various academic backgrounds including sociology, political science, public administration, planning, urban studies, engineering and geography. Research efforts address repetitive flooding, disaster mitigation planning, community resilience assessments, storm mitigation efforts by coastal communities, coastal restoration, community continuity, risk literacy, risk management and hurricane evacuation of vulnerable populations.