

Our Vision

The High Alert Institute, Inc. envisions a world where all people, families, communities, businesses, and organizations are disasterready.

Our Mission

The High Alert Institute helps those not served by municipal, local, county, state, regional, or federal programs/agencies to be Disaster-Ready.



Our Promise

We will support and promote Disaster Education, Planning and Preparedness for animal owners, animal caretakers and animal welfare organizations.

We will support, promote and when possible, provide Disaster Response and Recovery for animal owners, animal caretakers and animal welfare organizations.

We will support, promote and when possible, provide rescue, domestic violence respite and voluntary surrender for freshwater non-native exotic and ornamental aquatic pets.

We will provide a shelter for rescued and surrendered freshwater nonnative exotic and ornamental aquatic pets.

We will support, promote and when possible, provide opportunities for encounters between rescued and surrendered freshwater non-native exotic and ornamental aquatic pets and special needs individuals and terminally ill children through partnerships with organizations serving these people.

We will advance diversity, equity, access, and inclusion practices in the profession and integrate these as values into our organizational cultures.



A Message from Allison A. Sakara

The COVID-19 Pandemic created challenges and opportunities for the High Alert Institute, its members and the world.

Most of our Board members are frontline healthcare workers. One of our board members, Martin (Ed) Thornton, DO died of COVID-19 after he opted to work in an Emergency Room in an underserved community even after that ER ran out of PPE for staff. It is also our Board renewal year and we look forward to continuing to work with those board members volunteering for another term and we thank those leaving at the end of their current term.

In the first six month of the pandemic, Thee High Alert Institute in partnership with Medical and Regulatory Affairs Specialists, LLC reviewed the majority of the antiviral repurposing literature in an attempt to identify an existing licensed drug combination effective against COVID-19. The Institute and MRAS prepared an article for publication and developed a protocol for facilities to use when administering the most effective drug combinations. The Institute found that no single drug available as of June 2020 was effective against COVID-19. A WHO clinical trial published in November 2020 would prove the institute correct.

Fortunately, 2020 and 2021 saw no major storms resulting in the need for a fish rescue in FEMA Region 4. However, the fish in our community tank laid eggs yielding 200+ hatchlings that survived to adult size. Dubbed the "KOIVID" fish on social media, these 200+ animals are now part of the High Alert Institute family and occupy both 1000 gallon isolation tanks as well as the community tank.

The Institute recognizes that its prior focus on Healthcare Disaster Education (including pandemic preparedness) is over. Post-Pandemic, every healthcare worker has "been there, done that" when it comes to pandemic and disaster. Our partners it the animal wellness and conservation community however have had the realization that they need more disaster education to be truly disaster ready. In 2022, the Institute will pivot to a post-pandemic approach to fulfilling its Vision and Mission. This pivot will introduce us to a new audience and allow us to focus all our efforts on disaster ready animal caregivers.

2022 will bring exciting changes.

Scaly is the New Cuddly!!!

Allison A. Sakara, NP, MSN, RN, PHRN

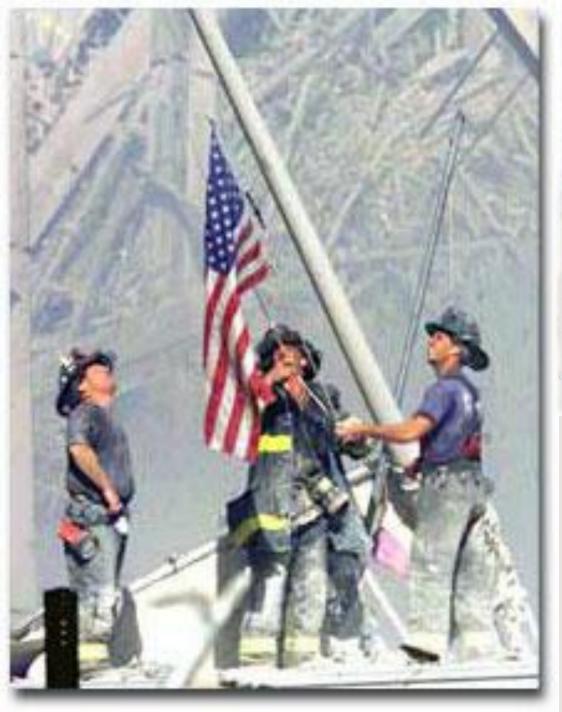
Executive Director, High Alert Institute, Inc.

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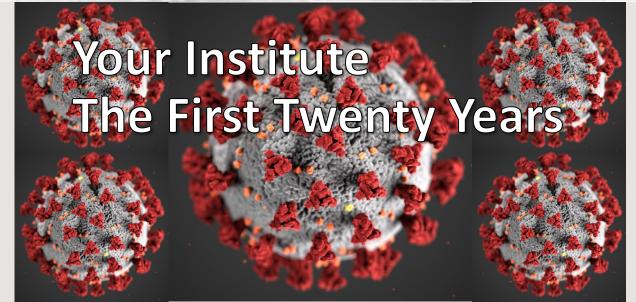
Your Board and Officers

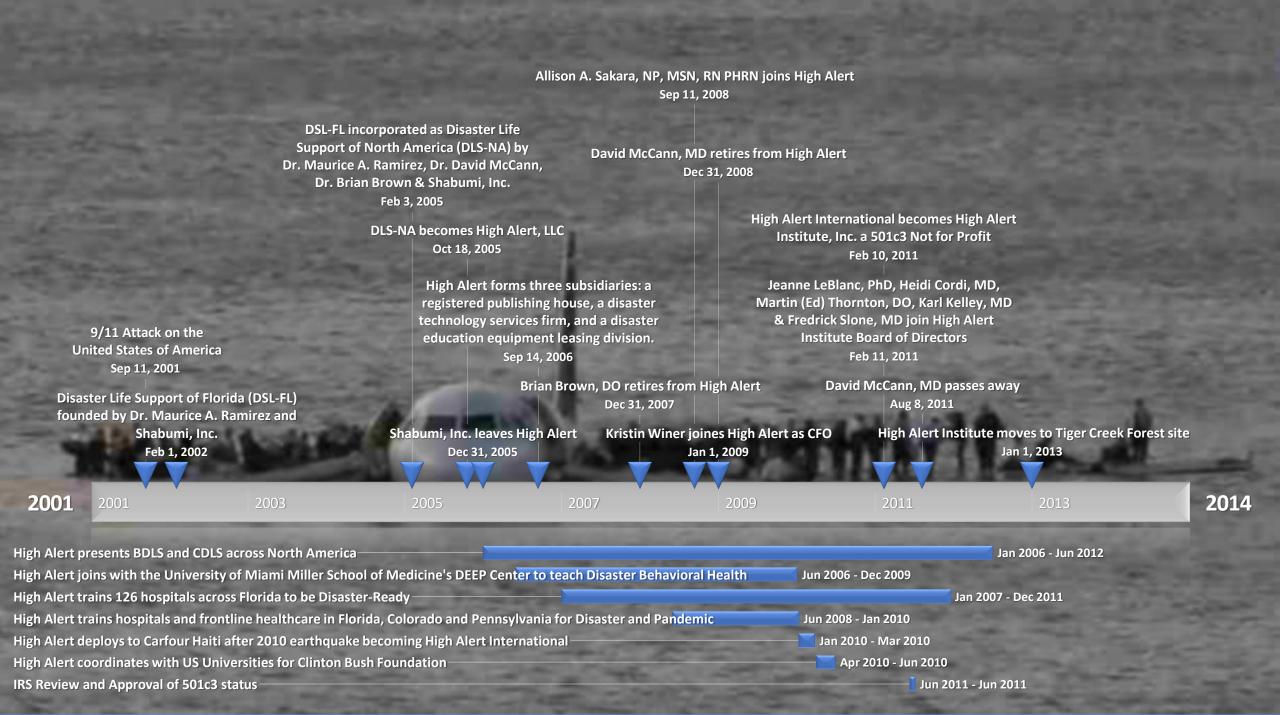
- Maurice A. Ramirez, DO, Ph.D.
 Founder, President/Chairperson of the Board
- Heidi Cordi, MD, MPH
 Vice-Chairperson of the Board
- Zachery Walters
 Secretary/Treasurer, Board Member
- Jeanne LeBlanc, Ph.D.
 Board Member
- Amy Walters, MS
 Board Member
- Sadie Walters, RN
 Board Member
- David Billingsley
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- Monique Tapie
 Board Member

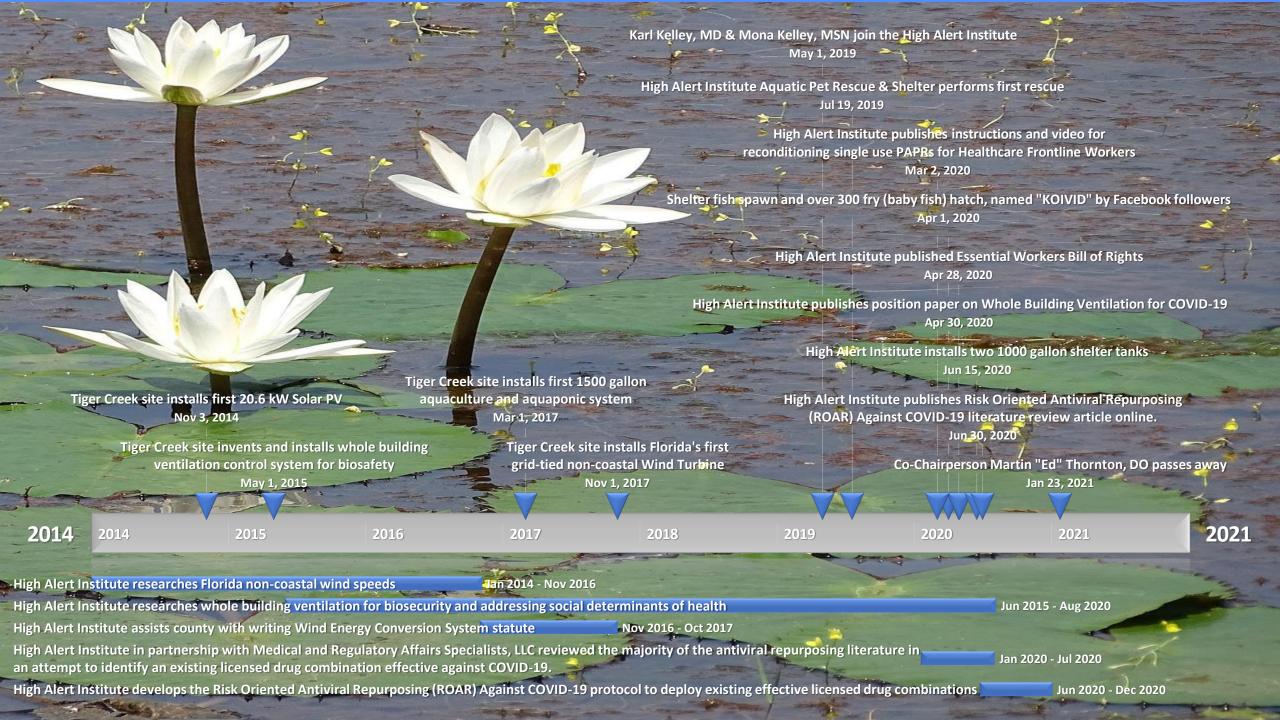












Twenty Years of Clients

































































Twenty Years of Clients











































SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE









- Program Detail Disaster response and force protection using materials and equipment already on hand in many healthcare facilities.
- Base of Operation Our headquarters in the Lake Wales, Florida
- Area of Operation Online distribution of written instructions as pdf and email; online distribution of links to instructional videos
- Operational Categories Disaster Response and Force Protection
- Service Population Frontline Healthcare Workers Worldwide
- Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15

Reconditioning PAPRs for FHCWs

The first six months of the COVID-19 Pandemic demonstrated the failure of the Healthcare Industry to ensure the supply and supply chain for basic protective equipment for Frontline Healthcare Workers (FHCWs). The High Alert Institute, working with its stock of donated instructional Purified Air Powered Respirators (PAPRs), developed techniques for reconditioning two Mine Safety Apparatus (MSA) PAPR systems:

- Single Use Class C Hooded PAPRs
- Single Use Metal Can Style Filter Cartridges

The Institute published a set of written instructions for replacing the single use battery with rechargeable batteries from lighted Exit Signs found in every public building. The Institute also published written instructions for replacing the filter material inside the filter cartridge with HEPA filtration material. Videos were produced demonstrating these techniques.

Shelter Animals Spawn

The famous line from the Jurassic Park franchise:

"Nature finds a way"

was demonstrated by the Koi fish in the care of the High Alert Institute as the COVID-19 pandemic reached its first deadly peak surge. Despite the very necessary moratorium on aquatic pet rescues and new animal intake, nature found a way to increase the shelter population by over 300 new hatchlings.

The new fry (baby fish) soon had their own Facebook following. The group found itself named "KOIVID" fish. The hatchlings were transferred to an incubator tank in the High Alert Institute headquarters office. Over the ensuing two years, the hatchlings were transferred to shelter tanks as they grew past the peanut stage (body length over 4 inches).

The KOIVID fish are now nearing adulthood and measure from 8 inches to 18 inches in length.

"Nature finds a way!"



Program Snapshot

- Program Detail Disaster recovery and disaster behavioral health as the only freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pet rescue and shelter in the southeastern United States was unable to rescue due to COVID-19 shutdowns, nature provided animals for us to care for and to care for us.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Our Lake Wales Headquarters
- Operational Categories Disaster Recovery & Disaster Behavioral Health
- Service Population High Alert institute staff and board
- Emergency Support Function(s): 8, 11 & 17



- Program Detail Disaster response and force protection using materials and equipment already on hand in many healthcare facilities.
- Base of Operation Our headquarters in the Lake Wales, Florida
- Area of Operation Online distribution of press releases and Essential Workers Bill of Rights document as pdf and email.
- Operational Categories Disaster Response and Force Protection
- Service Population Essential Workers Worldwide.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17

Essential Workers Bill of Rights

The COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented pressures to bear upon the essential emergency support functions of our country – revealing serious gaps that need to be addressed. These essential emergency support functions facilitate the activities of our daily lives even under stay-at-home orders and quarantines. It is imperative to the care of our citizens that all Essential Workers, First Responders, Healthcare Workers and their Families be protected and supported at work and at home.

The High Alert Institute joined the Renaissance
Worldwide Solutions Family of Companies, Politicians
and the Press in enumerating the rights and protections
that must be afforded all Essential Workers, First
Responders, Healthcare Workers, their Families, our
Patients and Society.

Building Ventilation Standards

SAR-CoV2, the causative virus for COVID-19 and the global pandemic demonstrated the ease with which illnesses can be spread by recirculated air in even the most modern of buildings. COVID-19 also provided unprecedented evidence of the health effects of air quality in acute illness and infection. The High Alert Institute had already been working with the Renaissance Worldwide Solutions family of companies on mitigating the health effects of these social determinants of health (SDoH) by the use of air quality responsive whole building ventilation.

The Institute's headquarters offices benefit from a proof-of-concept whole building ventilation control system. This controller not only improved HVAC efficiency by 40%, but also helped the Institute maintain a "COVID Bubble" protecting both immunocompetent and immunocompromised Institute staff and Board Members.



Program Snapshot

- Program Detail Disaster risk mitigation and force protection using a technological solution based on updated air quality and building ventilation standards.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Buildings Worldwide
- Operational Categories Disaster Risk Mitigation & Force Protection
- Service Population Occupants of buildings and homes workwide
- Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17



- Program Detail Disaster response and recovery by providing shelter space for additional freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic fish rescues.
- Base of Operation Our headquarters in the Lake Wales, Florida
- Area of Operation FEMA Region 4 (Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky)
- Operational Categories Disaster Response and Recovery
- Service Population Commercial and Private freshwater nonnative aquatic pet owners within FEMA Region 4.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 11 & 17

Founders Donate Two New Tanks

The unexpected spawning of over 300 hatchling fry Koi accelerated the planned addition of two 1,000 gallon shelter tanks. Each shelter tank is capable of housing 200 twelve to eighteen inch long Koi fish.

Once these two shelter tanks were installed, the KOIVID fish began moving in. While most shelter spawnings result in fewer than 50 fry surviving to adult size, over 200 KOIVID fish ultimately moved into the new shelter tanks. The Institute's three shelter tanks now house 226 freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic fish.

The High Alert Institute usually rehomes fish to public botanical gardens in the southeastern United States. The Institute is planning a capital expansion that will include a large community pond and numerous isolation tanks. Therefore, for the time being, the KOIVID fish will remain in the High Alert Institute Shelter.

Review & Analyze the World Scientific Literature for COVID-19 Anti-Viral Treatments

In the first six months of the pandemic, The High Alert Institute in partnership with Medical and Regulatory Affairs Specialists, LLC reviewed the majority of the antiviral repurposing literature in an attempt to identify an existing licensed drug combination effective against COVID-19. The Institute and MRAS prepared an article for publication and developed a protocol for facilities to use when administering the most effective drug combinations.

The Institute found that no single drug available as of June 2020 was effective against COVID-19. A proposed performance goal for the comparison of anti-viral therapy was calculated and published online. A WHO clinical trial published in November 2020 would prove the Institute correct regarding monotherapy and performance goals.

TITLE

The Role of the OPC During Public Health Emergencies: A Clinical and Regulatory Affairs Approach to Antiviral Repurposing for COVID-19

SHORT TITLE

OPCs for COVID-19 Antiviral Selection

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STRACT

Background/Aims

Pandemic COVID-19 punctuates the therapeutic challenges inherent to public health emergencies. With the paucity of randomized control trials (RCTs) for therapies to combat COVID-19 illness, the need for literature-derived Objective Performance Criteria (OPCs) for Efficacy and Safety is paramount. The Clinical and Regulatory Affairs approach was employed for this meta-analysis of antiviral drugs repurposed to the treatment of moderate to severe COVID-19, leading to a prospective open label trial design.

Method

Following the systematic search of more than 87,000 relevant peer reviewed publications, only 16 articles contained data sufficient for analysis. Data mined from these articles were analyzed by Fleiss and benchmark OPCs for Efficacy, Safety, and Death Rate were derived. Subsequently data were mined from Real-World Evidence, analyzed by Fleiss and compared to the OPCs.

Result

Conclusion

The study of clinical outcomes during public health emergencies is severely limited by the very nature of such emergencies. As COVID-19 treatment protocols evolve, it is essential that the available data be compared to appropriate benchmarks (OPCs) for Efficacy, Safety, and Death.

Key Word

Antiviral, COVID-19, Efficacy, Objective Performance Criteria, OPC, Repurposing, Safety

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Program Snapshot

- Program Detail Disaster Research using the PRISMA-P approach to literature search and review combined with the Fleiss Method of Inverse Weighted Average for analysis of heterogenous data for the determination of Objective Performance Criteria (OPCs).
- Base of Operation –Our headquarters in the Lake Wales, Florida
- Area of Operation Worldwide
- Operational Categories Disaster Research
- Service Population Healthcare providers and researchers worldwide.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 8 & 11

PIND 151848
ROAR (Risk Oriented Antiviral Repurposing) – A Retrospective Analysis Protocol

ROAR Against COVID-19

Risk Oriented Antiviral Repurposing Against COVID-19

A Retrospective Analysis Protocol Based Upon Literature-Derived Objective Performance Criteria for Efficacy and Safety

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ROAR	(Risk Oriented	Antiviral Re	purposing) -	A Retrost	pective Ana	alvsis Protocol

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Program Snapshot

- Program Detail Disaster research and response by providing healthcare facilities an IRB-Ready study protocol to support that facility's choice to use multi-drug anti-viral therapy against COVID-19 until new FDA approved anti-virals and vaccines become available.
- Base of Operation Our headquarters in the Lake Wales, Florida
- Area of Operation Worldwide
- Operational Categories Disaster Research and Response
- Service Population Healthcare facilities and providers worldwide.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 8 & 11

ROAR Against COVID-19 Protocol

The speed, virulence and mortality associated with the first six months of the global COVID-19 pandemic outstripped the ability for pharmaceutical companies to develop new anti-viral drugs and COVID-19 vaccines. The detailed review and analysis of the world scientific literature performed by the High Alert Institute demonstrated that single drug treatments were no more effective than supportive care. Further, many proposed treatment regimens proved ineffective and even dangerous. By the end of the first international surge, most governments had restricted the use of both investigational drugs and repurposed anti-virals to study protocols.

The High Alert Institute published an IRB-Ready Study Protocol listing the most successful multi-drug regimens as of June 2020. This protocol, when approved by an IRB and implemented by a healthcare facility provided the needed support to permit scientifically supported COVID-19 therapy despite government restrictions.

Martin Edwin "Ed" Thornton

1955 - 2021



artin Edwin (Ed) Thornton

Martin Edwin "Ed" Thornton lost his battle with

COVID-19 on Saturday January 23rd, 2021 and has returned to be with his mother, father, aunts, and uncles in Heaven.

Ed was born in Fort Hood, Texas to Martin Emory and Betty Jean Thornton on September 10th, 1955. He graduated from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (now the UNT Health and Sciences Center) in 1982, and married Jana Thornton on October 12th, 1985 in Wichita Falls, Texas. They were married for 35 years and were the parents of two children. They also had one grand-dog, Oakley.

Dad was kind and caring and had a true heart for people. He loved helping people and made it his life's work. He was an ER doctor for many years and was extensively involved with the American Board of Physician Specialists in a leadership capacity. Once he retired from the ER, he continued to work with The Joint Commission to help improve patient safety in surgical centers across the United States.

Dad frequently went on medical mission trips to Guatemala, Africa, and Mexico. He was passionate about medical humanitarian relief and was deployed to Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, as well as the Haiti Earthquake. Education was important to him and he supported educations for many people he met in his missions. Dad loved to laugh and loved to travel. He spent the last few years traversing the globe with Mom, checking off places on his bucket list.

Our dad will be sorely missed. Dad is survived by: wife, Jana Thornton; two children, Kelly Thornton and Phillip Thornton; his sister, Joan Bowmer (Mike) and two nephews, Sam Bowmer and Matt Bowmer. He is also survived by many close cousins and friends.





- Program Detail Disaster response and recovery as the only freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pet rescue and shelter in FEMA Region 4.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation FEMA Region 4 (Florida, Georgia, Alabama,
 Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky)
- Operational Categories Disaster Response and Recovery
- Service Population Commercial and Private freshwater non-native aquatic pet owners within FEMA Region 4.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 11 & 17

Animal Rescue

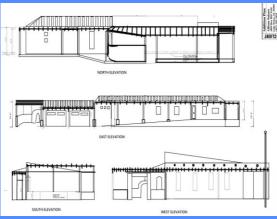
After leaving licensed aquaculture facilities, non-native freshwater aquatic pets and ornamental fish are not included in the disaster plan at the local, county, regional, state or federal disaster plans. As a result, ornamental fish seldom survive a regional disaster where grid power is lost for longer than 48 hours. This represents not only a significant cost to private owners and business owners, but often significant emotional cost to the owners and at many establishments, their customers.

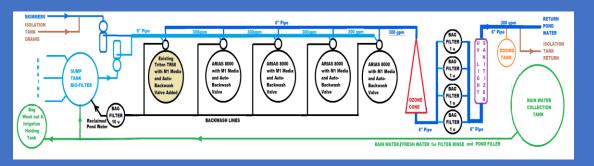
We have relationships with local, state and national aquaculture organizations, local and state Emergency Management, State of Florida Agricultural Response Teams, animal rescue, botanical gardens, aquariums, aquaponic operations and ornamental fish owners. The Florida State Agricultural Response Team (FL-SART) as well as county and state EOCs have all been very supportive as we are the only freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic pet rescue in Southeastern United States (Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, & Mississippi).

Shelter Capital Expansion

We have worked slowly over the past 7 years to build towards a permanent aquatic pet rescue in Florida. We have been blessed to have Founders with the ability to pay for this dream themselves until recently. The founders own our 5 acre location with three 1,000+ gallon shelter tanks. We currently have filtration/sanitation for up to 60,000 gallons. We have a relationship with a manufacturer for rescue tanks (aquatic pet kennels) and storm shielded space for these tanks. We also have designs for an additional 64,000 gallons of long term shelter tanks/ponds for additional animals. The existing 48,000 ADA pool is wheelchair accessible and equipped with a surface air supply hookah and helmet dive system. Conversion of this pool will allow special needs and severely limited terminal children who make a wish to go diving but cannot dive in open water to dive among fish in a "safety first" environment. Our entire aquaponic system is powered by the power grid, solar, wind turbine and propane generator. Our on site power generation capacity will run the aquaponic pumps and filtration without external financial support.







Program Snapshot

Our next and final construction phase includes:

- 1. Acquisition of 100 wheeled 200 gallon isolation tanks
- 2. Construction of the 64,000 gallon shelter tanks (concrete ponds)
- 3. Conversion of the existing 48,000 gallon ADA swimming pool to a freshwater fish encounter pool
- Expansion of our hydroponic filter gardens and water reclamation/salvation systems.
- 6. Upgrade of filtration to accommodate 132,000 gallon total

Our 501c3 is listed with GuideStar, NetworkForGood, LinkedIN, Facebook, Amazon, GoFundMe and others. The website is out of date but available.

https://www.HighAlertInstitute.org

https://www.linkedin.com/company/high-alert-international

https://www.facebook.com/HighAlertInstitute/

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-5078437

https://gofund.me/ec42100e

ACCREDITATION

Extensive discussions with state and federal regulatory agencies along with private animal welfare associations has revealed that organizations providing rescue and shelter for freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pets are not licensed, regulated, inspected, certified or accredited by any agency or organization.



Category	Oversight Agency
Native Aquatic Species (Saltwater & Freshwater)	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Freshwater Aquatic Species (Native ONLY)	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Saltwater Aquatic Species (Native & Non-Native)	US Dept. of Interior State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Threatened or Endangered Aquatic Species (Native & Non-Native; Saltwater & Freshwater)	US Dept. of Interior State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Dangerous Aquatic Species (Native & Non-Native; Saltwater & Freshwater)	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Aquaculture and Fish Farms (Offering animals or animal products for sale)	State Dept. of Agriculture State Dept. of Revenue
Business Selling Aquatic Animals (Native & Non-Native; Saltwater & Freshwater)	State Dept. of Agriculture State Dept. of Revenue
Native Species Animal Rescue (Saltwater & Freshwater)	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Saltwater Species Animal Rescue (Native & Non-Native)	US Dept. of Interior State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Freshwater Non-Native Aquatic Animal Rescue (NOT offering animals or animal products for sale)	<none></none>



- Program Detail Disaster education, planning and preparation for the aquatic animal industry (AAI), zoos and aquariums.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Global
- Operational Categories Disaster Education, Planning, Preparation & Disaster Behavioral Health
- Service Population The AAI and related facilities.
- Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17

Animal Wellness Organization All Hazards Awareness & Readiness

The High Alert Institute leverages the expertise of the aquatic animal industry (AAI), the disaster preparedness sector, contingency planners and our decades of experience to provide resources for enhancing preparedness for and resiliency to all-hazards that may impact facilities caring for animals and their habitats.

Preparedness is a crucial part of animal care and conservation. The valuable work of aquaculturists, zoos, aquariums, shelters, rescues and other managed aquatic life facilities is predicated on the safety and security of the people and animals in their care. This program aims to help facilities protect their personnel, animals, assets, and the future viability of that work.

The Institute supports the entire AAI by providing reliable information, education, and outreach opportunities to address the unique needs and challenges of this community, as well as recognizing its capabilities and subject matter expertise. The Institute is committed to building capacity for response and recovery within the AAI by working to strengthen coordination and communication with the larger response community, government response agencies, emergency operations centers and supporting response partners during major events.

We are developing a partnership with AAI associations and zoological associations to support education and programs as well as to support the entire community to be Disaster Ready.

Partnerships, Collaberations and Mutual Aide Agreements

The High Alert Institute has joined the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) and the State of Florida affiliate, Volunteer Florida as a gateway to inclusion in Federal, Regional, State, County and local emergency plans and responses. The Institute is a member of the Zoological Disaster Response Collaborative for Exotic Animals and is a partner in the Zoological Disaster Response, Rescue and Recovery (ZDR3) mutual aide agreement.

The Institute is also a member of

- Florida Aquaculture Association (FLAA)
- Association of Animal Welfare Advancement (AAWA)
- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
- SPCA Florida (SPCA-FL)
- Florida Animal Response Coalition (FLARC)
- Adopt-A-Pet
- National Animal Care and Control Association (NACA)
- National Alliance of State and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAEP)

Our Founders and Board of Directors are individual members of multiple organizations in Disaster Response, Disaster Behavioral Health, Healthcare and Animal Welfare including 1% for the Planet.



Program Snapshot

- Program Detail Mutual Aide, Support, Advocacy with local state federal and Fundraising partnerships.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Global
- Operational Categories Disaster Mutual Aide & Fundraising
- Service Population Disaster Partners Globally
- Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17
- VOADs serve as a resource for emergency managers and a voice for disaster survivors.
- Blue sky planning by Emergency Managers must include VOADs to truly gain a comprehensive picture of how the postdisaster landscape will look.
- Funders prioritize building strong networks of VOADs to help improve disaster relief and response.

Freshwater Non-Native Exotic and Ornamental Aquatic Pet Rescues





- Program Detail Mutual Aide, Support, Advocacy and Fundraising partnerships.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Global
- Operational Categories Disaster Mutual Aide & Fundraising
- Service Population Disaster Partners Globally
- Emergency Support Function(s): 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17

Communications

We have developed relationships with local, state and national aquaculture organizations, local and state Emergency Management, State of Florida Agricultural Response Teams, animal rescue, botanical gardens, aquariums, aquaponic operations and ornamental fish owners as the only freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pet rescue and shelter in the southeastern United States.

We have exchanged emails and hosted several conference calls with the leadership of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (FL-SART). FL-SART has been very supportive. FL-SART leadership has recommended our rescue as an asset to the State of Florida Office of Emergency Management.

We next plan to contact the other 29 Freshwater Non-Native Aquatic Pet and Koi Rescues across the continental United States with the intention of developing mutual aide agreements and joint funding opportunities among the 30 operations. Ideally, each of the 30 organizations would not only become parties to a Koi Mutual Aide Agreement, but join ZDR3 and the Zoological Disaster Response Collaborative for Exotic Animals.

Who You Gonna Call?

With all the jurisdictions involved in the oversight of aquatic animal welfare, it is difficult to know who to call for help during a disaster. Here is a list of animal types and the rescue organizations who serve and protect them in FEMA Region 4.

Animal Type	Examples	Rescue Organization
Freshwater Pond/Pool Fish	Koi, Carp, Japanese Goldfish	High Alert Institute
Freshwater Pond/Pool Non-Fish	Eel, Turtle, Frog, Snake	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Saltwater Pond/Pool Fish	Shark, Fish	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Saltwater Pond/Pool Non-Fish	Ray, Eel, Shellfish	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Freshwater Aquarium Pet	Aquarium/non-Tropical Fish, Eel, Turtle, Axolotl	Predatory Fins Fish Rescue Florida Fish Rescue
Saltwater Aquarium Pet	Aquarium/Tropical Fish, Shark, Eel, Seahorse	Predatory Fins Fish Rescue Florida Fish Rescue
Freshwater Aquaculture	Tilapia, Catfish, Bass, Eel, Turtle, Frog	State Fish & Wildlife Commission State Agricultural Response Team
Saltwater Aquaculture	Grouper, Snapper, Salmon, Oyster, Clam, Mussel, Crab	State Fish & Wildlife Commission State Agricultural Response Team
Shellfish (wild and domestic)	Clam, Mussel, Snail, Crab	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Reptile (wild and domestic)	Alligator, Snake, Turtle	State Fish & Wildlife Commission
Amphibian (wild and domestic)	Frog, Salamander	State Fish & Wildlife Commission



- Program Detail Aquatic pet owner membership, Aquatic Pet
 Rescue Kennel prepositioning and disaster response coordination.
- Base of Operation Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation FEMA Region 4 (Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky)
- Operational Categories Disaster Response and Recovery
- Service Population freshwater non-native aquatic pet owners
- Emergency Support Function(s): 1, 2, 5, 11, 15 & 17

Member Services

We are planning and developing policies for owners of freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pets to purchase a membership in the rescue and shelter. Membership will include:

- An Aquatic Pet Rescue Kennel (200 gallon wheeled tank)
- Reserved isolation space for Aquatic Pet Rescue Kennel
- Pickup of Aquatic Pet Rescue Kennel arranged by High Alert Institute
- All feed and shelter costs, excludes veterinary costs.
- Listing as a freshwater non-native ornamental and exotic aquatic pets owner, potential rescue site.
- Coordination with local, county, state and federal EOCs

We believe that by working with individual Koi clubs, Backyard Pond clubs, Watergarden clubs and Koi International Organisation (K.O.I.) that we will develop a subscription based contingency plan and Koi evacuation sheltering service as a funding source for all 30 Koi rescues nationally.

Climate Change

Green Plans, Policies, and Budgets

The heart of a facility's green practices often takes the form of a sustainability facility design, plan and/or policy, and a facility's commitment to natural resource conservation and sustainability must be demonstrated by RESNET, Energy STAR, LEEDS or other accreditation. Many facilities also opt to dedicate a portion of their annual budgets to green practices or reinvest savings from past green practices to future ones. Our facility is a Silver Green Building and the most energy efficient renovation rated by RESNET with a HERS rating of -63.

Energy

Accredited green facilities frequently track energy usage (e.g. electricity, natural gas, and propane) and make efforts either to purchase renewable energy or generate it on-grounds. Additionally, resources are dedicated to energy conservation and efficiency measures, renewable energy, alternative transportation, greenhouse gas (GHG)-limiting practices, and more. Our ongrounds power generating capacity includes a grid-tied, ultra low noise, bird safe, 15 kW wind turbine and grid-tied 45 kW solar photovoltaic system. These are backed up by a Kohler Propane fueled back-up generator. The solar and wind systems generates 4 MWh of electricity each month.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Greenhouse gases are one of the primary driving forces behind modern global climate change. These gases are directly tied to human activity, as they can result from a variety of industrial processes, the burning of fossil fuels, agriculture, and deforestation.

Conservation

Our facility is located in the Tiger Creek State Forest - Tiger Creek Nature Conservancy. A Florida Dept. of Fish and Wildlife survey demonstrated that 258 unique threatened and endangered species live within 5 miles of our facility and that our facilities have no impact on these species.





Local Feed/Local Food

The US Congress in the 2008 Farm Act defined "locally or regionally produced agricultural food product", as one that is transported less than 400 miles from its origin or within the state in which it is produced. Many animal care institutions buy locally-grown feed, grow feed on-site, or specifically seek sustainably grown and harvested feed for their animals. We are fortunate to have a local feed manufacturer that is nationally recognized for quality and biosafety. In addition to buying feed locally, we buy animal and pond maintenance supplies locally. We also encourage staff and volunteers to buy their food locally from vendors who observe sustainable production practices.

Waste

Production of waste at any type of facility is inevitable, but the protocols used to manage, dispose of, and even reuse it is what sets green facilities apart. Our facility recycles 18 cubic yards of paper, cardboard, metal, glass and plastics. For the past seven years, we have produced less than 1/2 cubic yard of landfill waste annually. We compose and/or process 100% of our on-grounds plant waste and protein waste to fertilize gardens. The final stage of capital improvements will increase our on-grounds processing and reduce landfill to less than 3 cubic feet of waste annually.

Water/Wastewater

Responsible water usage and management is central to the workings of all aquatic animal institutions. Our final capital improvements include a rooftop rain water collection system and a filtration waste water reclamation system that combined will reduce well water usage by over 90%.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESS, AND INCLUSION

In 2021, AZA published its DEAI Action plan that included resources and guidance for AZA members and a roadmap to evolve AZA member internal practices and operations. As part of becoming an AZA member, we will continue to build on and learn from the important work being done by the AZA Diversity Committee.

Funding for Good and Network for Good provide templates for diversity, equity, access and inclusion policies for Not-For-Profits. These templates are in alignment with the AZA's DEAI Action plan and are being adapted for approval by the High Alert Institute Board.

Facilities at our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The 48,000 gallon pool has a wheelchair ramp allowing special needs people to roll their wheelchair (our one of ours) into the water.



Program Snapshot

Program Detail – Diversity, equality, access and inclusion.

Base of Operation – Our freshwater non-native aquatic pet rescue and shelter in Central Florida.

Area of Operation – Global

Operational Categories - Disaster Behavioral Health & Fundraising

Service Population – Disaster Partners Globally

Emergency Support Function(s): 5, 6, 15 & 17



- Program Detail Contracted with Network for Good to provide software and fundraising coach to help the Institute build email, social media and direct mail lists.
- Base of Operation Our headquarters in Central Florida.
- Area of Operation Worldwide and Online
- Operational Categories Fundraising
- Service Population Potential direct donors worldwide

Donor Outreach & Direct Donation

The High Alert Institute has partnered with Network for Good and Bonterra to provide an All-In-One Non-Profit Management solution that tracks donors & donations, hosts online mass-market & social media campaigns, tracks volunteer hours & In-Kind Donations, and manages direct mail & in-person events.

The mass-market approach includes any activity that involves reaching out to a large group of people to share one message with many people all at the same time. This can be done through more traditional direct mail, email, social media and/or in-person events.

	Cost per Dollar		
Fundraising Type	Greenfield	AFRP	NFG
Capital Campaign/Major Gifts	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10
Corporations and Foundations (Grants)	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$0.20
Direct Mail Acquisition	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$1.60
Direct Mail Renewal	\$0.20	\$0.25	\$0.25
Planned Giving (Estates)	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25
Benefit/Special Events	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50
National Average Overall	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$0.20

