

**Sandra Tapfumaneyi, FPED, CPM Chairwoman, National Hurricane Conference | Chief,
Sarasota County Emergency Management**

Sandra Tapfumaneyi serves as Chairwoman of the National Hurricane Conference, providing leadership to one of the nation's premier forums for advancing hurricane preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. In this role, she helps bring together emergency management professionals, government officials, researchers, private-sector organizations, and nonprofit partners to share lessons, strengthen professional relationships, and advance practices that improve hurricane readiness nationwide.



Sandra has served as Chief of Sarasota County Emergency Management since January 2024. She leads the County's comprehensive emergency management program and served as Emergency Operations Center Incident Manager during Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton in 2024, including Hurricane Milton's landfall in Sarasota County.

Previously, Sandra served as Chief of Lee County Emergency Management and as the County's EOC Incident Commander during the response to and recovery from landfalling Category 4 Hurricane Ian. She led an operation involving thousands of responders and coordinated with local, state, federal, nonprofit, and private-sector partners to address complex community needs. Her leadership has been recognized through the 2023 Governor's Hurricane Conference Bob Lay Award and the Chad Reed Emergency Management Professional of the Year Award.

With more than 26 years of professional experience, Sandra's career spans emergency management, continuity of operations, public administration, and organizational leadership. Her previous roles include Director of Lee County Domestic Animal Services and an emergency management and business continuity consultant supporting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Earlier in her career, she served as an AmeriCorps volunteer teacher in St. Petersburg, FL and as a human rights intern for President Jimmy Carter at The Carter Center. Sandra is credentialed as a Florida Professional Emergency Manager and Certified Public Manager.