

Sequence of Delivery of Lutheran Services in a Major Disaster

Disaster Definitions:

- Relief:** The initial response to basic human needs, including medical needs, food, clothing and temporary shelter.
- Recovery:** The time following a disaster when affected persons and communities develop and implement plans for the future.
- Response:** Who? What? How? A response may or may not include both relief and recovery efforts.

Key Partners (in sequence of arriving on the scene)

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency):

If an area is a federally declared emergency, then the disaster response falls under FEMA guidelines.

VAL (Voluntary Agency Liaison): FEMA staff assigned to assist volunteer agencies who are responding to a disaster and to coordinate disaster relief activities.

Red Cross: Primary agency to coordinate temporary shelters for those affected by a disaster as well as basic relief efforts.

Church World Services: Convene local churches to assist in coordinating disaster response.

VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster):

Provides the venue for voluntary agencies to coordinate, collaborate, communicate and cooperate on disaster response.

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR):

A Lutheran partnership ministry of the ELCA and The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod with the mission to demonstrate Christ's compassion for people by promoting health, healing and wholeness for disaster survivors. LDR distributes funds and works only through local social ministry organizations (SMO) to implement services.

	<i>ELCA LOCAL CONGREGATIONS/LEADERS</i>	<i>ELCA SYNOD BISHOP/OFFICE</i>	<i>LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE</i>
<i>PHASE 1a: FIRST RESPONSE: EMERGENCY (Police, Firefighters, etc.) Focus: Preservation of life and property</i>			
Search and Rescue	---	---	---
Secure safety of the area	---	---	---
Rostered Leaders Check-in	Yes	Yes (Coordinate)	---

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PHASE 1b FIRST RESPONSE: RELIEF Focus: Care for Basic Human Needs	Local Lutherans are primary in this phase of disaster response		LDR is not involved in first response efforts.
Appoint Local Coordinator	---	Yes	---
Provide Lutheran Presence	Yes	Yes	---
Gather & Coordinate "Lutheran" partners		Yes	
Visit Site & Assess	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shelter (homes, churches w/ Red Cross leadership)	Yes	---	---
Provide Food (w/ local food banks & pantries)	Yes	---	---
Clothe (w/ local efforts)	Yes	---	---
Provide Spiritual Care	Yes	---	---
Clean-up	Yes	---	---
Attend Local VOAD & Ecumenical Meetings	Yes	---	---
Receive Funds from ELCA donors & others	Yes (Limited)	Yes (Bishop can issue request via Conference of Bishops)	Yes (Primary)
Disperse funds for local needs.	Yes	Yes	Yes (\$300. per family for a limited time period)
Receive Donations (Goods)	Yes	---	---
Assist applicants file forms for assistance	Yes	---	---
Assist people returning home	Yes	---	---

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PHASE 2 RECOVERY <i>Short & Long-term recovery</i> Focus: Restoration to “new” Normal			
Provide Lutheran Presence	Yes	Yes	Yes
Restore Church Buildings	Yes	Yes	---
Restore Church Staff	Yes	Yes	---
Clean-up of Homes; Buildings	Yes	---	Yes
Repair & Renovate Homes	Yes	---	Yes
Provide Housing for Volunteers	Yes	---	Usually No (Exception: Katrina)
Coordinate Volunteers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provide Case Management	(Some members may be employed as case managers)	--	Yes (coordinate)
Provide Spiritual Care	Yes (long-term)	Yes (Rostered Leaders)	Yes (Trauma)
Coordinate/ Host Children’s Ministry and Camps	Yes	---	Yes
Work with Long-Term Recovery Committee in a Community	(Possibly)	---	Yes

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PHASE 3 MITIGATION Focus: Reduce disaster's long-term risk to people and property			
Community Education & awareness	Yes	---	---
Promote Sound Construction & Community infrastructure for all people (justice issue)	Yes	---	---

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PHASE 4 PREPARATION			
Develop and Update Disaster Response Plan	Continual	Continual	Continual
Train Congregational Leaders in Disaster Response Activities	Continual	Continual	Some Resources Available
Develop a Contact System & Means to Communicate in Disaster	In process (with congregation)	In process (with Synod)	---