
DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

An image shared from St. Vincent de Paul of Puerto Rico. Council President, William Rodriguez, makes his way through the villages conducting home visits and providing Disaster Case Management.

AUGUST 9, 2018

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, ELIZABETH DISCO-SHEARER

It is hard to believe that we are already approaching the one- year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey hitting the Texas Coast on August 25, 2017. This will also be the 13th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina hitting New Orleans on August 25, 2005. I worked disaster relief and recovery for both major disasters and these were two of the costliest disasters in American history. The damage estimates from Hurricane Katrina were \$161 billion and the damage estimates from Hurricane Harvey are \$125 billion. Disaster Services Corporation SVDP-USA is continuing to provide long term recovery to Harvey survivors in 17 counties in Texas. Survivors can visit our 11 different Disaster Case Management offices located throughout the impacted counties. Our staff and volunteers will participate in several events to commemorate the anniversary, and we will provide updates as part of our Disaster Recovery Corner. Please continue to pray for all the survivors of the 2017 Hurricane Season, as it will be years before recovery is completed.



DSC SPOTLIGHT

DARIA JOHNSON, DISASTER CASE MANAGER

My name is Daria Manuel Johnson and I am a Disaster Case Manager. My passion is helping others. Not only do I enjoy helping individuals but I have sat on the other side of the desk of needing help and is the reason why I take my job seriously and do my job sincerely.

My family and I which consist of a husband and 4 children, were a victim of Hurricane Katrina losing everything. I started with Society of St. Vincent DePaul in 2010. This is my 3rd disaster, I have worked like and in New Jersey for Sandy. My husband and I housed a family for Hurricane Harvey for 3 months. I'm always looking, seeking and finding ways to give back.

This is not considered just a job to me but my gift, passion and what I enjoy doing. I hope throughout the recovery, I can continue to offer my services and assistance to Galveston County, the County which is where I also call home.



VINCENTIANS RESPOND CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE RECOVERY



St Vincent de Paul participated in a Local Area Resource Center in Redding, CA last week to support the California wildfire survivors. Tom Link and Judy Dietlein led the charge to assist local area Vincentians in the long term recovery efforts at the beginning stage with gathering information and providing care for immediate needs.



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



William Rodriguez, SVDP Council President in PR, visited Yabucoa PR this week and conducted assessments on homes needed roof and structural repairs. DSC is working with Team Rubicon on a major roof repair program in Puerto Rico for the survivors of Hurricane Maria.

St Vincent de Paul in Puerto Rico has been working with National VOAD partner, Team Rubicon, and together they have repaired a total:

188 roofs and assisted 490 individuals.



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



PUERTO RICO UPDATES



PUERTO RICO UPDATES

William Rodriguez and wife Karen Cabanas, Vincentians of Puerto Rico with a Disaster Case Management client. William is the Council President of San Juan and has been the most remarkable leader in his community. Together he and his wife have served thousands of families leading the charge for the long term recovery.



NATIONAL YOUTH PREPAREDNESS



What you should know about Youth Preparedness

- Ensure children are included in preparedness conversations
 - Learn the building blocks of preparedness
 - Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit and Get Involved.
 - Know the emergency plan for your child's school and child care facility
- Practice evacuation plans and other emergency procedures with children on a regular basis
 - Learn different ways to help children cope during and after an emergency
- Make sure children have emergency contacts memorized or written down in a secure place
 - Teach kids when and how to call important phone numbers like 911

NATIONAL YOUTH PREPAREDNESS

Coping with Disaster

For more information & resources about ways to help children cope during a disaster by visiting:
www.fema.gov/children-and-disasters

Emergencies can leave kids feeling insecure. Help kids cope during & after emergencies:
www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping

Help children cope after a disaster by being calm and reassuring. Discuss concrete plans for safety:
<https://www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping>

Help kids cope after disasters by shutting off the TV. Young kids may think the event is reoccurring:
<https://www.ready.gov/kids/parents/coping>

Help kids cope after disasters by monitoring how much news coverage they watch. Young kids may think the event is reoccurring.

Finding support from friends, family, and community organizations can help kids cope with #disasters.

Help your child cope during an emergency by being alert for significant changes in their behavior.

Talk with your child about their school's emergency drills. <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/all-around/Pages/Actions-Schools-Are-Taking-to-Make-Themselves-Safer.aspx>

NATIONAL YOUTH PREPAREDNESS

Emergency Kit

- Include your child's medication or supplies in your family's emergency kit. More tips visit: ready.gov/kit
- Include your child's favorite stuffed animals, board games, books or music in their emergency kit to comfort them in a disaster.
- Get the kids involved in building their own emergency kit: www.ready.gov/kids/build-a-kit
- Kids bored? We can help. Check out our online Ready Kids Build A Kit game: <http://1.usa.gov/1SYkfGC>
- Kids can #BeAForce... by playing the online emergency preparedness "Build a Kit" game: <http://1.usa.gov/1SYkfGC>



FOR MORE INFORMATION



Please consider supporting our mission by donating your time, providing financial support, and/or becoming active in your local community on disaster preparedness and recovery as a Vincentian.

Please stop by our newly updated website: www.svdpcdisaster.org

An online store and training resources will soon be available exclusively for Vincentians active in disaster recovery.

Follow us on Twitter: [@svdpcusadisaster](https://twitter.com/svdpcusadisaster)

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/DisasterServicesCorp/

Follow us on LinkedIn: Disaster Services Corporation, SVDP-USA

Monique Brent, mbrent@svdpcdisaster.org
Manager, Volunteer Resources and Deployment

For those of you interested in volunteering, please stop by our website at www.svdpcdisaster.org and click on the volunteer button at the top right corner. It will take you to a webform to complete. This information will help us gain better insight on you and be able to better pair you with what we have open and available to volunteer with. We will set up a one on one phone call shortly after the form has been completed. As a reminder, we cannot continue all these great works without your help. Please consider donating to the general disaster fund at www.svdpcdisaster.org to keep our programs running so that we can in turn support those who have been impacted by disaster here in the United States.

