

A man and a woman are sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop screen. The man is on the left, wearing a light-colored sweater, and the woman is on the right, wearing a white top. They are both smiling and appear to be engaged in a collaborative task. The background is bright and out of focus, suggesting an office or meeting room environment.

DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

FEBRUARY 14, 2019

**MAKE A DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

*MAKE THIS YEAR
IMPACTFUL FOR A U.S.
DISASTER SURVIVOR*

Support our mission and
help us help others.

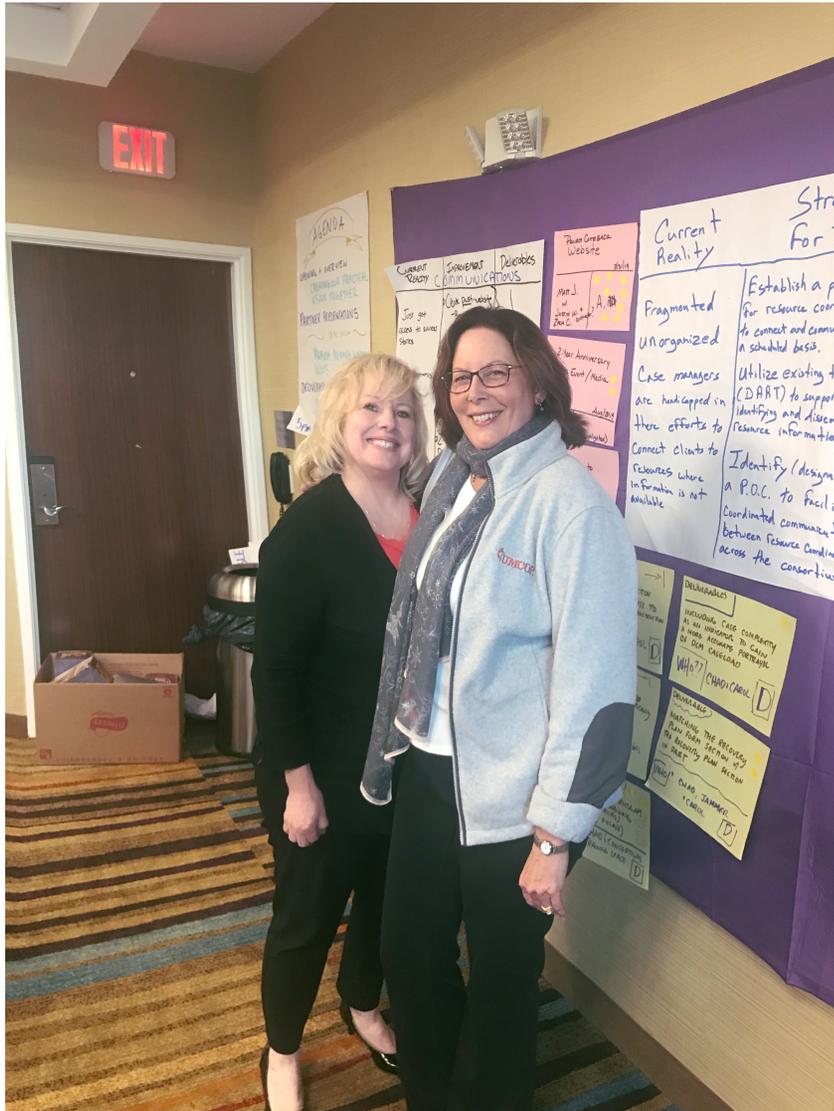
#DisasterRelief

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ELIZABETH DISCO-SHEARER CEO UPDATES



Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO of the Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA and Kathy Earl of UMCOR at the National VOAD Board Meeting where they met with consortium partners regarding the Texas Disaster Case Management Program. Elizabeth also conducted Board Training for National VOAD this week in Nashville, TN.

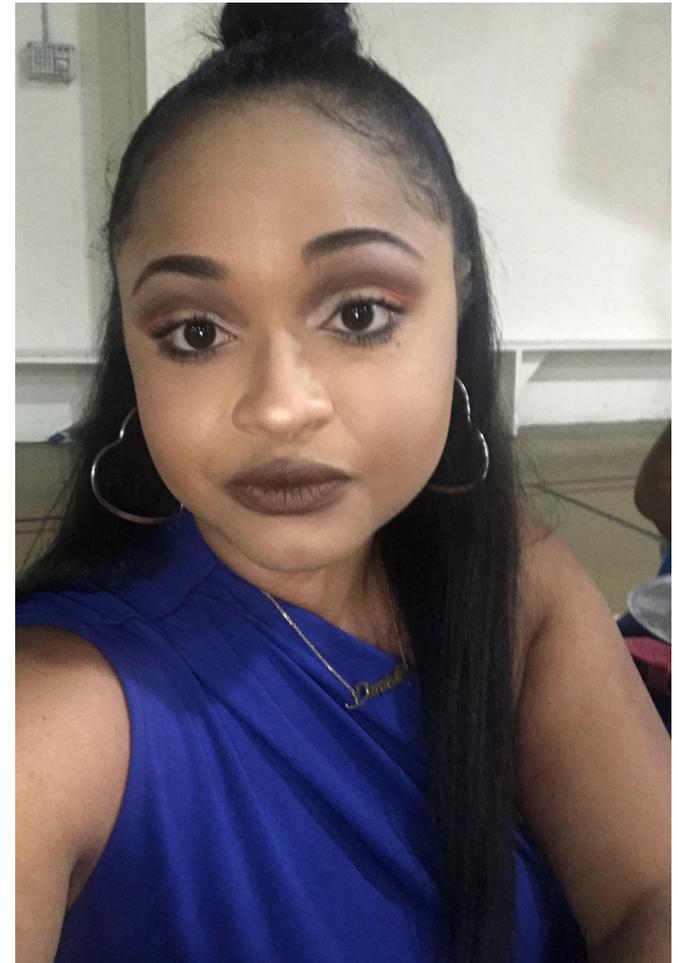
MS DANIELLE PROUT
DISASTER CASE MANAGER
BATON ROUGE, LA

I attended Xavier University of LA from 2007-2011 where I received my Bachelor of Arts. I then attended Southern University A&M where I received my MBA with a concentration in human resources in 2015. Currently, I'm working on my Doctorate from Grand Canyon University and hope to finish in 2020. I plan to become a psychologist once I finish my doctorate where I can help counsel people of all races and ages. My hobbies are decorating, singing, spending time with my daughter and family.

I became a Disaster Case Recovery Manager in October of 2016 with Catholic Charities and it was the best decision for me. It has been so rewarding to be able to help so many families with their recovery needs. It makes me so appreciative of the little things!

We all are so blessed, and this job keeps me thanking God. This job has also taught me an array of skills such as communication. I've grown to advocate on behalf of my clients to receive funds for electrical work as well as furniture.

I'm motivated to serve in this position because I also was once a flood victim during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. My family and I lost everything and were forced to live in a shelter for a short while. So, I understand what it means to lose everything and have to rebuild from nothing. I often share this story with my clients to provide hope to them because I never want them to lose hope.



SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD HURRICANE HARVEY - CATHY GARCIA



Bishop Cahill stated that the HIB is a blessing for our Diocese and such a great blessing to survivors and thanked Felix T, Robert and Daniel for their service in helping receiving and distributing the HIB. These three Knights are also 4th Degree Knights attending the Assembly #1131 in El Campo for a Mass at St Phillip Church and appreciation dinner to honor the Sir Lady Knights. The highest degree of the Knight of Columbus is becoming a Sir Knight. Their work is of patriotism. Their primary purpose is to foster the spirit of patriotism in their members and in their communities at large and encourage active Catholic Citizenship.

Felix T Garcia, Council 9393 El Campo - my husband, myself Cathy Garcia Sir Lady Knight, Bishop Brendan Cahill, Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Robert Kolacny, Grand Knight Council 3262 Wharton along with Daniel Garza Council 3262 Wharton, shown above.

DISASTER SERVICES SVDP DISASTER CASE MANAGER DELIA GARCIA ADVOCATED FOR CLIENT'S RECOVERY IN GALVESTON COUNTY, TX



Client, Maria Torrerros, was living safe and secure with her late husband in her home prior to Hurricane Harvey in Galveston County, TX. Her home was flooded with water during the disaster. Client's roof, foundation, walls, floors, furniture, and appliances were damaged. All personal belongings were also lost.

Client received FEMA funds for repairs and rental assistance allowing client to rent an apartment for her and her disabled husband. With the funds received from FEMA, client was able to fix her foundation, roof, and electrical. Disaster Case Manager Delia Garcia started to advocate for client after she met her through outreach. DCM referred client to 4B's/8 Days of Hope, and they repaired her walls, floors, replaced kitchen cabinets, ceiling fans, and water heater. DCM presented her to the Unmet Needs Table and she received a washer and dryer from Salvation Army. DCM also applied for the Harvey House Program Society of St. Vincent de Paul Archdiocese of Galveston Houston for assistance. Client received beds, linens, dishes, pots and pans, dressers, silverware, bathroom setup, dinette, couch, and a gift card from this program.

The road to recovery has been a long and difficult one for our client. Not only because she was displaced for over a year from her home, but because she lost her husband in April of 2018, and he never got to come back to his pre-disaster home.

Client is very appreciative to all the different groups that assisted her in her recovery, especially Disaster Services St. Vincent De Paul. Now that Client is back in her home that is safe, secure, and functional. Client is very optimistic about the future. DCM is happy that she was able to help keep client's late husband's promise, to help his wife get their house back to its pre-disaster condition.



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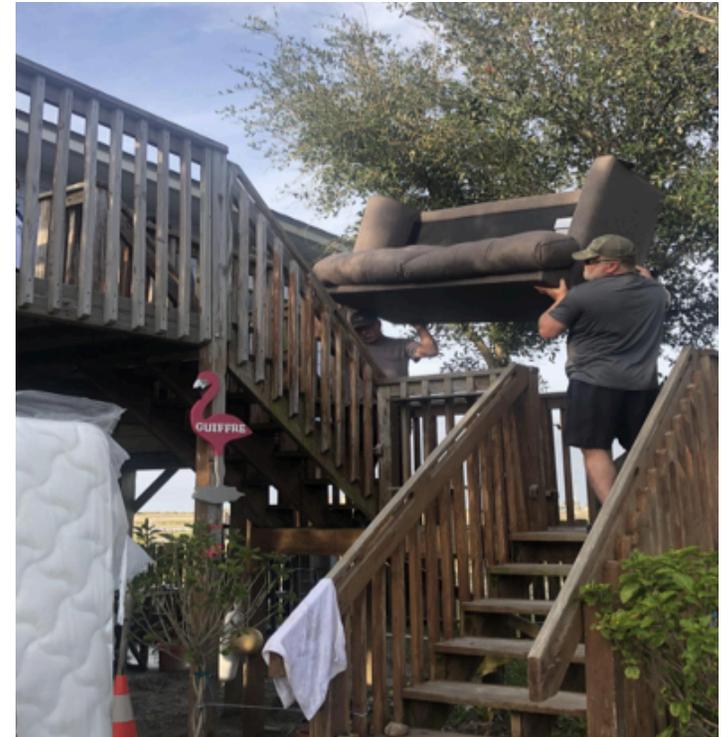
SETX DOES HOUSE IN A BOX RIGHT! BY LOUIS MEDINA

Teamwork in South East Texas is more than just working an 8-hour shift, it means coming together to helping our community recover and if unloading a 53-foot trailer is part of the plan, then we do it! Teams Jefferson and Orange were excited to see the merchandise when it arrived since many of their clients had been excited about receiving furniture. The teams quickly unloaded furniture and household items, sorted them and distributed them the following day. It was exciting to see everyone work together and utilize strengths they never knew they had! The teams are eagerly waiting for the next shipment and will be ready to get them out to the community soon. Way to go South East Texas!



SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD HURRICANE HARVEY

Our client has been a homeowner in Port Aransas, Texas for many years and was living safe and secure prior to Hurricane Harvey. The hurricane destroyed her home- causing severe damage to the structure, roof, and personal property inside. After several months of repair, our client was able to move back to the home and continued to live there with no furniture.



Our client reached out to SVDP for furniture assistance and on January 17th, 2019 her House in a Box order was delivered.

She is now fully recovered and is very thankful for the assistance. The HIB is valued at \$3,200.00.

MATAGORDA COUNTY TEXAS CLIENT FULLY RECOVERED FROM HURRICANE HARVEY

The client Mr. Frank Scott's home received major damaged during Harvey. He did receive FEMA funds for home repairs and has completed all his repairs with the funds and contributed his own money. When the Disaster Case Manager, Ramona Lechuga outreached to him, he still had unmet needs he could not fund: stove, refrigerator, and small wall heaters.

The DCM successfully presented his case to the Unmet Needs Table and they funded his remaining needs. Mr. Scott is very grateful for the assistance and being able to fully recover from the disaster. He recently came to our office at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Bay City, TX to sign the closure forms for his case. He is fully recovered thanks to Disaster Services SVDP and his case manager Ramona Lechuga.



PREPAREDNESS MAKE A PLAN



Make a plan today. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which types of disasters could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

Step 1: Put together a plan by discussing these 4 questions with your family, friends, or household to start your emergency plan.

1. How will I receive **emergency alerts and warnings**?
2. What is my **shelter** plan?
3. What is my **evacuation** route?
4. What is my **family/household communication plan**?

PREPAREDNESS MAKE A PLAN

Step 2: Consider specific needs in your household.

As you prepare your plan tailor your plans and supplies to your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how people in the network can assist each other with communication, care of children, business, pets, or specific needs like the operation of durable medical equipment. Create your own personal network for specific areas where you need assistance. Keep in mind some these factors when developing your plan:

- Different ages of members within your household
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Locations frequented
- Dietary needs
- Medical needs including prescriptions and equipment
- Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- Languages spoken
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children

PREPAREDNESS MAKE A PLAN

Step 3: Fill out a Family Emergency Plan

Download and fill out a family emergency plan or use them as a guide to create your own.

[Emergency Plan for Parents \(PDF\)](#)

[Family Emergency Communication Guide \(PDF\)](#)

[Emergency Plan for Parents or \(PDF\)](#)

[Emergency Plan for Kids or \(PDF\)](#)

[Emergency Plan for Commuters \(PDF\)](#)

[Pet owners PDF](#)

[Steps to make a plan \(PDF\)](#)

[Tips on emergency alerts and warnings \(PDF\)](#)

[Protect Critical Documents and Valuables \(PDF\)](#)

[Document and Insure Your Property \(PDF\)](#)

[Emergency Financial First Aid Kit \(PDF\)](#)

[Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Disaster Checklist \(PDF\)](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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

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

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

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

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

Monique Brent, mbrent@svdpdisaster.org
Manager, Volunteer Resources and Deployments

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.

For those of you interested in volunteering, please stop by our website at www.svdpdisaster.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.svdpdisaster.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.

