

DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

CRISISOLUTION

**DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT
IN FOCUS**

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

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THE DISASTER SERVICES CORP., SVDP USA BOARD GATHERS FOR THEIR ANNUAL MEETING



Kevin Peach, Chief Operating Officer, of the Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA leads the annual board meeting along side Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO.

DSC TRAVELS NORTH TO NYC TO MEET WITH FEMA REGION II



Monique Brent, Manager of Volunteer Deployments, and Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO, traveled to New York City this past week to meet with FEMA Region II.

MS. MAESHELL GOINS
DISASTER CASE MANAGER
BATON ROUGE, LA

I was educated in Tangipahoa and East Baton Rouge Parish. I am married, with three children, and two grandchildren.

My hobbies are working in my yard, my church, and beading. My career path has always been in the social service arena.

The passion and desire to be a part of assisting people achieve their recovery goals is what led me to become a DCM. I enjoy being a DCM because it allows me to meet and assist a diverse population with different scenarios but common goals which is full recovery.



DISASTER SERVICES SVDP DISASTER CASE MANAGER
RAMONA LECHUGA ADVOCATED FOR CLIENT'S
RECOVERY IN MATAGORDA COUNTY, TX AFTER HARVEY



Client, Earnestine Lewis, was living safe and secure in her mobile home prior to Hurricane Harvey in Matagorda County, TX. Her mobile home was destroyed by the storm and she lost everything.

She used her FEMA funds to purchase a used mobile home, furniture, and other belongings. When DCM Ramona Lechuga outreached the client, she stated she did not have a hot water heater, washer and dryer in her current mobile home and she had exhausted all the funds.

The DCM presented the client to the Unmet Needs Table and Salvation Army to fund these items she needed to fully recover. The client was approved, and the washer and dryer has been delivered.

The hot water heater was installed by a plumbing company. The client is very happy to be fully recovered and thanks DCM Ramona Lechuga for advocating for her needs.

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SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD

HURRICANE HARVEY

Life prior to Hurricane Harvey was busy. The husband was and currently still is the sole provider for the family. Family evacuated to Houston and spend a total of 5 days away from their residence. The family returned home to find extensive roof damage/missing front porch/leveling issues / and interior water damage on their mobile home. Thankfully the family was able to move back into the MH shortly after the Storm. Husband made repairs as funds allowed. Client first met with DCM in July 2018 and was referred out to the Samaritans Purse program. September 19th, 2018 client received a letter stating that their application had been placed in line for a "Final Review". I'm happy to announce that on December 18th the client was notified that they would be awarded a replacement Mobile Home from Samaritans Purse. Client's case was taken to unmet needs table three different times, last being 2/13/2019 for an extension of temporary housing. DCM and client received word from Samaritans Purse that the Mobile Home would be ready for move in on 2/14/19. The client couldn't be happier to hear that news. Overall client received an estimated value of a new Mobile Home at 56K, three temporary housing stays in the amount of \$2706 in additional was awarded the House in a Box in the amount of \$3200. Total dollar amount towards this case: \$61,906.00.



THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME TOLITHA JACKSON'S STORY



Tolitha Jackson, a single parent who visited us seeking help for her recovery from Hurricane Harvey. She had been evicted from the house in which she lived in because it was damaged in the flood. She did not have anywhere to go so she returned to the damaged home. The land lord preceded to have her evicted a second time as he needed to begin repairs, so she moved around from place to place for a while until she finally moved in with friends. She was emotionally drained and did not have the energy to seek disaster case management services until now.

Ms. Jackson has been assigned to me as a client. She and I bonded immediately. When I interviewed her, I found that she needed a home and a job. I gave her a referral to the Port Arthur Housing Authority and she readily applied for housing and has an appointment set. As I continued to ask Tolitha additional questions, I discovered that she has the education and experience need for a position with SVDP, so I referred her to my supervisor who not only accepted her resume for future opportunities but provided her with additional positions available within the community. With the help of the SVDP team, she is on the now on the road to her recovery!

SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD SANTA ROSA BEACH, FLORIDA

Celissia and Cameron are finally back home!

Today was a very exciting and special day for all of us. With your help, we finalized our first rebuild and moved a mom and her 6 year old son back into their family home. Lots of happy tears were shed on this joyous occasion.

Each one of you helped make this possible. It really took a village and we could not have done this without all of you! So much work went into this project and the end result is incredible! Celissia told us that she could feel all the love that went into the hard work we did on her house.

The story should be on Local News Channel 7 at 10pm (central time) tonight if you want to check it out! We will have more videos and photos to share soon, but we just couldn't wait to say thanks and show you this unbelievable transformation.



SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD SANTA ROSA BEACH, FLORIDA

SVdP participated in with the Sonder Project. The Pensacola, Florida conference contributed \$7,500 to this house and they have pledged \$7,500 to each of the next two houses which are both currently under rebuilding. We will be meeting with the Sonder team shortly to discuss what are the pressing commitments and we'll be paying those invoices.

“Thank you as we would not be able to do this without your support. GOD’s hands are at the ends of our arms. We are Blessed.”

Here is a link to the segment:

<https://www.wjhg.com/content/news/Sonder-Project-surprises-woman-with-new-home-505255042.html>



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.

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.

