A background image showing two hands, one larger and one smaller, cupping a bright red heart. The hands are positioned as if offering or protecting the heart. The background is a soft, light yellow gradient.

DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

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ELIZABETH DISCO-SHEARER

CEO UPDATES



This past week, Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO and Kevin Peach, COO visited West Virginia VOAD to provide continued support to our valued partner, Jenny Gannaway. DSC has a long history of working in West Virginia, most recently supporting the State to recover from the floods from June 2016, where DSC supported the local SVDP Conferences and Councils in the Multi Agency Resource Centers and provided volunteer and resource support. This 1,000 year flood claimed 23 lives and was a very unusual rain event for the State of West Virginia.

West Virginia has had its fair share of challenges for a multitude of reasons. West Virginia has unique issues with long term recovery, topography and the level of poverty in many of their communities. In addition, it is written into the FEMA Region III Hazard Mitigation Plan that it is assumed that West Virginia will not receive an Individual Assistance declaration.

With DSC's strong roots in West Virginia, we have risen to the challenge by seeing the need and meeting the need by providing our continued support to help West Virginia build capacity and look at recovery programs to move families out of situational and generational poverty.

DSC IN WEST VIRGINIA RECOVERY WORK AND PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES

Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, CEO and Kevin Peach, COO, met with the West Virginia VOAD Executive Director, Jenny Gannaway on ways that DSC and West Virginia VOAD can work together on future disaster programs in the state.



PUERTO RICO HURRICANE MARIA RECOVERY WORK CONTINUES



Kevin Peach, DSC COO, meeting with Airbnb partner rep, Jono Anzalone in San Juan, Puerto Rico. DSC and Airbnb are looking for ways to partner on deploying volunteers for P-RACs and to assist survivors.

DSC, CEO Elizabeth Disco-Shearer, with Team Rubicon and other NVOAD partners at Clinton Global Initiative Post Recovery Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



PUERTO RICO HURRICANE MARIA RECOVERY WORK CONTINUES

Felix Acevedo, Kevin Peach, and William Rodriguez
assessing building supplies at our DSC SVDPUSA
Warehouse in Vega Alta PR.



Kevin Peach and William Rodriguez at the DSC
Furniture Warehouse in San Juan, Puerto Rico
for our House in a Box(R) Program.

MR. STEVE RANGOON

DISASTER CASE MANAGER

BATON ROUGE, LA

My education is based on my AOS in Electronics and Computers with a BS in Criminal Justice Administration. I am a single, separated father of one awesome little girl, age 9, who lives with me and I wouldn't have it any other way! My hobbies are cooking, swimming, riding horses, reading, learning new things and cooking new recipes, and most importantly, taking care of my baby girl.

In my past, I've always had a service industry job. Before becoming a DCM, I was a local police officer. I was a police officer for almost 9 years which allowed me insight on the human soul and human existence and struggle for equality, security and life. The most important aspect I learned and was able to pass on to my underlings was learning how to listen to people and being a diplomat. With listening, comes hearing and understanding of the individual struggle in life. When someone sees another individual, especially one with authority, it gives them hope and peace that someone is willing and able to listen to their situation and help. I was able, with God's direction, to help a lot of individuals and couples through difficult times. All the Glory goes to Him because I'm only human, but He is All Knowing. He is Abba, our Father, or better known as daddy. He is always there to protect and guide us. He is El Roi, who sees all. He knows everything we are going through and where we are headed. Depend on Him and he will guide us through our trials and tribulations. He is El Shaddai, God Almighty. Let Him carry you through your darkest hours, as in the Footprints in the Sand. He is Yahweh Yireh, our God who WILL provide. He has provided for me and my little girl through our darkest hours, and there has been many, but we look to the heavens for where cometh our strength and help. I have used these in my guidance as an officer as I have as a DCM. His guidance has been an inspiration and very humbling.

While I was just carrying on from one DCM position to another, mainly because I needed a job to keep paying the bills, He saw a way for me to keep on helping and ministering to His children. While I didn't see it then, I do see it now. It sends chills through me as I look back on His hand on my life. When I first applied for a position of DCM, before I went into my interview, I asked Him to speak through me and say what needed to be said to win hearts and minds. It wasn't until later that I didn't find the job, He guided me to the job as he has guided me, even though my bad decisions. You know, the many times we as flawed humans should turn right when we turn left or vice versa. He has always been there. With each one of His creations, His guiding hand has been there all along. It's up to us to recognize it and follow the road He has prepared for us.

What motivates me, He does! What motivates me, my deep-rooted desire to never give up and never give in, no matter what. When my wife left our family, it was extremely difficult as my daughter was only 4 years old at the time, but GOD! He knew what was coming and helped us through it. My email, moving forward, was inspired by Him so I would never, ever give up, no matter how bad things seemed because He lifts me up when I turn things over to Him and He carries me through my trials and fights my battles when I'm weak. He is my strength and continues to be my guiding Light so that I may spread it to others!

What do I enjoy about my role? Everything! As long as I have breath and life in me to help others, I can let others see Him in me and let His Light shine as a testimony to others that Hope, Faith, and Love still abound!



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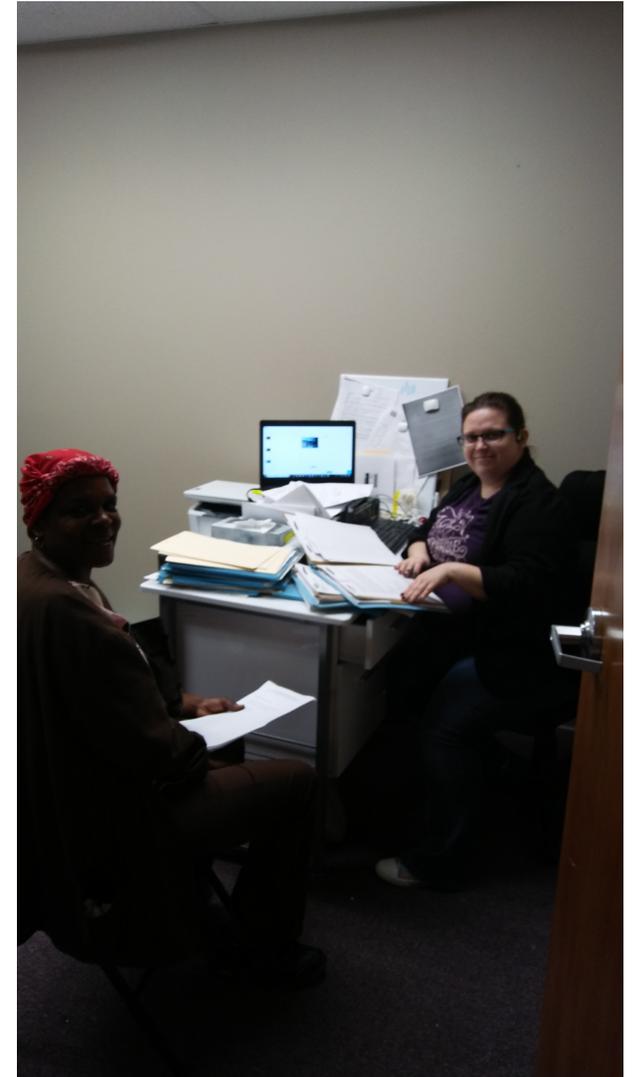


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SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD

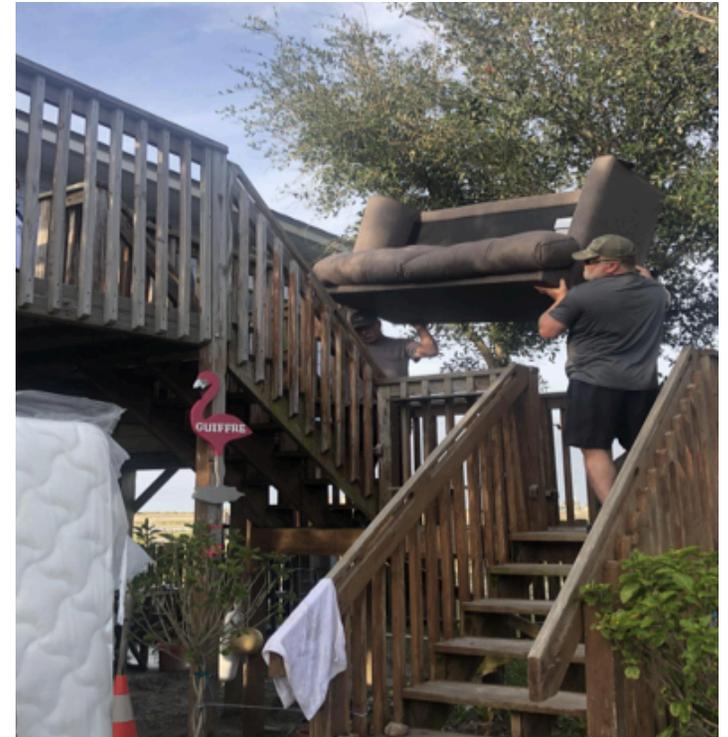
HURRICANE HARVEY

Brandy Crane (DCM – Orange County) with client. The client's home was floated when the Harvey flood waters reached her subfloor and stood for about three days. However, since the water did not rise any higher, the full extent of the damage was not evident for several months. Several pipes cracked and drains began leaking due to torquing, the original hardwood flooring has buckled, and black mold began to appear on the walls and furnishing. The client has applied for House in the Box and today we are completing the paperwork for American Red Cross Complex Assistance. We hope to have her recovery completed soon.



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.



GETTING THINGS DONE IN SABINE BY BRENDA DALCOUR



Hard work and dedication gets things done! And this is true for me and folks out in Sabine County, Texas! I present you Mr. Butler, a 49-year-old resident in Sabine County with minimal income, but a strong desire to achieve complete recovery on his own.

Mr. Butler's home was substantially damaged from Harvey floodwaters and he has tried little by little piecing it back together. When interviewing Mr. Butler, his only request was for material to complete repairing his home. Fortunately, through the generosity of Salvation Army, I was able to get \$999.14 worth of materials approved through Orange County Building Materials. This is the greatest example of a client and DCM working side by side to achieve a recovery goal!

HOUSE IN A BOX
ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS
HURRICANE HARVEY RECOVERY WORK



Pictured below and to the left is the Jefferson and Orange team at the warehouse unloading the HIB truck in Texas focusing on Hurricane Harvey work.





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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.

