



DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

**FLOOD PREPAREDNESS
IN FOCUS**

MARCH 13, 2019



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MS. KAVON CLAYTON
DISASTER CASE MANAGER
BATON ROUGE, LA

I am the eldest of three girls. I earned a Bachelor of Science in Biological Science, Pre- Med from the University of New Orleans. About a year ago, I spread my wings and moved out of my parent's home to my own home. I share my home with my two dogs, Cheyenne and Choctaw.

I consider myself an introvert, but I love helping others. At UNO, I worked as an Orientation Leader, assisting incoming freshmen, transfer students, and others with their transition to college. My hobbies include volunteering, reading, couponing, drawing, and spending time with my family (pets included).

Prior to becoming a DCM, I worked as a Substitute Teacher. I believe my passion to assist others led me to become a DCM. I love helping people figure out their next step, and I love being a listening ear to those that feel ignored. The road to recovery isn't an easy one, but I love for my clients to know that they have someone in their corner that will fight for them. Though this isn't the career path I had in mind, I feel like I belong here, and I'd love to stay in this line of work.



M R . K W A N R O B E R T S O N
D I S A S T E R C A S E M A N A G E R
B A T O N R O U G E , L A



I was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern University in New Orleans. I have been married to my wife, Adrena of twenty five years. I have two sons Bryce is 24 years old attending Texas Chiropractor Doctorate program in Pasadena, Texas and Kiron is 19 years old attends Baton Rouge Community College. We relocated to Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 2007 after living in Savannah, Georgia for two years because of Hurricane Katrina.

My career path started in the medical field working for my family's home healthcare business. In 2000, I branched out and started my own medical supply business until Hurricane Katrina destroyed it. My first job in Baton Rouge was for the Louisiana Road Home Project until the contract ended. I began working as a Disaster Recovery Specialist with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and continued my career in disaster recovery there for 6 years. I took a leave to take care of my wife who became ill. When her health improved, I was ready to return to work. I contacted a friend and former Disaster Case Manager at Catholic Charities. She informed me that they were hiring Disaster Case Manager's to continue the work helping clients recover from the March and August 2016 floods. After getting hired, I remember my wife asking me if, I was sure this is what I wanted to do, because she did case management for 20 years and knew what it would take to do this job successfully. After my training, and going out on my own, I told my wife, now I know why you asked me that. I must admit case management can be challenging and rewarding.

My passion working in the community as a coach and mentor to youth in sports and in the church has helped me in my role as a Disaster Case Manager. It prepared me for working with people from a variety of backgrounds who all needed one thing a person who cared about their needs. Although, I could not help every client I, am grateful for the one's I have been able to be a blessing to, with gift cards, mattress, furniture, and other resources.

CLIENT IN GALVESTON COUNTY WITH HAP INSPECTOR



This client our Disaster Case Manager of the Harvey Program assisted is disabled and lives with her son, who assists her as needed, and her grandchildren. The client's home was severely damaged by Hurricane Harvey. The client's foundation, subflooring and flooring were all heavily damaged as well as her roof which leaked heavily. Disaster Case Manager, Christina Martinez, outreached to the client and assisted her in organizing all the paperwork to apply for CDBG Homeowner Assistance Program. The client had been waiting for CDBG to come to the county due to the severity of her damages. Shown here, she applied and provided all requested documents. Her case was reviewed for completeness and moved forward in the process to inspection. She is now pending approval for a rebuilt home.

SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE FIELD HURRICANE HARVEY

Life prior to Hurricane Harvey was a struggle. The family stated that they were going through a rough patch in life. Both husband and spouse were un-employed during the time of the hurricane due to some personal problems. The family rode out the storm in Victoria. That decision was made due to not having enough funds to rent a hotel in the surrounding area. During the night of the storm the family had to seek further shelter in their cars due to the ceiling of their rental home caving in. Fortunately, the family received aid from family and friends. That help allowed them to rent a hotel while the land lord made repairs to the home. The Family was able to move in to the rental home in mid-October of 2017. Six months later the family was forced to move out as some of the storm damage began to resurface. The family quickly reached out to our local Salvation Army where they received help to cover the “move-in” deposit and "first month’s rent”.



MARTI GRAS CELEBRATIONS WITH THE
DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT TEAM
HURRICANE HARVEY



MARCH IS FLOOD SAFETY MONTH

Failing to evacuate flooded areas, entering flood waters, or remaining after a flood has passed can result in injury or death. Flooding is a temporary overflow of water onto land that is normally dry. Floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States. Floods may:

- Result from rain, snow, coastal storms, storm surges, and overflows of dams and other water systems.

- Develop slowly or quickly – Flash floods can come with no warning.

- Cause outages, disrupt transportation, damage buildings, and create landslides.

IF YOU ARE UNDER A FLOOD WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown!
- Just six inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.
- Stay off of bridges over fast-moving water.
- Determine how best to protect yourself based on the type of flooding.
- Evacuate if told to do so.
- Move to higher ground or a higher floor.
- Stay where you are.



MARCH IS FLOOD SAFETY MONTH

PREPARE NOW

Know types of flood risk in your area. Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center for information.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

If flash flooding is a risk in your location, then monitor potential signs, such as heavy rain.

Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response.

Gather supplies in case you have to leave immediately, or if services are cut off. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets. Obtain extra batteries and charging devices for phones and other critical equipment.

Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy. It typically takes up to 30 days for a policy to go into effect and can protect the life you've built. Homeowner's policies do not cover flooding. Get flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Create password-protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Move valuables to higher levels. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves. Consider a sump pump with a battery.



MARCH IS FLOOD SAFETY MONTH

SURVIVE DURING

Depending on where you are, and the impact and the warning time of flooding, go to the safe location that you previously identified.

If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Never drive around barricades.

Local responders use them to safely direct traffic out of flooded areas.

-Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

-Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown!

-Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning.

-If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, then stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, then seek refuge on the roof.

-If trapped in a building, then go to its highest level. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising floodwater. Go on the roof only if necessary. Once there, signal for help.



MARCH IS FLOOD SAFETY MONTH

BE SAFE AFTER



Listen to authorities for information and instructions. Return home only when authorities say it is safe. Avoid driving, except in emergencies. Snakes and other animals may be in your house. Wear heavy gloves and boots during clean up. Be aware of the risk of electrocution. Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off the electricity to prevent electric shock. Avoid wading in floodwater, which can contain dangerous debris and be contaminated. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water. Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery **ONLY** outdoors and away from windows.

MARCH IS FLOOD SAFETY MONTH
RESOURCES

[**Flood Safety Social Media Toolkit**](#) (toolkit)

[**Flood Information Sheet**](#) (PDF)

[**National Weather Service Weather Ready Nation Spring**](#)

[**Safety Outreach Materials**](#) (link)

[**American Red Cross**](#) (link)

[**The National Insurance Program**](#) (link)

[**Six Things to Know Before a Disaster**](#) (video)

[**When the Cloud Forms**](#) (video)

[**How to Prepare for a Flood**](#) (PDF)

[**Flood Playbook**](#) (PDF)

[**Flood Creative Materials**](#) (PDF)

[**National Creative Resources**](#) (PDF)

[**Answers to Questions about Flood Insurance**](#)

[**National Flood Insurance Program Summary of Coverage**](#)

[**Your Homeowners Insurance Does Not Cover Flood**](#)

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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.

