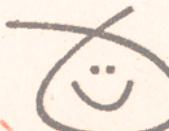


# DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

NOVEMBER 21, 2018

## TOY DRIVE

thank you for helping  
make children smile





Make This Year Impactful for a  
US Disaster Survivor

***Support Our  
Mission***

Visit [www.svdpdisaster.org](http://www.svdpdisaster.org)

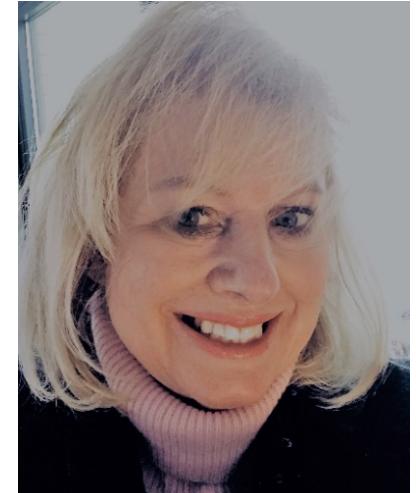
Donate:  
<http://bit.ly/SVDPDONATE>



[www.svdpdisaster.org](http://www.svdpdisaster.org)

# CEO UPDATE

## ELIZABETH DISCO-SHEARER



Over the past year, we have seen both the costliest and deadliest disasters in our nation's history. Since the onset of Hurricane Harvey, in September of 2017, the Disaster Service Corp. team has served non-stop in disaster impacted communities, fighting back compassion fatigue and exhaustion, to bring hope to those who have lost everything. It is a tremendous undertaking and can't be done alone.

During this season of Thanksgiving, I want to give thanks to the entire DSC SVDP-USA network of:

- Hundreds of dedicated volunteers who have given up their holidays and family time to deploy to all the various disasters this year from Hurricane Maria Recovery to the California Wildfires;
- DSC staff who work long hours, weekends, and holidays to assist families on their road to recovery;
- Generous donors who believe in our work and our mission;
- Federal, state, and local partners who work side-by-side with our team in providing long-term recovery services and providing resources for us to do our work;
- National VOAD colleagues and partners who hold our shared mission of serving disaster survivors;
- Foundations and corporate partners who support and fund our mission;
- DSC Board of Directors that continuously provides good governance and support;
- Families of DSC staff and volunteers who allow us to do this work; and
- Vincentian family at the National office and across the country who provide a strong foundation and history for our ministry.

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. Please continue to hold in prayer all the disaster survivors who will not be with their loved ones or in their homes during this holiday.

## RECOVERY SPOTLIGHT

Jamekia Declouet lost all her furniture during the flooding from Hurricane Harvey. A family of five with four children under the age of eighteen, they had no furnishings once they regained their residence. Disaster Services was able to supply beds for the entire family as well as a sofa and kitchen utensils and cookware. While this families recovery is far from over, Disaster Service Corporation was able make serious inroads with our assistance towards Ms. Declouet's efforts in establishing a safe and secure environment for her children.

– DCM Nelson Ikegulu, Orange County



## RECOVERY SPOTLIGHT



Donna Shaunesey has just been able to return to her home and had not been able to replace her damaged furnishings. Because of her work schedule she had been unable to coordinate with relief efforts during the normal work week. House in the Box was available on Saturday and she was able to receive much needed beds, a sofa and kitchen supplies to assist her in her continued efforts toward recovery. This effort by both the client and Disaster Services Corporation has made a life long impression on this family. – DCM Hector Maldonado, Orange County

## RECOVERY SPOTLIGHT

Ara Sue Hennigan is an elderly client that lost her furniture during the Hurricane Harvey flooding. Ms. Hennigan had no insurance. Disaster Services Corporation was able to assist her with furniture and kitchen supplies to replace what she lost. Ms. Hennigan was ever so grateful for even the slightest effort on our part and she was so happy to feel like she had not been forgotten. – DCM Nelson Ikegulu, Orange County



## RECOVERY SPOTLIGHT



Shamekia Rine, a single mother of two, lost all her possessions to the rising water of Hurricane Harvey. Now in a new residence, Ms. Rine had no ability to replace her lost furnishings and Disaster Services Corporation was able to step up and fill the void created by the flood. Ms. Rine now can continue providing for her family and recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Harvey without having to worry about her children's safety and comfort in a new environment.

– DCM Nelson Ikegulu, Orange County

# ANSWERING THE CALL TO SERVE

In 2017, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supported 59 major disaster declarations and 16 emergency declarations for 17 named storms. While the agency continues to support disasters (700 active disaster supports still in place), the nation cannot look at FEMA as the sole source for response and recovery. Since the inception of FEMA on 1 April 1979 to 2016, \$81 billion dollars were expended on disaster events supporting our nation. In contrast, the following two years 2017 and 2018, saw that same amount, \$80 billion issued in support.

## Vincentians Answering The Call to Serve

The raging wildfires in California is the latest disaster our nation has endured in 2018, devastating communities with estimated damages in the billions, and displacing over a quarter of a million people. DSC is supporting local, state, and federal agency responses to these events, and determined the best way to aid local efforts is to focus on immediate and emergent needs. DSC is meeting the needs of these communities by offering up three resources: hygiene kits, coats/hats/gloves, and toys.

## Serving Americans Through Partnership

Disaster Services Corporation, in partnership with Sourceall Inc., has launched a hygiene kit, hat/coat/glove, and toy drives. The drives are designed to support the immediate needs that we know will emerge for individuals, families and their communities over the weeks and months to come. We hope you will join us in support of these drives or donate to the Disaster Services Corporation directly.

## Why Donate?

1. Weather experts forecast an 80% chance of an El Nino forming this winter,  
+ The Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA is ensuring no one is without a coat, gloves, and hat to protect against the forecasted cold.
2. Reports are coming in that well over 500,00 families are unlikely to spend Christmas in their homes, with whatever money they have going towards rebuilding their lives.  
+ The Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA has undertaken the mission to ensure that all children will have presents to open on Christmas morning, providing hope that 2019 will be a better year than 2018.

## Donate Now:

Please visit <https://svdp-dwsourceall.roongga.com/2018winterdrive> to donate to the coat drive.

The Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA is fueled by Vincentians from around the country, however we also rely on the kindness and giving from monetary donations. To support our efforts please visit our donations page and help us grow our impact in those communities most vulnerable. Our donation page can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2MI1IO4>.

A GLOBAL GIVING MOVEMENT



NOVEMBER 27, 2018

**CHANGE A  
LIFE**

Support our mission and  
help us help others.

Visit [www.svdpdisaster.org](http://www.svdpdisaster.org)

Donate: <http://bit.ly/SVDPDONATE>

**[www.svdpdisaster.org](http://www.svdpdisaster.org)**

# SURVIVING AND THRIVING BY HEARING WITH COMPASSION AND FINDING GOD IN THE MIDST OF THE CHAOS...

VINCENTIAN, JEANNE HARPER

When in the chaos, pray: "...Lord, What a relief it is to know that storm control isn't my job! Please remind me to stop, to relinquish, to attend to you, the Director of my actions, the Source of all wisdom, energy and strength, the Protector and Provider as I embrace the day that you have gifted me. Amen." Faith Clarke writes in her blog Comfort in the Midst of Chaos.

So let us think about this --- in the middle of the chaotic disasters, in order to survive and thrive, we must truly give up work "to FIX what is". We can only create a warm, loving, practical, compassionate, inviting atmosphere and environment for ourselves, as volunteers as well as for those we serve, the victims. In doing this, we create an "oasis" from the storms of life, in which we can survive and thrive!

In this "oasis" environment, as we work with those affected by the disaster, we need to keep in mind what Debra K. Farrington writes in Reflections on Hearing with the Heart: A Gentle Guide to Discerning God's will for your Life: "hearing with compassion and knowing God's will" is done with our heart... the center of the whole human being...emotions, feelings, moods, passions, thought, understanding and wisdom...a place where real knowledge and conversion take place" ...even in the midst of disaster chaos!

To continue reading our guest blog visit:

<https://www.svdpdisaster.org/blog/surviving-and-thriving-hearing-compassion-and-finding-god-midst-chaos%E2%80%A6>



# WINTER COAT AND TOY DRIVE

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Disaster Services Division is calling for your help to equip disaster victims with warm winter wear - at the same time, we'd like to bring a smile to the kids affected by recent disasters!

Below you will find complete sets of winter wear - coats, hats, and gloves for men, women, boys and girls. We have also included an assortment of toys for different ages for the holiday season. Any items left over will be given out during next year's disasters.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

To support our efforts please visit:

<https://svdp-dwsorceall.roonga.com/2018winterdrive>



200 still needed

Girls Winter Wear  
\$ 26.00



200 still needed

Boy's Winter Wear  
\$ 26.00



200 still needed

Womens Winter Wear  
\$ 27.00



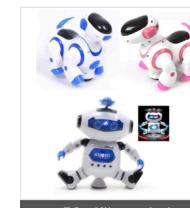
30 still needed

Chrome Wheels Scooter ...  
\$ 36.00



40 still needed

Spinnyos Game and Beani...  
\$ 42.00



50 still needed

Toy Robot  
\$ 35.00



200 still needed

Mens Winter Wear  
\$ 27.00



50 still needed

Skateboard with Helmet  
\$ 37.00



30 still needed

Chrome Wheels Scooter ...  
\$ 39.00



100 still needed

Laser Track & Flying Rob...  
\$ 43.00



100 still needed

Pillows  
\$ 22.00



100 still needed

Puzzles  
\$ 43.00

# M S . L E O L A E D W A R D S

## D I S A S T E R C A S E M A N A G E R



I was born and raised in Centreville, MS. I am the ninth child of eleven. I attended Wilkinson County High School in Woodville, MS and I'm a proud member of the Wildcats Alumni. I ran track from the third grade until graduation and played a clarinet in my high school marching band. After graduation, I attended Southern University A & M College, achieving my Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education in 1980 in Baton Rouge, LA.

After graduation, I moved back home and worked for the William Carter Company (manufacturer of baby clothing) for five years in Human Resources. I then got a wild hair and relocated to Pomona, California, with the love of my life and married him. I'm currently divorced. To our union one child was born, my son, Sylas A. Edwards, whom is now 28 years old. I worked for Teledyne Analytical Instruments for five years as a typist, secretary, and marketing assistant.

After five years in the big city, I moved back home and relocated again to Baton Rouge. Since living here, I have worked for the BREC Parks and Recreation, U.S. Postal Services, Jetson Center for Youth, Lutheran Disaster Response, The American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, and the Office of Aging & Adult Services. Employment with these previous companies helped me learn the city and towns in surrounding areas which has been a big asset that enables me to perform the duties of my current position. I am a disaster case manager with the Society of St. Vincent DePaul. I am responsible for the develop, implement, and monitoring of recovery plans with disaster survivors and their families to ensure a return at a minimum to pre-disaster level of well-being, while providing extensive and intensive case management and follow-up services.

# M S . L E O L A E D W A R D S

## D I S A S T E R C A S E M A N A G E R

### C O N T I N U E D ...



The favorite part of my job is being able to listen to my client during a home visit or phone call and make the connection to assist with the unmet need(s) client or family face, and to see throughout the plan or goal for the client is met. It brings joy to me to hear a client say, "I am glad we had this conversation", "I appreciate you helping me", or "I appreciate all your help". I love this field of work and could perform this type of work until the end of time. The most important people in my life are God keeping him first, my son, my sisters and brother, nieces, nephews, other family and friends. I come from a large family tree on both sides.

My mother and father are deceased. Outside of work, I spend time with my family and friends. I make a lot of trips back home to attend choir rehearsals, sing in my church choir, and keep our family gatherings going as our parents asked us to do before their death.

I have a love for dancing that surprises people. I dance mainly for the recreation and exercise. I love to dance to the awesome dance moves of Chicago and Houston two-stepping, zydeco, line dance, and swing out. The joy of traveling and meeting new people in the dance community is such a gratifying experience.

I would love to visit Hawaii, Jamaica, and New York simply because I have never been. My favorite TV show is the Golden Girls (Hallmark, TV Land, & BET channels). My favorite movies are with Chris Tucker, Eddie Murphy, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Tyler Perry, and Billy

Bob Thornton. I love comedy and action flicks. My guilty pleasures are Hershey's chocolates, cookies, and is a shame I can no longer eat a lot of it. I am a frequent player of video games on Facebook for past time. I love hitting those millions, just wish those coins

were real. 😊

# VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY

Steve Tola, Catholic Charities of California,  
Bishop Jaime, diocese of Sacramento, Tom Link,  
SVDP DSD, Suzanne Roden, P-RAC  
coordinator, Roxane Canfield, intake volunteer at  
the Sunday morning Parish Recovery Assistance  
Center. I attended meetings and traveled North.  
While we were at the P-RAC we also manned  
the Disaster Resource Center. - Vincentian, Tom  
Link



Please continue to pray for our Vincentians  
serving their impacted communities, for all those  
who have lost their homes, for those who have  
lost their loved ones, and for those who have  
passed on.

# VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY



Vincentians volunteering at the Disaster Resource Center in Chico, California responding to the wildfire and supporting the survivors shown above.

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

Support our mission and  
help us help others.

#GivingTuesday

WWW.SVDPDISASTER.ORG



**[www.svdpdisaster.org](http://www.svdpdisaster.org)**

# FOR MORE INFORMATION



Please stop by our newly updated website: [www.svdpdisaster.org](http://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

Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/DisasterServicesCorp/](https://www.facebook.com/DisasterServicesCorp/)

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

Monique Brent, [mbrent@svdpdisaster.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.

