

SVDP-USA  
**DISASTER**  
SERVICES  
RESPONDING TO LOCAL D  
www.svdpsa.org | www

# DISASTER RECOVERY CORNER

NOVEMBER 29, 2018





# CHANGE A LIFE

Support our mission and  
help us help others.

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

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

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

# CEO UPDATE

## ELIZABETH DISCO-SHEARER

On, November 8th, the nation's deadliest wildfire ignited, overtaking the town of Paradise and blazing through neighboring communities, leaving a wake of ash and destruction. At least 88 people have been killed; 249 are listed as missing. Nearly 19,000 buildings, many of them homes, have been destroyed. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection recently declared that the fire has been contained within 153,336 acres, but not before it destroyed more structures than the state's other seven worst wildfires combined.

With thousands of people seeking refuge in emergency shelters, hotels and campsites, uncertain whether they will have communities to return to, it is humbling to watch the 50+ volunteers from St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and Our Divine Savior Conference drop everything and come to the aid of the disaster survivors, assisting them on their road to recovery by serving over 190 households daily through Disaster Case Management Intake at the disaster recovery center in Chico, CA.

Each survivor has a unique and heart breaking story to tell, often of the loss of neighbors, friends and loved ones. While we cannot bring back their loved ones, we can do something as simple as providing basic needs to their family. Whether it is a hygiene kit, backpack, or toy for their children, the least we can do is to give those who have lost everything, something to call their own.

The pride I feel when I see how the Disaster Service Corporation supports our local SVdP colleagues, and the volunteers serving with compassion ten hours a day, seven days a week is indescribable, knowing their service inspires hope in the survivors. Yesterday, I had a Vincentian stop and tell me that she was so grateful to be of service and, identifying this experience as one of the most rewarding she had ever had. I have to say, I share that same sentiment.



---

# VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY A REPORT FROM THE DISASTER RESOURCE CENTER IN CHICO, CALIFORNIA

The Camp Fire is fully extinguished. The wildfire's death toll rose to 88 after investigators determined human remains that had been assigned to two people actually belong to three, there are still 203 unaccounted for. The number of structures destroyed is at 13,972 residences, 528 commercial. CAL FIRE is now focusing on cataloguing structures in the area affected by the fire, they say that by the end of the week that process should be complete. Crews are now working on clearing trees, debris, and hazards. They are trying to make burned areas safe for residents to return to as soon as possible. CAL FIRE stated that unless they experience a serious delay, it is possible that evacuated areas unaffected by the Camp Fire will be partially repopulated in two to three weeks.

The overarching problems facing Paradise's new paradigm are housing, temporary as well as long term, employment to a community devastated and the long term will to rebuild. Volunteers continue to fulfill the demand of volume and remain positive. This may be tested over the rest of the week as NGOs are beginning to drop off and some are no longer providing immediate assistance through gift/credit cards. This will increase our waiting lines which can climb to thirteen or more at busy hours. Am feeling the necessity to provide Volunteers a greater stake in the recovery effort. Please pray for our Vincentians who are actively serving in the disaster, for all the survivors, as well as for all those have passed on.

---

VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY  
DISASTER RESOURCE CENTER OPERATIONS  
CHICO, CALIFORNIA



Judy Dietlein is the SVDP Sacramento Council Pres and Western Region Disaster Rep. supporting our Vincentians in Chico, California.

VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY  
DISASTER RESOURCE CENTER OPERATIONS  
CHICO, CALIFORNIA



# VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY DISASTER RESOURCE CENTER OPERATIONS CHICO, CALIFORNIA



VINCENTIANS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RECOVERY  
DISASTER RESOURCE CENTER OPERATIONS  
CHICO, CALIFORNIA



# 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.

# NATIONAL VOAD'S ROLE IN DISASTER RECOVERY

AUTHORED BY GENERAL JAMES HOYER OF THE  
WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) is a national humanitarian association of independent organizations that may be active in all phases of disaster. Its mission is simple - to identify unmet needs and facilitate efficient, streamlined service delivery to those impacted by disaster. Each state has a lead VOAD agency, but many people may not be aware that they exist, or what they provide to citizens in need following a disaster.

VOAD fills a critical gap, taking a large burden off of state and local government officials and agencies, by providing subject matter expertise at the point of greatest need. It is a force multiplier, providing overall coordination of volunteer efforts across a wide range of organizations to include public and private sectors, during both response and recovery phases of an event. VOAD helps both individuals and communities get back on their feet, and then helps them be more prepared for future events that might occur. They are an indispensable asset in the overall Emergency Management tool kit and a dedicated partner for recovery.

To continue reading our guest blog visit:

<http://bit.ly/2P9gJP8>



---

MS. ELIZABETH WOODS  
DISASTER CASE MANAGER  
BATON ROUGE, LA



I was born and raised in Des Moines, IA. I have lived in Colorado, Florida, California, and now call Louisiana my home. My values are very strongly rooted in the Mid-West. I consider myself a mid-western lady with strong traditional values. I was and have been a single parent with three children, fraternal twin boys and my first-born son who all currently reside in Louisiana. I am an avid sports fan! I love watching tennis, figure skating, horse racing (those Kentucky Hats are FABULOUS), basketball, football, even golf (go Tiger!) and was a gymnast in my early years. I enjoy discussing sports strategy with my male counterparts who find it very surprising that I am so well versed in sports. I enjoy socializing with my friends and colleagues both past and present; and I take my development of friendships very seriously. Most importantly—I love my dog, Pippin who is 14 years old and a very pampered poodle!

My passion for meeting new people has lead my professional path through almost 20 years of human resources titles starting from a receptionist in various Human Resources Departments starting with a large health maintenance organization to a Call Center Representative for over 60 offices nation-wide supporting employees HR issues for a home health and hospice company here in Baton Rouge. My other career path has lead me to service communities, first as a Resource Linkage Coordinator for Louisiana Spirit after Hurricane Katrina, to a HR Analyst supporting those who assisted survivors with their recovery. My career growth was extended while I was employed with the Louisiana Department of Health as a Lead Stress Manager for Monroe and Shreveport, Louisiana. I found myself with a strong desire to continue to serve the community with recovery assistance and followed that service as a Disaster Case Manager (DCM) with Catholic Charities. I am currently continuing to serve as a DCM with the Society of St. Vincent DePaul.

The most rewarding part of my job and what motivates me to continue to maneuver through tough governmental regulations to assist my clients is that I can empathize as I was a survivor of Hurricane Katrina and faced some of the very same challenges that my clients now face. The most enjoyable part of my current role is that I thoroughly enjoy my one-on-one interactions with my clients as sometimes just a listening ear, or a brush of tear offers comfort when it appears that all is lost!

---

# 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.

## **Vincetians 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-dwsorceall.roonga.com/2018winterdrive> to donate to the coat drive.

The Disaster Services Corp., SVDP-USA is fueled by Vincetians 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/2Ml1IO4>.

# 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-dwsourcetail.roonga.com/2018winterdrive>



200 still needed

Girls Winter Wear  
\$ 26.00

1 Add to Cart



200 still needed

Boy's Winter Wear  
\$ 26.00

1 Add to Cart



200 still needed

Womens Winter Wear  
\$ 27.00

1 Add to Cart



30 still needed

Chrome Wheels Scooter ...  
\$ 36.00

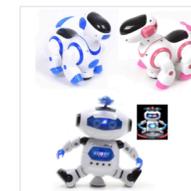
1 Add to Cart



40 still needed

Spinyos Game and Beani...  
\$ 42.00

1 Add to Cart



50 still needed

Toy Robot  
\$ 35.00

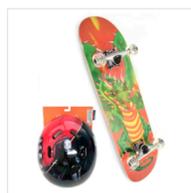
1 Add to Cart



200 still needed

Mens Winter Wear  
\$ 27.00

1 Add to Cart



50 still needed

Skateboard with Helmet  
\$ 37.00

1 Add to Cart



30 still needed

Chrome Wheels Scooter ...  
\$ 39.00

1 Add to Cart



100 still needed

Laser Track & Flying Rob...  
\$ 43.00

1 Add to Cart



100 still needed

Pillows  
\$ 22.00

1 Add to Cart



100 still needed

Puzzles  
\$ 43.00

1 Add to Cart



HELP US HELP  
OTHERS

Change a life.  
Support a U.S.  
disaster  
survivor.

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

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

## 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 feel 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

# 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



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

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



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

Support our mission and  
help us help others.

*#DisasterRelief*

WWW.SVDPDISASTER.ORG

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



# FOR MORE INFORMATION



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

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

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

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@svdpcdisaster.org](mailto:mbrent@svdpcdisaster.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.svdpcdisaster.org](http://www.svdpcdisaster.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.svdpcdisaster.org](http://www.svdpcdisaster.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.

