



MISSION PRESBYTERY  
BETTER TOGETHER

# Presbytery Disaster Response Protocol

## **Disaster Preparedness & Assistance Committee (DPAC)**

1. Works with the General Presbyter to maintain awareness of disaster preparedness with the churches, members, and communities.
2. Creates a budget to maintain equipment, facilities, and training to support the Presbytery and Synod Network
3. Administer the Mission Presbytery Preparedness Guidelines and the data that comes from the Congregation Survey and Church Preparedness Checklist
4. Review Disaster Preparedness & Response Plan annually
5. Staffs Disaster Control Center as applicable
6. Work with and through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
7. Reviews after-action reports of disasters to determine the effectiveness of available resources and plan implementation to meet the Presbytery's and congregations' needs
8. Maintain relationships with local Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRG), and other faith-based organizations
9. Develop relationships with corporations, Non-Profit Organizations (NPO), and governmental agencies
10. Support development of disaster resources for churches' training and preparation
11. Work within your region to help promote the Guidelines in the church and community
12. In times of crisis act to help those in need;
  - Work with General Council to disburse designated offerings during and after disasters
  - Help establish criteria for disbursement or classification of leftover designated funds
  - With the Disaster Recovery Coordinator organize volunteers to help in the disaster area
  - Listen to Disaster Preparedness & Assistance Teams on the ground and other volunteers to assist in coordinating equipment, people, and facilities.

## **Disaster Preparedness & Assistance Teams (DPAT):**

Are made up of at least four people and are divided into teams specializing in fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, and manmade disasters. Team members must be trained.

1. Advise DPAC on best practices for preparation, response, and recovery
2. Help with training in congregations and communities
3. Know how to use equipment supplied by the Presbytery for response and recovery
4. Respond to crisis situations as deemed by General Presbyter and Disaster Recovery Coordinator
5. Promote disaster preparedness



6. Help set up facilities in coordination with local congregations to host first responders and emergency volunteers

## **Disaster Recovery Coordinator (DRC):**

1. Reports to the General Presbyter
2. Develops Disaster Preparedness & Response Plan and budget
3. Coordinates with churches and sessions developing local disaster preparedness plans
4. Staffs Disaster Control Center after Presbytery's normal office hours
5. Maintains resources needed for the Disaster Control Center's operation
6. Keeps informed of responses by and participates in forums with interfaith agencies
7. Keeps informed of responses by and participates in forums with disaster management agencies
8. Recruits and trains churches' Disaster Preparedness & Response Representatives
9. Provides communications and information for the webpage, newsletters, e-mails, Minutes for Missions, Cluster and Presbytery Meetings
10. Provides periodic assessments to General Presbyter
11. Assists preparing for opportunities of religious observances for the impacted community(s)
12. Staffs the Presbytery's Call Center, if activated, and participating with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance operations within the Presbytery
13. Advise churches on ways to harden facilities to best survive future disasters