News You Can Use



Texas Gulf Coast Regional Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

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TGCRVOAD Disaster Hospitality Registry Shelter, Showers, and Supper!

When we think of ways to assist in short-term recovery, our list typically includes mucking and gutting homes, managing debris, clearing out houses, removing fallen trees, tarping roofs, distributing water and ice, donating to the food bank, and, of course, comforting survivors. Some will also help by returning calls to Crisis Cleanup or coordinating recovery activities.

Sometimes, the opportunity to say THANK YOU to the many out-of-town volunteers from Texas and across the nation who respond to our call for help is overlooked. They sacrifice the comforts of home and family to drive across the state or the nation, work hard, and sleep on a cot. What can we do to express our gratitude?

A Hearty THANK YOU ...

...and a Shelter, Shower, and a Warm Supper

Disaster Hospitality starts with a heartfelt thank you, but we can do more! Can you assist with shelter (space in a gym, large meeting room, community center, or classroom(s)), showers (either on-site or nearby at a gym), and a hot supper (a functional kitchen, ice, refrigerator, freezer, and donated or home-cooked meals)?

Teams come in all sizes: a small team consists of 10 to 15 people, a medium-sized team includes 25 to 30 people, and a large team comprises 50 or more individuals.

What Does it Take to Support a Team?

Ideally, teams are looking for:

- A large open space (or spaces) where team members can sleep. One hundred square feet per person is ideal. We can usually get access to cots from the American Red Cross.
- Restrooms for both genders (typically one toilet for 8-10 people of each gender)
- On-site showers (one shower for 8-10 people of each gender). If you don't have showers on site, are there shower facilities nearby at a school, gym, or YMCA?
- A functional kitchen area (fridge, stove, oven, microwave, and coffee maker!) where they can cook and eat breakfast and dinner, and a place to store food and make sack lunches. Are there local restaurants that might donate food? Or members of your organization that might consider providing a hot home-cooked meal on occasion?
- Access to an ice machine or ice.

- A room that can be dedicated to administrative activities, such as planning the next day's work.
- A parking lot where they can park trucks and vehicles overnight
- A secure location to store tools overnight.
- Air conditioning!
- Access to a washer and dryer.
- Wi-Fi and internet access

How Will This Work?

We are currently creating a registry of organizations that can host a team. Adding an organization's name to the registry does not obligate that organization to host a team. If there is a disaster, and if you are on our registry, and if your location is close to where teams will be working, and if we have a team that needs shelter, showers, and supper, we may call.

If we call, we will ask whether you would consider hosting a team for a specific period. If you are willing and able, we'll introduce you to the team and let you all work out the details. Please let us know if it is a match (Yay!) or if you can't host the team; in that case, we'll continue matchmaking!

Register Now!

Want to know more? Please email chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com.

TGCRVOAD Disaster Hospitality Shelter, Showers, and Supper



Next Meeting

The July TGCRVOAD meeting will be held in Texas City.

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: 4B Disaster Response 2700B Texas Avenue Texas City, TX 77590



Volunteers Needed Houston Art Alliance

Michelle Dobbins needs heavy-duty tarping volunteers. A heritage home that is part of the Freedom Town Collection has suffered severe roof damage. With ongoing rain and hurricane season upon us, the site overseer urgently needs support. The home is a single-story structure with high ceilings which requires equipment typically used for two-story buildings. Volunteers must have insurance and access to a cherry picker or similar lift. Please contact Michelle directly if you or someone you know would like to volunteer.

Michelle Dobbins, Houston Art Alliance Director, Disaster Services Division Office: 713.581.6139 Email: michelle@haatx.com

Contact Us!

We have a lot happening at the TGCRVOAD and several different ways to contact us. It can be overwhelming, but there is only one address you need to remember. Everything is here!

TGCRVOAD.org/contact-us/



Join a TGCRVOAD Committee

All our committees are seeking members. We want all Members to be represented and have a voice in how the TGCRVOAD operates. Do you have anyone in your organization that has a gift in these areas? Please get in touch with the respective committee chair.

COMMUNICATIONS - responsible for the website, newsletter, situational awareness, internal communications, and external communication support. Contact: Lesa Skipper
EDUCATION & TRAINING – responsible for training programs for TGCRVOAD meetings. Contact: Amanda Groller
INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, & COMMUNITY RESOURCES - responsible for the Membership directory, resources by county, and gap analysis. OPEN

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT - responsible for recruiting Members and Partners and encouraging participation in TGCRVOAD events. Contact Morgan Zeringue.

OPERATIONAL COLLABORATION - support enhancement of Functions in Disaster; interface with the LTRCs. Contact Debbie Allensworth



TGCRVOAD Training Roadmap

All Members are encouraged to take the FEMA Emergency Management Courses. Familiarity with these concepts will help tremendously in our ability to communicate, Cooperate, Collaborate, and Coordinate with each other and the jurisdictions governing the people we serve. We have divided the courses up into quarters representing about 7 hours of work a quarter.

1	IS-288.C	The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management - 1 hour
	IS-100.C	Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100 - 2 hours
	IS-700.B	An Introduction to the National Inci- dent Management System - 3.5 hours
2	IS-200.C	Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 - 4 hours
	IS-800.D	National Response Framework, An Introduction - 3 hours
3	IS-2900.A	National Disaster Recovery Frame- work (NDRF) Overview - 3 hours
	IS-2200	Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions – 4 hours
	EC-101	Harris County's EOC-101
	EC-201	Harris County's EOC-201
4	G-191	Incident Command System/Emer- gency Operations Center Interface – 8 hours (in-person Advanced Study)