**Disaster Readiness Request for Assistance**

**& Resilience Clinic:**

**May the 4th Prepare** **WE [STILL] NEED YOUR HELP!**

**You** We are still in need of volunteers for the Disaster Readiness &

**May 4, 2024** Resilience Clinic on May 4th**!**

A black and white chat bubble with text

Description automatically generated**8 AM – 4 PM**We are looking for volunteers who can serve in the “navigator” role. This role will assist attendees one-on-one with completing their Personal Preparedness Plan (a hard copy they will receive at the event).

Volunteers can sign up here: [**Getting it Right DAFN Workgroup: 2024 Disaster Readiness & Resilience Clinic-Staffing (signupgenius.com)**](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAC29A2F4C70-48523916-2024#/) Just-in-time training will be provided for volunteers.

We will need ~230 people to provide the level of service we aim for with the event, not including the reps we need for the actual workstations.

The clinic is set to take place on May 4, 2024 (Saturday), from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Metropolitan (West Gray) Multi-Service Center located at 1475 W Gray St, Houston, TX 77019. This clinic is designed to be an inclusive workshop for individuals, caregivers, and families of the Disability Access and Functional Needs (DAFN) community. Its primary objective is to enhance their preparedness for the range of threats and hazards that may affect members of the community in the area.

It's important to take measures to prepare for disasters, but sometimes we may not be aware of what we need to do. This clinic will provide guidance and support to individuals, allowing them to create their own personalized preparedness plan, which will be printed and based on their specific needs.

The Clinic aims to promote readiness through planning and consultation with support and service representatives including:

* healthcare/medical/EMS/pharmacy/DME professionals,
* emergency managers,
* electricity providers,
* public health/housing/mental health/public transportation professionals,
* faith leaders,
* and others.

**#PrepareYouMay.   
#ResilientYouMustBe.**

**Feature Article April 2024 CSU Seasonal Hurricane Forecast Released**

As we approach the beginning of Hurricane Season on June 1st, it's time to start preparing. Colorado State University recently released its April [***Seasonal Hurricane Forecast for the 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season***](https://tropical.colostate.edu/forecasting.html), which is expected to be "extremely active." According to the forecast, depending on the forecast parameter, activity levels could be 53-76% higher than the average activity from 1991-2020 and somewhat higher than the 20 named storms of 2023. Please refer to the table below for more details.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Forecast Parameter** | **4 APR 24  Forecast** | **1991-2020 Average** | **2023 Observed** | **2020 Observed** |
| Named  Storms | 23 | 14.4 | 20 | 30\* |
| Named Storm  Days | 115 | 69.4 | 99 | 118 |
| Hurricanes  (Cat 1 or 2) | 11 | 7.2 | 7 | 13 |
| Hurricane  Days | 45 | 27 | 31 | 34.75 |
| Major Hurricanes  (Cat 3, 4,or 5) | 5 | 3.2 | 3 | 6 |
| Major Hurricane  Days | 13 | 7.4 | 7.75 | 8.75 |

The report highlighted a significant change anticipated to occur by the end of summer or early fall for the Gulf Coast. Currently, we are experiencing El Niño conditions (which protect the Gulf Coast from many Hurricanes). The forecast is for these conditions to shift to La Niña by late Summer or early Fall. The report identified five Hurricane seasons with similar starting conditions, the most recent of which was 2020. While it is too early to predict which states or counties on the Gulf Coast will be affected, it may bring about a wild ride if the 2024 Hurricane season is anything like the 2020 season.

The increase from twenty observed 2023 named storms to a forecasted twenty-three named storms may not seem that severe but the location of the storms will matter. Below is a comparison between the 2023 season (El Niño) on the top and the 2020 season (La Niña) below.

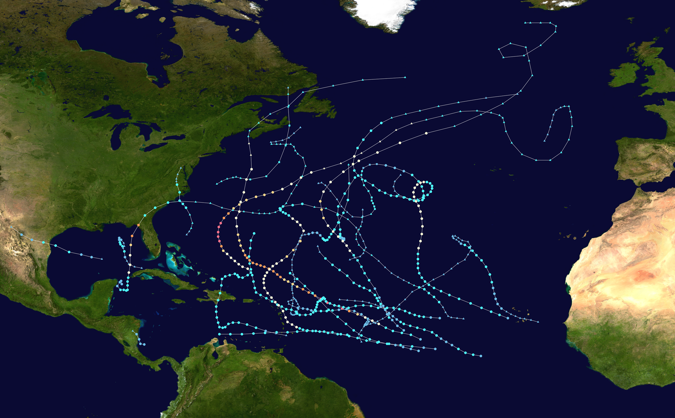


Figure 1. 2023 Hurricane Season (La Niño)

A map of the world

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Figure 2. 2020 Hurricane Season (La Niña)

The increase in the number of storms in our backyard should be apparent.

These statistical forecasts may not be accurate but can and should be used to guide our preparations. Remember, it only takes one hurricane to make it an active season for you and your community!

**Calendar**

**May 8, 2024 General Membership Meeting**

**1:30 – 3:00** Walter Hall Park   
807 State Hwy 3 N.,   
League City, TX

* **A calendar with a date and a number

  Description automatically generated**Welcome
* Regular Business
  + Officer reports
  + New Member Consideration
* Presentations
  + Texas AgriLife
  + Crisis Cleanup
  + FEMA-IA and SBA – What’s New
* Organizational Announcements

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 8th, from 9:30 – 11:00 (location to be announced).

**Disaster**

**Preparedness**

A calendar with a date and a number

Description automatically generated**Training** The Houston ToolBank and [Texas Congregational Disaster](https://toolbank.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3c0e143696eb0065b8ddd9e0b&id=2bd3e0d4fc&e=1527411f41) Readiness invite you to attend a FREE disaster response training session.

Saturday, May 11, 2024

9:15 AM – 11:30 AM

Houston ToolBank

1215 Gazin St

Houston, TX 77020

Who should attend? Anyone who is interested in learning

more about the hands-on processes of recovery; will be

serving after disaster by mucking, gutting, or tarping homes;

. and/or who will be providing compassionate care for those who have been impacted.

**Points of**   
**Distribution**

**Needed** As Hurricane Season approaches, the City of Houston and TGCRVOAD are updating their lists of potential Points of Distribution (PODs) that could be used in case of need.

Logo, icon

Description automatically generatedSpecifically, we are looking for:

* Big areas that can create a good traffic flow to have at least 2 lines to load car trunks with some supplies (such as water cases, ice, cleaning supplies, tarps or possibly food) – Recommended 100 parking spots at least.
* Space to park at least one or two 43’-51’ 18-wheelers
* Forklift to unload and mobilize pallets
* Traffic cones or barriers to make a clear drive paths
* Teams of 20 to 30 volunteers to help run the distribution point lines
* Consideration for accessible needs (ADA/ DAFN) is important

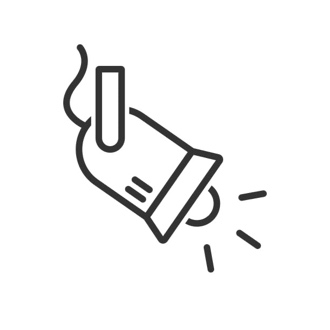
The hours of operation will vary depending on the disaster but most likely will be 4-8 hours per day. We will want to make provisions for shelter from the heat (tents), food, snacks, water, and access to bathrooms for the volunteers

**The Ask**

At this point we want to know if you are interested in becoming a POD. We will work with you to provide training and make sure you have everything you need to be successful.

If you are interested, please contact [Gary.flaharty@teamshur.org](mailto:Gary.flaharty@teamshur.org).

We want to start our conversation with who is interested in assisting.

**Education Spotlight** **Evacuation Triage Team (ETT) Training Schedule 2024**

*A logo of a health and services company

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**A close-up of a sign

Description automatically generatedSponsored by Texas Health   
  
and Human Services and   
National Emergency Management Response**

***Purpose:*** *To ensure participants understand how and where to send evacuees, based upon their medical needs/conditions, utilizing the Evacuation Triage Team (ETT) model.*

***Target Audience:*** *Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Members, Public Safety Officials (Fire/EMS), Emergency Management Personnel (Those responsible for mass care, sheltering, evacuation), Public Health Officials, Local Governmental Officials (i.e. City Managers, Mayor, Council Members),* ***Local Non-Governmental Organizations,*** *Mass Transit Leadership/Personnel, Healthcare Liaisons (Hospitals and Community Support Services), Medical Reserve Corp Members*

*Disaster Medical Team members, Disability Groups/Organizations*

***Course Objectives:***

* *Explain how to assess medical needs during the evacuation process.*
* *Determine appropriate mode of transportation to shelter site.*
* *Understand shelter site capabilities/limitations and determining appropriate shelter site.*
* *Illustrate the examples of embarkation hub setup and flow of evacuees throughout the*
* *triage process.*
* *Discuss the two types of systems utilized for tracking of evacuees to and from sites.*

*A person wearing a face mask

Description automatically generated****Course content:***

* *ETT System:*
  + *Identification of medical conditions of evacuees to determine appropriate shelter*
  + *placement as well as medical care needed during evacuation and sheltering.*
  + *Assignment of evacuees to appropriate facilities.*
  + *Determination of type of transport needed and understanding of transport capabilities.*
* *Ensuring resources are utilized efficiently and appropriately.*
* *Types of shelters (General Population and Medical Shelters)*
* *How to utilize technology in the ETT setting:*
  + *Pulsara Tracking System*
  + *Texas Emergency Tracking Network (TxETN)*
  + *Texas PULSE System*
  + *WebEOC Tracking Board*

**May 23, 2024**

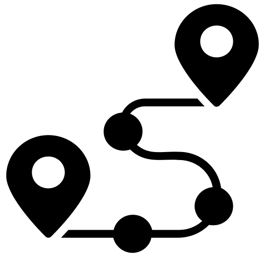
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Virtual**

To register, please visit: https://nationalemr.us/course-registration-form/

**TGCR VOAD**

**Education**

**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.

**First Quarter**

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 Incident Management System - 3.5 hours

**Second Quarter**

IS-200.C Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 - 4 hours

IS-800.D National Response Framework, An Introduction - 3 hours

**Third Quarter**

IS-2900.A National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Overview - 3 hours

IS-2200 Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions – 4 hours.

Harris County’s EOC-101,201

**Advanced Study**

G-191 Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface – 8 hours (in-person)

**Invitation** [**Join a TGCRVOAD Committee!**](https://tgcrvoad.org/join-a-tgcrvoad-committee/)

A group of people connected to a gear

Description automatically generatedAll 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 [**Gary Flaharty**](mailto:gary.flaharty@teamshur.org?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Communications%20Committee)**.**

**EDUCATION & TRAINING** – responsible for training programs for bi-monthly meetings. Contact [**Amanda Groller.**](mailto:AmandaG@gulfcoastcenter.org?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Education%20and%20Training%20Committee)

**INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, & COMMUNITY RESOURCES -** responsible for the Membership directory, resources by county, and gap analysis. Contact [**Sarah Malcolm.**](mailto:smalcolm@acamweb.org?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Individual,%20Family%20and%20Community%20Resources)

**MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT -** responsible for recruiting Members and Partners and encouraging participation in TGCRVOAD events. Contact [**Morgan Zeringue.**](mailto:mzeringue@jfshouston.org?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Membership%20Engagement%20Committee)

**OPERATIONAL COLLABORATION -** support enhancement of Functions in Disaster; interface with the LTRCs. Contact [**Debbie Allensworth**](mailto:debbie@mosaicinaction.org%20?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Operatioal%20Collaboration%20Committee)

**STEERING COMMITTEE –** Meets six times yearly to advise the Executive Committee; the Executive Committee appoints members to the Steering Committee Contact [**chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com**](mailto:chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com?subject=TGCRVOAD%20Steering%20Committee)**.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –** Officers and Committee Chairs