

Church Family Disaster Preparedness Survey

To help our church prepare for member care and ministry to the community after an unexpected disaster, please provide us with the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone:

Home: () _____

Cell: () _____

Cell: () _____

Email: _____

FAX: _____

Names and ages of people in your immediate household:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Disabled person(s): _____

Please indicate handicap(s): _____

Other special needs: _____

We have the following equipment:

- CB Radio (self-contained) or Walkie Talkie
- 4-wheel drive vehicle
- Utility Trailer
- Chain Saw
- Wheelbarrow
- Hand saw
- Axe (hatchet)
- Other (list below): _____

I, _____, am certified in (e.g.CPR; First Aid): _____

What other skills could you contribute to disaster response? _____

Where will you go if you evacuate? _____

How can we reach you? _____

(Thank you. Please return this information to the church office.)

State and Regional CBF Disaster Response Contacts

Alabama

Brent McDougal
(W) (205) 269-0563
bpmcdougal@yahoo.com

Arkansas

Roy Peterson
(Cell) (501) 590-6669
(H) (501) 664-5878
rpeter4780@aol.com

Florida

Tommy Deal
(w) (863) 682-6802
(cell) (407) 694-2119
tdeal@floridacbf.org

Georgia

Scott Ford
(Toll Free) 1-877-336-6426
FAX (478) 742-1191x28
(cell) (478) 718-0850
sford@cbfga.org

Kentucky

Jan Causey
(cell) (502) 939-0986
jlpcausey@aol.com

Louisiana

Reid Doster
(cell) (985) 778-6049
FAX (985) 845-3206
reid_doster@hotmail.com

Missouri

Kathy Pickett
(w) (816) 415-0009
(cell) (816) 405-4122
ministerkathy@aol.com

Mississippi

Steve Street
(cell) (601) 672-4432
(w) (601) 605-0940
street@cbfms.org

North Carolina

Kent Benfield
(cell) (336) 451-0669
(Alt) (336) 668-4005
Kent.benfield@volvo.com

Northeast

Sandra and Ken Hale
(w) (603) 448-6397 (Ken)
Sandy.r.hale@dartmouth.edu

Oklahoma

Paul Calmes
(cell) (405) 788-7991
cbfo@att.net

South Carolina

Mason Harris
(cell) (864) 612-9851
(Alt) (864) 579-4363
hawkeyeharris@bellsouth.net

Tennessee

Mike Young
(cell) (931) 247-4851
missions@tncbf.org

Texas

Rick McClatchy
(w) (210) 732-2225
(cell) (210) 488-8169
cbftex@aol.com

Virginia

Rob Fox
(cell) (804) 370-2483
(Alt) (804) 364-1012
rfox@thefellowship.info

West Region

Glen Foster
(w) (520) 296-3740
(cell) (520) 991-0948
FAX (520) 885-2082
pantanobap@aol.com

Preparing Your Church for the Unexpected



Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Disaster Response

www.thefellowship.info/cbfresponds

All it takes is
one sudden, unexpected event
and your church goes
from serving the needy
to becoming the "least of these"
in your own community.

Preparing Your Church for the Unexpected

Disaster Response Coordinator

Your church should act now to select a Disaster Response Coordinator with the following traits:

- An understanding person who handles pressure.
- Willing to put forth a measured amount of effort.
- Able to communicate and make decisions.
- Desires to help people in need.

Your new Disaster Response Coordinator:

- Assesses areas of strength that can be utilized in your church during a disaster.
- Informs your church of disaster response needs and activities.
- Coordinates possible use of church facilities as a training center, crisis counseling ministry, temporary shelter, and supply or distribution center during disaster response efforts.
- Organizes a "Buddy System" for those needing special care and assistance.
- Educates and promotes personal and family emergency preparedness.
- Establishes a church disaster response inventory for human and material resources.
- Participates in training opportunities. (e.g. Red Cross "Introduction to Disaster Services")

Leadership Team

- Disasters may require the use of church facilities, so it would be good to have the Trustees represented.
- There may be expenditures, so it would also be good to include a finance committee representative.
- Include members who have a sense of calling to this particular type of ministry.
- These people must be able to make decisions.

Resources Inventory

Your church is probably stronger and more resourceful than you realize.

- What facilities do you have? A kitchen, fellowship hall; day care; food bank/pantry; areas for counseling victims or areas that could be temporary shelters; large bathrooms; computer and internet availability; or a worship center for the weary victim to find quiet time to worship?
- Do you have a church van; parking lot that could be a staging area for response groups; a temporary center; or place for a shower trailer?
- Identify the human and material resources of your church family (see "Survey" on reverse side).

Once your church has selected a **Disaster Response Coordinator**, formed a **Response Leadership Team** and taken a **Resources Inventory**, please inform your state CBF Disaster Response contact person (see other side).

Are You Ready?

- Do you have a church preparedness checklist?
- Emergency phone numbers posted near phones?
- Regular check of alarms, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and generator?
- Several well-stocked, clearly visible first aid kits?
- A planned evacuation route if necessary?
- Do you know the special needs of people to assist for special evacuation procedures when disaster strikes?
- Are there homebound or very low-income members, perhaps without family support, who lack the means to evacuate?
- Do you want a reciprocal agreement with another church or facility as a place to meet if your church sustains major damage?
- Have you made contact with local disaster response agencies (Red Cross/Salvation Army), VOAD, and other faith groups responsive in disasters?
- Are your church properties adequately insured?
- Do you have duplicate computer data files, important papers, and records safely stored?
- Have you given thought to how you might protect certain office equipment or special furnishings?
- Have you thought to keep on hand a supply of drinking water in the church facility?

- Do you have phone numbers or email addresses with which to contact members if they evacuate?

Pre & Post-Event Checklist

Pre-Event:

- Identify vulnerable church members:
 - Aged, living alone?
 - Living in trailers?
 - In an area prone to disaster, e.g. flooding?
- When they might be at risk, attempt to warn your more vulnerable members.
- If there is any discussion about allowing your church to be used as an official community shelter, do your homework and understand what could be required.

Post-Event:

Determine (by phone or visit) the status of members most impacted by the storm. In case of large-scale disaster, a follow-up of the entire congregation should be done. Church members should be encouraged to notify the church regarding their whereabouts. Pre-decide upon a plan for this.

If you are unable to reach the closest CBF Disaster Response contact (see reverse), call or email Charles Ray, CBF Disaster Response Coordinator (USA) at (501) 680-2722 or cray@cbfar.org.

Be Prepared For Hard Questions

Disaster can bring undue stress on the victims of disaster and push them to the brink of despair.

Reactions can vary widely from one day to the next.

Be prepared for such typical questions as:

"Why is God doing this to us?"

"Why is there such pain in the world?"

"Why does God permit such suffering?"

"Are we being punished?"

Conclusion

Surveys indicate 90% of U.S. citizens, including church memberships, are in denial concerning personal readiness and response to any potential crisis, whether man-made or natural.

While schools are preparing children and faculty, and businesses are preparing employees, who is preparing the vast majority of your congregation? If you don't, who will?