

Purpose of Disaster Response

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response Ministry (ACS DR) has been established as a humanitarian relief, and individual and community development ministry to address the physical and emotional needs of those affected by disasters and other traumatic events.

How Disaster Response Works with Other Organizations

As a founding member of the National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD), ACS DR works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the American Red Cross, and other NVOAD members.

Collaboration with public, private, and nonprofit sectors allows DR teams to provide the most effective and efficient aid and support in time of crisis.



Adventist Community Services (ACS) is a community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the North American Division. The mission of ACS is "to serve communities in Christ's name."



Adventist Community Services

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ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION Disaster Response Ministry

The Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) ministry stands ready to serve the survivors of disasters. With churches throughout the North American Division, ACS DR is able to assist survivors whose lives have been disrupted by disaster and other traumatic events.



Services Provided

The primary role of Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR) is Donations Management. Collection Centers, Multi-agency Warehouses, and Distribution Centers are the major components of Donations Management. ACS DR manages the unsolicited donations so they do not become the “second disaster.”

Community Collection Centers

ACS DR works with community organizations, such as the media, churches, civic groups, and the general public to gather donated goods when emergency needs exist. Items such as food, blankets, personal care kits, baby care items, cleaning supplies, and NEW clothing along with other supplies are accepted and processed for distribution.

Emergency Distribution Centers

Donated goods that have been processed by ACS DR are provided to meet the immediate needs of families. Emergency Distribution Centers are often based in community facilities, such as a high school gym, church halls, vacant store fronts, or vacant lots.

Multi-agency Warehouses

The Multi-agency Warehouse is a facility where these goods can be brought and made available to the legitimate groups that have opened Emergency Distribution Centers. This process provides these groups with a supply of quality goods that can be given to the survivors.

Mobile Distribution Units

Mobile distribution is used to deliver goods into areas that may have been cut off during the disaster or where no other services are being provided.

Sheltering

During a disaster, many individuals and families are unable to reside in their homes and need lodging. ACS DR is engaged in activity to ensure communities are provided lodging during and post disasters.

Disaster Assessment

When an emergency affects a community, homes can be impacted in a negative way. A rating system has been created, which places the amount of damage to a home into categories. ACS DR personnel in partnership with the American Red Cross is able to provide training to ensure our team members are skilled in disaster assessments.

Long-Term Recovery

ACS DR has trained teams that can assess and make repairs to homes to ensure community members are able to lodge in a more comfortable, safe environment. This work requires the partnership between the local authorities and NAD ACS DR leadership.

Needs Assessment

ACS DR conducts a brief overview identifying the challenges associated with each local community, the organizations that respond to those needs, and how to effectively use the resources at your disposal.

Emotional & Spiritual Care

Courses:

Overview of ACS Disaster Response Operations

Learn about managing ACS DR operations. www.AdventistLearningCommunity.com

Special Issues in Emotional & Spiritual Care

It is not about gaining more knowledge, theory and techniques. Instead, it is about the kind of persons we will be as we reach out to others in need.

Assisting Individuals in Crisis

Increase your knowledge of individual crisis intervention techniques.

Group Crisis Intervention

This course will prepare participants to understand a wide range of crisis intervention services.

Grief Following Trauma

This course covers key grief and loss concepts relating to trauma and traumatic death.

Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention

This course provides information about suicide and helps participants develop practical skills for prevention, intervention, and postvention.

Critical Incidents in Places of Worship

This workshop will address providing crisis services for places of worship, with an emphasis on caring for the staff, spiritual leadership, and worshipers as potential groups needing services.