

Welcome & Intro

- The purpose of this call is to gain situational awareness regarding plans for deployment and current operations from each VOAD member and partner, as well as provide local VOAD and LTRG networks with an opportunity to share what their unmet needs are.
- Key Areas of Interest: Feeding, IKD, Messaging
- If you have specific public health questions related to COVID-19, please visit the Texas Department of State Health Services Website (www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)

Texas Division of Emergency Management – Mass Care

- SOC is working with the food bank and federal partners (Ie: USDA funds)
- Many sheltering discussions regarding sheltering in case of a disaster are going on
- SOC hours: 7am – 6pm, 7 days a week
- Group homes and some childcare centers are having a hard time getting supplies from vendors
- Seeking logistical support with trucks from non-profits. Financial reimbursement and cost-shares are unknown, but discussions are going on

Texas Division of Emergency Management – Recovery

- Coordinating donations management through the SOC at the state level
- Texas.gov website is where citizens and organizations/corporations can list items for donation (PPE, etc...) before a delivery time can be created.
- Texas.gov also calls for medical staff volunteers
- TDEM has been able to locate sources for PPE and has created a steady supply of requests. May need some assistance with logistics as that process is streamlined.
- A new state VAL has been hired (April 1st) – Courtney Goss

Texas DSHS - Medical Reserve Corps

- Units are activated at this time and supporting call centers (general public and physicians) at local health depts. Numerous calls for supplies and questions surround testing

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

- Update from last week – continuing to transfer educational methods to digital.
- Numerous requests from many counties for face masks. Have started a volunteer project (4-H and adult programs) making face masks at the local level (and a few statewide groups). Over 500 have been distributed
- www.health.tamu.edu

Texas General Land Office

- Still doing construction from Harvey and other past disasters in the area where it's permitted (some jurisdictions have shut down their permitting offices)
- Many individuals are still living in unhealthy environments

FEMA Region VI

- Regional response coordination center – sitting in on all state calls, mass care calls and VOADs calls for information collecting and analyzing unmet needs
- Public Assistance questions? Send to Richard or Gary and they will elevate it
- Donations – Any questions regarding donations? The state or voluntary agency can reach out through the email address to be provided to Kathy and Damian (or FEMA VALs).

- NRCC receiving a quite a few inquiries on the corporate/private sector and would like to connect with the state or VOADs.
- Richard will send offers of donations through Damian who will forward to membership

Adventist Community Services

- Have been distributing resources and N95 masks
- 13 pallets were sent to another organization near Houston

American Red Cross

- Still tracking public health declarations and emergency orders
- 37 new counties since last week's call that moved to red status
- Adjusting procedures to work within the environments as well as preparing to respond to disasters in the oncoming season
- 2 new resources –
 - Coping with Sheltering at Home during COVID-19
 - Helpful Tip Sheets for Steps to Help Protect Against Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- New site – www.redcross.org/coronavirus. (5-6 languages)

Catholic Charities – Galveston / Houston

- Providing food in Fort Bend, Galveston and Webster (CatholicCharities.org)
- Updating 211 hotline information
- Only accepting monetary donations currently

Catholic Charities – Ft. Worth

- Working out of the EOC
- Continuing to recruit other VOAD partners to work in EOC. Coordinating volunteer opportunities through VOLY.org
- Coordinating a blood drive with the city

Crisis Response Ministry

- Working with law enforcement
- Exploring ways to extend volunteers through virtual platforms (ie: Griefshare)

Disability Rights Texas

- Working remotely and providing services
- Legal teams are continually addressing issues and service
- Coordinating with other partners to meet needs as they arise

Disaster Leadership Team

- Not active at this point for COVID-19

Endeavors

- 98% working from home
- Exploring how to best serve clients with COVID-19 status

Feeding Texas

- Huge increase in food banks (up to 50%, if not more)
- Appreciative of new volunteers being sent to food banks
- Many food banks have limited volunteers now and have larger volunteer needs with increased hours / resources
- In need of canned goods, dry products, etc
- Damian's suggestion: <https://www.getshiftdone.org/>

HOPE Animal Assisted Crisis Response

- Continue to avoid face-to-face, some virtual assistance with dogs

ITDRC

- Still activated at a national level to provide technical assistance to communities around the county
- TX – providing resources and extending access. Working with partners at various levels (federal, state, local)
- Needing a WIFI hotspot for a neighborhood or community?
- Project Connect – <https://go.itdrc.org/projectconnect>

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod – Texas District

- Providing PPE to providers

Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response

- Collecting and delivering N95 masks to local health centers and personnel

Minuteman Disaster Response

- Evaluating ability to deploy with current reduced capacity

Mission Presbytery

- Monitoring the situation and working remotely

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

- Compassion fatigue course will be ready in a few weeks virtually

Save the Children

- Providing resources
- Not accepting gifts-in-kind
- Have posted an online resource bank for parents shifting to remote instruction due to school closing - <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/what-we-do/emergency-response/coronavirus-outbreak/coronavirus-outbreak-facts-tips-how-to-help-protect-children>

Southern Baptist of Texas Convention

- Continuing to monitor. At a high-level alert status
- Continue to mobilize churches and volunteers at a local level
- 1.800-921-3281 – hotline for speaking to a chaplain

Texas Baptist Men

- Donating all suits and N95 masks.
- Roughly 1000 sized 2X suits left
- Some dust masks (non-N-95)
- Working with TDEM to transport supplies around the state
- Created a chaplain line - 866-826-2600

The Salvation Army

- Focus continues to be on locally based response
- Continuing to support local corps.
- Shelters and kitchens / feeding plans are open, and accommodations have been made to transition to grab-and-go meal delivery systems
- Affected by supplies shortage of food, etc
- Continuing to work with state and mass care partners
- Salvation Army Emotional & Spiritual Care Hotline - 844-458-HOPE (4673)

Texas Search and Rescue

- Getting ready to meet IMT needs throughout the state
- Hosting blood drives with We Are Blood
- Preparing for flood season
- Limited ability to transport goods across the state

Americares

- Continuing to work with local health partners for supplies and procurement
- Preparing mental health messaging
- Working on an online format
- Continuing to mobilize clinics

Billy Graham Rapid Response Team

- 888.388.2683 (24-hour prayer line)

OneStar Foundation

- OneStar Foundation has been designated by the State of Texas to raise and distribute funds to eligible organizations working on the ground to support the economic recovery of Texas communities devastated by the coronavirus. Grants and distributions from OneStar are intended to assist with needs unmet by other sources of relief, including insurance, government or other relief organizations. Details on how to apply for funding and other FAQs will be posted soon. To make a financial contribution, visit www.texas.gov
- Continue to support TXVOAD
- In partnership with the United Ways of Texas, have stood up <https://txnonprofits.org> , which includes resources for nonprofits to help navigate COVID-19.
- AmeriCorps*NCCC teams are unavailable for any projects until the end of May.
- Continue to look for opportunities, ideally remote, for AmeriCorps*Tx members whose service sites have closed due to COVID-19.

Samaritan's Purse

- Still monitoring and analyzing capabilities to respond to COVID

Tarrant County VOAD

- Working with Tarrant County OEM

Team Rubicon

- Prepared to respond to disaster for support
- Supporting feeding ops in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio.
- Please reach out with needs

Texas Gulf Coast Regional VOAD

- Continuing to monitor the situation
- Lack of capacity with partners
- Continuing to work on Harvey relief
- Results of Needs Assessment and community impact survey gathered
- Trying to find PPE
- Partnering with Baker Ripley and Houston Food bank (food distribution)

United Way of Texas

- Showing 18 county funds being established for organizations and clients. Many set up in conjunction with local community funds
- Some are receiving donated goods, but not many.
- Working with nonprofits, gov agencies, corporations that want to help and provide assistance and support as able

Bastrop County OEM

- Chris Files is the new EMC
- Food insecurity – needing donated goods. Also needing volunteers to deliver food
- Volunteers will be needed Medical care for COVID-19 patients leaving the hospitals
- Communities are housing patients that are worried about exposing their families to the virus after leaving.

Jefferson County LTRG

- 6 counties operating together
- Opened a call center.
- Need volunteer nurses to do testing

Rowlett COAD

- COAD and website are up and running
- www.RowlettReady.com

Golden Crescent COAD

- Highly active at this point
- Donations accepted through UW Victoria, volunteer
- Downtown warehouse is open and receiving goods
- Working with city and county partners

Denton County VOAD

- Food pantries and supply chain status
- All VOAD members are seeing a decline in volunteers
- Volunteer shortage affecting homelessness shelters
- Many rental assistance agencies seeing a dramatic rise beyond staffing capabilities

Next Meeting – 4.3.20 @ 11am