

## 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, PPE for Healthcare Providers
- 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](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus))

## Texas Division of Emergency Management – Mass Care

- Still working on feeding plans
- Working with FEMA planners regarding how to respond to a disaster during a pandemic (i.e.: coast evacuation)
- Working with Foodbanks on STAR Requests & potential FEMA reimbursement

## Texas Division of Emergency Management – Recovery

- Medical Donations
  - Continuing to monitor medical donations through Texas.gov - <https://texas.gov/#covid19>
  - Donate local when possible to ensure essentials supplies get to those in need as quickly as possible.
  - Contact 512-243-4337 regarding large donations
- Public Assistance
  - For entities that already submitted requests for an account through Grant Portal: Many of these requests have been returned ineligible due to not being labeled as a PNP, which isn't an option at the onset of self-registration. PNP entities will need to go into their Grants Portal account to edit the account for type of entity they are (PNP 501c3 or PNP without 501c3) then type of PNP (Educational, day care, nursing care, medical, shelter, food bank etc.). After that status has been changed, you should resubmit the RPA request. Screen shots are attached for reference but if you need assistance with this part, please call me or email Valerie Blanton at 512-994-9039 or [Valerie.Blanton@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:Valerie.Blanton@tdem.texas.gov)
  - For entities that have not created an account on Grants Portal yet: Please email [tdemrecovery.rpa@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:tdemrecovery.rpa@tdem.texas.gov) requesting access to FEMA Grant Portal. Recovery staff will then be able to process your request and invite you to the training directly. Once you receive the invite email, you can then set up your account and select the above PNP account type before sending the RPA application. Also attached is the information needed to process the Grant Portal invite. The Type listed in the form is PNP 501c3 or without 501c3 then type of PNP you represent. Either option will then have the PNP questionnaire pop up for you to fill out and attach your PNP documentation (proof of ownership for facility, insurance, bylaws/charter, accreditation, tax exemption documents/501c3).
  - There should only be one request sent in per PNP. Please do not request multiple accounts for the same organization.
  - If you have any additional questions please reach out to Valerie, Courtney, or Kharley Smith.
- Medical Volunteers
  - Texas.gov has added a button for medical facilities to request volunteers. Non-medical volunteers are not accepted yet, other than medical support personnel.

## Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

- 8 teams deployed to Armory to assist with distribution. Another strike team has been requested and activated (on standby)

- 4800 handmade facial masks donated across the state

### **FEMA Region VI**

- Food Banks: Public Assistance has provided additional guidance for food banks to receive PA support through the state. Food banks may not seek direct cost reimbursement from the FEMA PA program, but if a state or local jurisdiction purchases necessary food commodities and utilizes food banks to distribute these commodities through an agreement or contract, then these are considered eligible costs. As a note, the agreement or contract does not need to be pre-existing.
- FEMA is currently working on drafting guidance directed towards mass care during pandemic
- Non-Congregate Sheltering
  - Facilities with people exposed, asymptomatic, exposed first responders apprehensive to be around their families, etc. The shelter request must be ordered by a health official and go through the state (the actual grantee) to be eligible for PA.
  - <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/31/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-non-congregate-sheltering>
- FEMA R6 COVID19 Daily Report
  - Will be forwarded to everyone through Damian.
  - FEMA Lifelines - <https://www.fema.gov/lifelines>

### **Adventist Community Services**

- 5000 masks given out

### **American Red Cross**

- The American Red Cross has created an externally facing partner portal for trusted partners in our network which includes Texas VOAD members, State of Texas entities, and Federal Partners. This brief is a situational awareness tool for COVID-19.
  - Access
    1. To access the site please use this link: <https://arc-nhg-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=dd404f4b616243099bd6e0635be98b9e>
    2. The site does not require a username or password.
    3. Recommend you use Firefox or Chrome to access the site.
    4. This tool is not available for the public and should not be shared with the media or on social media platforms.
  - Description of Tabs
    1. US COVID Cases By County: the larger the red dot the higher concentration of cases, zoom in to see specific county and State data
    2. Johns Hopkins University Global Dashboard: includes total cases worldwide (including the US), fatalities, and recovered from COVID-19
    3. National Alliance for Public Safety GIS Foundation: there are publicly available dashboards from the State of Texas, this links the DSHS website
    4. Healthcare Ready: tracking state declarations
    5. Healthcare Ready: tracks transportation and movement of people across countries; exports/imports, ports, land borders, flights, Department of State restrictions, etc.
    6. Health and Medical Community Lifeline: FEMA transitioned last year to the lifeline model for reporting. This tab includes status of pharmacies, dialysis centers, and flu and COVID-19 case tracking from the CDC.

7. RAPT: FEMA's Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool shares demographic data, critical infrastructure locations, hospital capacity, hotel capacity, etc. Data is sources from the US Census American Community Survey.
8. Walmart Data: provides a real time list of store, pharmacy and grocery open/closed status
9. Hand Sanitizer: list of distilleries who have shifted production to make hand sanitizer from the Distilled Spirits Council of the US. Click on the state for a full list of sites and contact information
10. Planning: ARC open shelters, USDA meal locations, Feeding America Food Banks, Walmart stores
11. Demographic Maps: CDC Social Vulnerability Index data provides scores for communities

### **Feeding Texas**

- 48% more service delivery in March 2020 than all of 2019
- National Guard has begun supporting food banks with staff
- Food banks are in need of masks for staff and volunteers (paper or cloth masks for purchase or donation). Please email [GBailey@feedingtexas.org](mailto:GBailey@feedingtexas.org) if you are able to support this unmet need.
- Clients need to visit a food pantry (or a food bank that has a food pantry within) and are discouraged from showing up to food banks that do not include a pantry.

### **National VOAD**

- NVOAD has made more member benefits available, including \$10 & \$20 coupons with Lyft that can be utilized through the end of April, and discounted hotel rooms through Red Roof Inn. For more information - <https://www.nvoad.org/resource-center/memberbenefits/>
- NVOAD DART Platform - NVOAD has partnered with VisionLink and Sterling Volunteers to provide volunteer management support for VOAD agencies responding to COVID-19, including free basic background checks.

### **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**

- Emotional and Spiritual Care Webinars for COVID-19 - <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/esc-webinar/>

### **The Salvation Army**

- Seeing a significant increase in service needs. Most homeless shelters have transitioned from overnight facilities to 24-hour operations.
- Salvation Army locations are offering drive through food box, grocery or meal distribution around the state.
- Partnering with TDEM and the National Guard to help deliver medical PPE.
- Family Stores have temporarily closed, so fleet is being used for distribution

### **United Way of El Paso County**

- Transition to virtual home visits and wellness checks through phone for participants of Parents as Teachers early childhood education program and Family Resiliency Center response to August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Provision and delivery of basic needs essentials and food boxes for self-isolating participants.
- Participation in weekly Texas and local VOAD calls to coordinate agency efforts.
- Participation in twice-weekly United Ways of Texas webinars to learn about efforts in other communities and glean ideas for assisting El Paso.
- Continued facilitation of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program in El Paso County as information develops regarding available aid to local recipient organizations in response to COVID-19.

In addition, in collaboration with partners, we are in the process of analyzing and prioritizing community needs to allocate more than \$75,000 in donor contributions. Along with that, United Way has increased efforts in several areas that are most pertinent at this time:

#### Support to local agencies:

- Solicitation, collection, and delivery of donations to emergency shelters including: cleaning supplies, paper products, educational supplies, and at-home recreational activities. As of April 3rd, 17 agencies received supplies facilitated by UWEPC.
- Creation of a Target gift registry for virtual corporate engagement and donation of much-needed supplies for emergency shelters.
- Coordination of a limited volunteer pool (including UWEPC staff and AmeriCorps Members) to assist at the food bank and food pantries.
- Collection and dissemination of information related to COVID-19 resources to partners including non-profits and school districts. Online version found here:
  - ENG: <https://www.unitedwayelpaso.org/covid-19-response-community-resources>
  - SPA: <https://www.unitedwayelpaso.org/respuesta-de-covid-19-recursos-de-la-comunidad>

#### Support to senior services:

- In partnership with the Area Agency on Aging, creating and delivering care kits to senior residents identified as home bound or in need of basic supplies. Senior care kits include: basic toiletries, laundry detergent, toilet paper, soap, Lysol wipes. As of April 3rd, 120 kits were delivered to area seniors. We have potential capacity for 1,280 more.
- In partnership with County and City governments, providing volunteers and staff to assist with food distribution at senior centers.

**Next Meeting:** 4.17.20 @ 11am