

## 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.
- 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))

## Angel Flight

- “Angel Flight Oklahoma was created by a group of pilots who believe in the benefit of volunteering. We strive to keep all aspects of the organization volunteer driven. We are a non-profit charitable organization of pilots, volunteers, and friends. We will arrange free air transportation for any legitimate, charitable, medically related need. This service is available to individuals, and health care organizations. We will also arrange transportation of those people who are financially distressed, or who are in a time-critical, non-emergency situation due to their medical condition.” For more information, visit [www.Angelflightsc.org](http://www.Angelflightsc.org)
  - Elizabeth Hancy: 214.762.5710 [ehancy@angelflightsc.org](mailto:ehancy@angelflightsc.org).

## USDA

- USDA Farmers to Families Food Box. As part of the Coronavirus Farm Assistance Program Secretary Perdue announced on April 17 that the USDA is exercising authority under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to purchase and distribute up to \$3 billion of agricultural products to those in need.
- Resources:
  - <http://www.squaremeals.org/>
  - [Farmers to Families Food Box Program FAQs](#)
  - [Additional Details on the Farmers to Families Food Box Program](#)

## Texas Division of Emergency Management – Disaster Task Force

- Voluntary Agency Liaison Report for Polk County:
  - Survey123 platform is being utilized to conduct community surveys
  - 257 major/destroyed, over 800 affected. Per capita income less than \$16,000 / highly underinsured.
  - Current Operations: tree removal, cleanup, feeding, emotional/spiritual support
  - Crisis Clean-up has been activated for work orders (“Easter and April Tornado 2020”), however an 800 number has not been established.
  - Fire Station is organically working as a VRC and operating under Center of Hope
  - POD – distributing cleanup supplies and providing a small feeding operation
- TDEM-established systems for COVID-19 volunteer and donation management regarding COVID-19 are operating as intended. The Taskforce continues to collaborate with both DSHS and the Governor’s Strikeforce.

## FEMA Region VI

- FEMA VALs continue to support the VOAD and TDEM. Receiving donations from HQ and coordinating with partners. VALs have been involved in Polk County Recovery and will be sending reports as available. FEMA is working on the potential storm response declarations

### **American Red Cross**

- Utilizing hotels to shelter survivors in Polk County (5 separate locations currently open).
- 95% of damage assessments are complete. Totals for affected counties: 228 destroyed, 241 majorly affected, 287 minorly affected, 76 affected (grand total of 832)
- Preparing for the launch of a virtual immediate assistance program for clients. The program will be live next week and is anticipated to last 3 weeks. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

### **Feeding Texas**

- Still working with National Guard (extended through the end of May)
- 16 Food Banks have distributed 21 million pounds of food to date, which is in addition to standard feeding operations.

### **Mission Presbytery**

- Currently operating in Central and South Texas focusing on assisting with the food crisis as well as refugees

### **Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Texas District**

- Currently distributing masks in Bexar county and have volunteers on the ground providing chainsaw work in Polk County

### **Team Rubicon**

- Primarily focused on chainsaw work within Polk County. May demobilize this weekend, but analyzing future needs regarding demolition, etc.
- Demobilized Houston Food Bank support, but continuing support operations in San Antonio for COVID-19

### **Salvation Army**

- COVID-19: Over 230,000 meals, 250k snacks/drinks served thus far, as well as more than 50,000 nights of lodging provided to clients of late. Salvation Army is analyzing the potential re- of thrift stores and other social services heading attention to public health regulations and guidance
- Severe weather / tornadoes in East Texas: Served in Polk County (demobilized Tuesday). Continuing coordination with the county and assessing the need for more mass feeding operations next week.

### **United Way of Texas**

- United Way of Texas affiliates continue to raise funds for voluntary agencies (and clients in specific areas) across TX in response to COVID-19.
- Many locations are preparing to establish tax-preparation assistance sites.

### **TEXSAR**

- Have been operating in Polk County, including managing a POD and distributing items. Demobilizing today
- COVID-19: Working in Harris County through support positions as well as and manning safety officer positions in Travis County.

**Next Meeting:** 5/15/2020, 11:00 AM