

Disaster Relief: A Guide for the Local Church



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Foreword: Why should my church get involved?

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Dear Pastor,

The reason you have received this manual is that you are wondering how to lead your congregation to respond to a disaster. From personal experience, I can tell you that your relief efforts will provide an exciting opportunity for your congregation to grow. By responding to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, members of our congregation learned how to be more effective servants right here at home. As we did, we gained a new appreciation of what “The God of all comfort” (2 Corinthians 1:3) can do through us.

For more than fifteen years, Operation Renewed Hope (ORH) has used good works to draw attention to a Gospel witness. As a direct result, hundreds of people, in countries around the world, have placed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. By welding a Gospel witness to good works, your church can “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

Regardless of whether the disaster is imminent or has already occurred, this manual is designed to give you practical help in what to do next. It may be that the disaster has occurred in your immediate area or you want to respond to a disaster that occurred some distance away. In either case, you will find helpful information below.

As a pastor, I would recommend that you carefully read the opening section concerning Biblical principles for disaster relief. Here you will find principles to help you guide your congregation and team members into the task before you.

Sincerely,

Gordon Dickson
Senior Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church
Findlay, Ohio

Introduction: Operation Renewed Hope Background Experience

For 15 years, Operation Renewed Hope has been used by the Lord in worldwide relief efforts and humanitarian work. However, we view this as a small part of what we do. The real emphasis of our ministry is the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ: His death, His burial, and His resurrection. We believe that sinful man needs the Savior, and new believers need a church to grow. For this reason, our humanitarian and relief efforts work through Bible-believing missionaries and pastors.

Our international work has included sending humanitarian cargo shipments to Panama, Honduras, Cuba, Mali, Liberia, Zambia, Russia, Bosnia, Albania, and many other nations. We ship these items through churches or missionaries where possible so as to enhance the status of our Bible-believing missionaries in foreign countries.

Our work has also included the establishment and deployment of Mobile Medical clinics in conjunction with Bible believing missionaries and evangelists. As a result, we have started many churches or enlarged the congregation of many churches around the world. Our goal is the preaching of the gospel and the building of churches.

Our work has also consisted of relief work. We have sent teams of church people to the tsunami stricken areas of Indonesia and Thailand. We installed water plants in conjunction with Bible believing missionaries. We conducted medical clinics at the relief sites and have seen hundreds trust Christ. We have worked in the areas devastated by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma in our operations in our own country. We also assisted missionaries in Honduras during Hurricane Mitch. We helped to ship over 800,000 lbs of materials to Honduras.

Our goal is to continue to support our missionaries, preach the gospel, and build churches. Please join with us through your congregation to help us reach the lost. Here at ORH we believe that “touching the heart...reaching the soul” is following our greatest example: our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
Rev. Jan Milton
Operation Renewed Hope

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Table of Contents

Foreword: Why should my church get involved? 2
Introduction: Operation Renewed Hope Background Experience..... 3
Table of Contents..... 4
I. Biblical Principles for Disaster Relief 6
 A. The God of All Comfort 6
 B. The Ultimate Disaster 6
 C. God’s Opportunities..... 6
 D. Disaster Relief by the Church..... 6
 E. The Gospel Witness and Good Works..... 7
 F. Preparing for the Future 7
 G. The Ultimate Reward..... 8
II. People Needed for Disaster Relief..... 9
 A. Pastor 9
 B. Church Coordinator 9
 C. Church Team Leader 9
 D. Church Team Member..... 9
III. Program for Disaster Relief..... 10
 A. Types of Resources..... 10
 B. Types of S.E.R.T.S. Teams..... 10
 1. Gospel and Food Team..... 10
 2. Counseling Team..... 11
 3. Clean Up Sanitation Team..... 11
 4. Demolition Team..... 11
 5. Construction Team 12
 C. Training S.E.R.T.S. Team Members 12
 1. General Concepts..... 12
 2. Spiritual Training..... 13
 3. Mental Training..... 13
 4. Concerning Employers and Team Participation..... 14
 5. Physical Training..... 14
 6. Safety training for Team Members..... 14
 7. Skills Evaluation and Training..... 15
 8. Team Care 16
 9. Social Training 16
 D. Financial Plans and Church Security Needs..... 17
 1. Church Rainy Day Fund..... 17
 2. Team Money to Travel 17
 3. Insurance..... 18
 4. Church Liability..... 19
 5. Notarize 19
 E. Communication Preparation 19
 1. The Importance of Contact with Team..... 19
 2. The Importance of the Gospel Presentation 19

IV. Properties (Tools and Equipment) 20

- A. Communications Equipment 20
 - 1. Amateur (Ham) Radio 20
 - 2. Cell Phone 20
 - 3. Sat Phone 20
 - 4. Laptop 20
 - 5. National Access Connection to Internet 20
 - 6. Mobile Satellite TV with Internet connection 20
 - 7. GPS 20
- B. Demolition, Cleanup, and Construction Equipment 20
 - 1. Materials 21
 - 2. Heavy Equipment Usage 21
 - 3. Fuel Source for Team 21

VI. Hope Boxes..... 22

- A. The Joseph Project 22
- B. Pre-G.O. Event Involvement – Before the Crisis 22
 - 1. The G.O. Concept Timing 22
 - 2. Church Participation Ideas Prior to G.O. 22
 - 3. Most needed Items at the beginning of the G.O. Event..... 23
- C. The Nature of Hope Boxes: Phases of Needs 23
 - 1. Preparing Help According to Circumstances and Time 23
 - 2. G.O. – 270 through G.O. +10 24
 - 3. G.O. + 10 through G.O. + 20 24
 - 4. G.O. - 30 through G.O. + 30 24
 - 5. Toiletries Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. +30) 24
 - 6. Cleaning Supplies/House Care Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. + 30) 24
 - 7. Baby Care Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. + 30) 25
 - 8. G.O, +10 through G.O.+150 25

Appendix A – Contents for General Hope Boxes G.O. +1 through +10..... 26

Appendix B – Special Contents G.O. +20 days 28

Appendix C – Cleaning Agreement for Clean Up Teams 29

Appendix D – S.E.R.T.S. Team Member Questionnaire 31

Appendix E – Systems for Distribution at a Disaster Site 35

Appendix F - OSHA Regulations 38

I. Biblical Principles for Disaster Relief

A. The God of All Comfort

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

The God of the Bible is the Comforting God. He comforts His children in difficult times to enable them to comfort those “which are in any trouble.” The reason we can and should respond to present disasters is that “The Father of Mercies and the God of all comfort” has comforted us in our own trials.

B. The Ultimate Disaster

Earthly disasters, including the loss of life, are painful reminders of the ultimate human disaster – eternity without Christ in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15). This means that the preaching of the Gospel of Christ is the most important disaster relief. Without the Gospel witness, good works are meaningless. Without the Gospel which will deliver mankind from the ultimate eternal disaster, earthly disaster relief is short-sighted.

C. God’s Opportunities

“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10)

We choose to look upon disasters as God’s Opportunities (“G.O.”) to go. Disasters should be viewed as God-given opportunities to “do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” As Christians, we have a Biblical mandate to take the God-given opportunities to do good to all men. According to this verse, Christians should give special emphasis to assisting other Christians.

D. Disaster Relief by the Church

“27 And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. 28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. 29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: 30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.” (Acts 11:27-30)

Acts 11 records the inspiring story of how the church at Antioch responded to an impending disaster. The pattern recorded here gives us wisdom as to how organize our own relief efforts. The church at Antioch received word of the coming famine by special revelation through the prophet Agabus. History records that this worldwide famine occurred in 45-46 A.D. The manner in which the church at Antioch approached its relief efforts shows us how our church can respond to impending disasters. They chose to concentrate their relief efforts on helping a specific people in a

specific area (“the brethren which dwelt in Judaea”). In order to be effective, each church must also wisely choose to concentrate its relief efforts on a specific people in a specific area.

It is important to remember that disaster relief efforts are an outgrowth of normal church life. It is the routine function of dynamic disciples. But what produces dynamic disciples in the New Testament church? The context of Acts 11 holds the keys. Take a few moments to carefully consider Acts 11:19-26.

-Dynamic Disciples begin with the Spirit-filled preaching of the Grace of the Gospel. 19-21

-Dynamic Disciples continue with the Spirit-filled purpose of the Grace of the Gospel. 22- 24

-Dynamic Disciples grow through Spirit-filled perfecting in the Grace of the Gospel. 25-26

It is important to note that the church at Antioch responded to an *impending* disaster and this approach gives us wisdom. If a congregation will anticipate its role in disaster relief before the next disaster occurs, much more can be accomplished. Proactive action beats a reaction every time.

E. The Gospel Witness and Good Works

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:8-10)

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

“Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?” (John 10:32)

Christians have an unusual opportunity to draw attention to the Gospel with good works. Scripture teaches that we are not saved by our good works; it also teaches that we were saved in order to do good works in the name of Jesus Christ. Through these good works, we can draw the attention to our glorious God and Heavenly Father. In fact, as Jesus demonstrated, good works are an excellent defense to a world in opposition to the Gospel.

F. Preparing for the Future

“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.” (Ephesians 4:28)

This verse teaches that Christians should do their daily work in order to enable them to give. Since God is a Giver, He expects Christians to give. A lifestyle of luxury or of bondage to debt is clearly out of bounds for the believer. The Bible makes it plain that we are to prepare ourselves to give.

“But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality:”

(2 Corinthians 8:14)

In the instructions on giving found in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9, the Apostle Paul reminded sending churches of one of their reasons for sending help to those stricken by disasters: they themselves might one day be in need. Though every one of us hopes to avoid disaster, it is comforting to know that other churches will respond to us in our own deep distress.

An illustration from the Biblical story of Joseph is very helpful to us as we prepare for the future. In Genesis 40:33-37, we find Joseph's recommendation to Pharaoh – years in advance of the disaster. He recommended that the people of Egypt use their prosperous times to prepare for the disaster to come. They did so by storing foodstuffs. The result was, according to Genesis 50:20, that many lives were spared.

G. The Ultimate Reward

“And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.” (Matthew 10:42)

The work of disaster relief can be exhilarating but exhausting. Long hours with little apparent progress can sometimes hurt morale. In such times, it is important to remember the “cup of cold water” principle. If the Lord rewards us for even a cup of cold water, how much more will He reward us for our efforts in disaster relief? May God richly bless you as you throw your efforts into opening the door to your Gospel witness with good works.

II. People Needed for Disaster Relief

A. Pastor

The Pastor knows that the vision of Christ is the key to victory in any endeavor. As such, the Pastor is the key visionary for what can be accomplished in any disaster field. The Pastor must lead his congregation to gather resources and build teams to respond to the tragedy. As he does, he should pray for the servants in his congregation who rise to the challenge before them. If the Pastor chooses to form a team of servants, he must keep the congregation informed of ongoing needs. The Pastor should appoint, assist and supervise the church team coordinator. The Pastor should also approve and assist the team leaders and team members.

B. Church Coordinator

Larger churches (defined as those churches which can field more than one team at a time) should appoint a Team Coordinator who reports directly to the Pastor or to his designated representative. The Team Coordinator is responsible for organizing, equipping, training and deploying teams as determined by the church and Pastor.

C. Church Team Leader

Depending on the size of the church, the designated Team Leader(s) will report either to the Coordinator or to the Pastor. Team leaders are responsible for the day-to-day management of the team to include, but not limited to:

- Training, equipping and deployment of assigned team
- Submitting daily status reports to ORH (while on the field)
- Supervising the team's activities and work schedules
- Coordinating and cooperating with the receiving church and local authorities
- Establishing a system of spreading the Gospel through the workplace regardless of the nature of the specific tasks being performed

D. Church Team Member

Teams are best comprised of church members with servants' hearts with a hunger to do good works for the Lord. Although some skills may appear to be more useful than others, every able-bodied church member has the capacity to help. During relief efforts after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the following described teams were most helpful:

- Food distribution, food preparation and soul winners
- Spiritual counseling
- Demolition (removal of trees, drywall, roofing and other debris)
- Construction (rebuilding and repairs)

- Clean-up

Ideally, all team members will be trained soul winners. All members should be able, and willing, to share their personal testimonies with perfect strangers. Duties within each team must be assigned in consideration of their God-given talents. Reasonable degrees of physical strength and dexterity are desirable traits, yet those without great strength can still be a big help in areas of childcare, food preparation, discipleship and witnessing.

Every church has the capacity to field at least one team (2 Corinthians 9:8). It is the hope and prayer of ORH that you will organize and mobilize to do your part.

III. Program for Disaster Relief

A. Types of Resources

Please contact ORH or go to the ORH websites to study the kinds of resources that will be needed in the present disaster. Some of these resources may already be available and we can serve as a contact point to get the vital information you need. Generally speaking, we think of disaster relief in three phases: 1. The days before an impending disaster, 2. The disaster itself and the critical days immediately afterward, 3. The weeks and months of rebuilding after the disaster. The phase to which you are responding will largely determine the nature of your response. Contact websites: www.teamorh.com and www.operationrenewedhope.org

B. Types of S.E.R.T.S. Teams

Self-Sustaining Emergency Response Teams of Servants (S.E.R.T.S.) will be needed in the region affected by the disaster.

- They must be *Self-Sustaining* so as not to increase the burden on people who may already be overwhelmed. The sending church must take responsibility for the safety, travel, accommodations and meals for the team.
- These must be *Emergency Response Teams*. Team members must be capable of responding to crises, forsaking all “the comforts of home.” They must be ready to give up their rights and expectations (Psalm 62:5) and be ready to improvise temporary solutions as they work toward long term answers. As emergency responders, they need to have some understanding of the kind of health and safety problems brought on by the present disaster. They must work together as a team.
- They must be *Servants*. Nothing could be worse than sending overwhelmed people (a group of tourists) who simply want to be served and observe. These teams must be full of servant-leaders who will “deny themselves” and take on the concerns of those whom they are serving.

1. Gospel and Food Team

A Gospel and Food Team member requires minimal technical skill but a gracious ability to effectively share the Gospel and work with the spiritual needs of people. The basic purpose of this team is to assemble and distribute food and water with a Gospel witness at a distribution point.

1. The team will help to pack food boxes from bulk shipments or distribute pre-assembled “Hope Boxes”.
2. The team will also be available to help the church with the distribution processes in anyway possible.
3. The ideal would be that the team would take boxes to individual homes to give the Gospel, obtain needs information, or simply helping the home owner with re-entry and basic survival.
4. The team and its leader must be flexible and resilient, because these situations are fluid and unpredictable. **The key goal is getting the food and water to the people along with a Gospel presentation.**

2. Counseling Team

A Counseling Team should be composed of individuals trained for the purpose of assessing and addressing spiritual and mental needs. The team should be equipped with written materials to address issues such as depression, discouragement, financial disaster, death, dismemberment, impaired health, disappearance or loss of children and other loved ones.

1. The team should work directly with the Pastor and a Food and Gospel Team (if available).
2. The team (in conjunction with the Pastor) should make every effort to set up a counseling station in the church.
3. The team should be prepared to do home visits.
4. The team should be mobile and ready to move to the most opportune ministry places.

3. Clean Up Sanitation Team

The Clean-up Teams should be composed of team members who are willing to remove mud and debris and perform general cleaning in churches, homes or businesses. The teams should bring tools for spray washing, window washing, mud scraping and removal, and leaf removal.

1. The team should explain to the home owners that there is no charge. **The team should not engage in any action until they are certain they have the full permission of the home owner.**
2. The team should consult with the team leader about the exact areas and cleaning to be done.
3. The team should not engage in a cleaning operation beyond their ability.
4. The team should consult with the home owner considering cleaning fluids used in the home.
5. The teams should be prepared to protect themselves with masks, cleaning suits, and proper tool operation.
6. A Clean-up Agreement is provided in Appendix C for those who wish to use it. This is not offered as a legal binding document.

4. Demolition Team

The Demolition Team should be composed of team members with physical strength and the basic

understanding of demolition tools. This team will be expected to remove debris from ministry facilities and homes of those in the ministry who need assistance. The team should be prepared with demolition tools, equipment, and personal safety items. The team should be lead by someone who is very experienced in building construction. The team members can be composed of skilled and unskilled laborers. **The team should not engage in any action until they are certain they have the full permission of the home owner.**

5. Construction Team

The Construction team should be composed of laborers with building skills. The team leader should be a “foreman type” with building and leadership skills. The team should determine the work that they can accomplish based on their composition. The team should be equipped with tools and equipment for roofing, drywall, painting, electrical, plumbing, framing, siding and trim work. **The team should not engage in any action until they are certain they have the full permission of the home owner.**

C. Training S.E.R.T.S. Team Members

1. General Concepts

Pastor, your people need to be prepared in four areas of their lives in order to be ready for work in disaster relief. It is your responsibility to make sure that they are prepared *spiritually, mentally, socially, and physically.*

And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. (Luke 2:51-52)

The best workers for the ministry know how to win people while meeting the needs of those in devastated areas of the world. To do this, these workers must be humbly increasing in wisdom (mentally), stature (physically), favor with God (spiritually), and favor with man (socially). Those disciples whom you train in such fashion will have many opportunities to reach the lost with the message of Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection.

It is suggested that in order to do this that you implement a program of *servant leadership* training that will develop these faithful servants to reach the lost and encourage those who are saved.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to grow close spiritually to many of your congregation during training. Consider it a discipleship renewal in your church for those who have been in your ministry for years, and an opportunity to work closely with those who are new to your work.

We recommend that you contact Pastor Gordon Dickson, Calvary Baptist Church, 2000 Broad Ave., Findlay, OH, 45840 for training materials which have been prepared for this ministry in the church. He will be glad to help the pastor with information about his church’s preparations of the people and their enthusiasm for this good work.

If your church is not large enough to field a Team Coordinator or Team Leader, or perhaps you

simply wish to fill one of these roles yourself. Please read farther to see the various training responsibilities which are recommended.

2. Spiritual Training

a. Bible Study for Servants

Attached to this study, we have included a small devotional to help familiarize your team with Biblical Principles for Disaster Relief. Team members should be required to meditate in God's Word and write down their devotional thoughts for a minimum of fourteen straight days. You will find that such an exercise will have a life-changing impact on the team members. We would also recommend that each team member memorize Psalm 62:5. This verse teaches team members to give the Lord their rights and expectations. This produces flexibility among team members. At times, the work of disaster relief can be very frustrating. Psalm 62:5 will be of great help in knowing how to respond to unexpected challenges.

b. Prayer Teams

Prayer is an essential part of any endeavor. We recommend that those who wish to be team members practice Matthew 6:6 for a minimum of seven days. This exercise should be conducted with Biblical principles for prayer and a specific prayer list.

It would also be wise to form prayer teams to support your congregational efforts and your mission teams. We recommend that you set up a contact prayer chain for phone and/or e-mails to keep your prayer support team up to date.

It is crucial that team members become prayer partners. In disaster relief, sometimes the waiting process can be extremely difficult. It is impossible to know when and if you will be called on to meet needs. In order to be prepared team members need to pray for each other. They need to pray for the people of the regions in which they might be called to serve. They need to be praying for the churches and pastors in those regions.

It would be a wonderful thing if they could pray for a specific city. It would be great if they could take a visit to the areas and meet the pastors so they could pray for them with knowledge of who they are.

3. Mental Training

To keep the minds of the team members sharp, we recommend Scripture memorization. The passages associated with a Gospel presentation and the list of Biblical Principles for Disaster Relief (above) would be a good starting list. In addition, we recommend that the Pastor and Team Leader would require team members to study some of the following books:

How To Be A Team Player and Enjoy It, by Matt Williams

<http://www.aacs.org/pubs/ViewPublication.aspx?PublicationID=15>

Biblical Leadership, by Ken Collier and Matt Williams

<http://www.emeraldhouse.com/prodinfo.asp?PID=biblicalleadership>

Be The Leader You Were Meant To Be, by Leroy Eims

Spiritual Leadership by J. Oswald Sanders

If at all possible, we recommend that team members read a book together and discuss it well ahead of time.

4. Concerning Employers and Team Participation

Each team member should notify his employer in advance that he is a S.E.R.T.S. team member, and would like to have the cooperation of his employer about time away from work. It could be a good time to invite his employer to church for a special ceremony dedicating the team members. The team member needs to be careful not to alarm the employer by making the commitment sound massive or lengthy.

Each team member must stay abreast of current events by monitoring weather developments. He should also be aware of disaster potentials around the world. His work could take him into areas which would be outside of the United States. The S.E.R.T.S. member should be careful to give as much notice to his employer as possible so that the team will not suffer if he has to stay behind.

5. Physical Training

It is very important for each team member to be in good physical condition. Nothing frustrates a team more than for its members to be spiritually, mentally and socially ready for a challenge, only to find that they are physically incapable of taking on the task. With your doctor's permission, we recommend that you begin an exercise regimen that includes aerobics. Walking five miles per week would be a minimum standard for physical training. Our work in disaster relief requires servants who are physically ready for the task. Each team member must be willing to submit to physical preparedness training. The member must be willing to execute a regimen of exercise commensurate with the difficulty of possible deployments. This regimen should be planned by someone in the church with a physical education background. Each team member should clear the regimen of physical exercise through his doctor.

It would also be wise to require a copy of a medical physical concerning the team member.

6. Safety training for Team Members

a. Personnel Safety

The team should be given a thorough safety briefing. Someone should be selected to be the safety officer on the team. ORH has provided you with a series of safety instructions in the appendices. Also, as part of the safety instruction, Operation Renewed Hope has provided the URL for OSHA concerning safety issues for construction work. All personnel should be brought to serious consideration of their responsibility for the safety of all who are involved.

b. Sheriff's Department of Emergency Management

Contact your local sheriff's office to see if your county provides any kind of Emergency

Management Courses. The skills learned in these courses could prove invaluable when your team is responding to a disaster.

Below is the testimony of one of our editors, Mr. Will Halker. This outlines his own experience in seeking training for the team members from his church:

"Recently, when I orchestrated Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for our church, I learned that our local Sheriff's Department of Emergency Management conducts a twenty-five hour CERT course twice annually. He usually offers the course at his training facility for two-and-a-half hours per night (or afternoon), for ten weeks. But when I asked him what would it take to get him to come to our church and give the training on four consecutive Saturdays, he told me if I could get twenty-five people to sign up, he would do so.

Our pastor gave me a Wednesday night service to make my pitch. I used the ORH Katrina video and Acts 11: 27-30 as the foundation for my presentation. I also set up a missionary-type table display with brochures outlining the program that the Sheriff's Office provided. I had a sign-up sheet at the table, too. At the conclusion of the service, fifty-two church members enrolled. Praise God!

Because of this enthusiastic response, CERT training is now slated at our church for four consecutive Saturdays this spring. The Sheriff's office will train our members in the following: Disaster Fire Suppression, Incident Command, Team Organization & Psychological Aspects of Disasters, Disaster Medical Operations (Three Parts); CPR; Light Search & Rescue; Terrorism & Putting it all Together; and for graduation, we will all participate in a Practice Disaster Drill. There is no charge for this training and each person who completes the course will receive a Certificate of CERT Qualification."

For additional information, contact Brother Will Halker at (352) 390-3671.

c. Red Cross Certification in CPR, First Aid

It is important that at least one person on the team be trained in CPR and first aid. If possible, a nurse or medical professional would make a good addition to the team. In any case, each team should recruit a team medical officer. This member would be responsible for the general welfare and medical care of the team during the deployment. They would also be responsible to keep the team medical kit well stocked.

d. Personal Immunization

Each team member should make sure that they have a current tetanus shot. The church should consult Red Cross, The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the local health department, or other organizations about proper immunization.

7. Skills Evaluation and Training

a. Vital Information about Team Being Deployed

Each team member should be required to fill out an S.E.R.T.S. Questionnaire. (Please see

Appendix D). The questionnaire should be reviewed and an interview should follow.

Skill level of capabilities or experiences should be addressed. The S.E.R.T.S. team member should be able to give a clear evaluation of his abilities and skills so that the team will be able to appropriately choose work for the team with the recipient churches.

Medical restrictions, age limitations, and inabilities should be addressed and noted on the application during the interview process. This would not disqualify a person, but it would prevent a person from being put in an impossible situation. Medical history and dependency on medications and treatments should be discussed. A person with serious health limitations must be carefully evaluated to see if it is even appropriate for him to travel with the team.

b. Seek Businesses to Helping Train the Team to be Deployed

In many cases businesses that are properly approached could be an excellent resource for training and deployment. The church should consult businesses about classes in construction, first aid, and other areas. The tools and accessories necessary for deployment might be available for loan, rent, or special discount purchase.

8. Team Care

a. Food Preparations

Often in very severe disasters, food and water can be very limited. It would be good to plan for this possibility. Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) can be purchased for this purpose. Water can be sent with the team in personal bottle size and gallon jugs or a 5 gallon jug with a hand pump.

The food should be “low prep”, filling, and nutritious. The disaster site may be unable to support medium or high level food preparation or food requiring a cook. The MRE’s will make the team’s deployment much easier.

b. Lodging Preparation

Sleeping accommodations can be very limited during deployment. Being able to provide the teams accommodations through a simple process is essential. During the initial stages of deployment the team should be ready to use tents and air mattresses.

c. Security Preparation

The team should provide a security plan for people, equipment, and transportation vehicles. Some areas will not be as secure as others. The level of security should be decided for each deployment. It is highly recommended that no weapons of any kind be taken on the deployment. The best security measure is to leave an area when conditions are threatening.

9. Social Training

If you are able to train a team in advance of a crisis, it would be a good idea to help them to grow socially. Fellowship meetings, family meetings and meals together will help team members really get to know each other. This should be done in the spirit of Hebrews 10:24-25.

a. How to scripturally work together as a team

Philippians 2 stresses the need for being “likeminded like Jesus,” and this is crucial in a team setting. Team members must be evaluated as to their capability to interact positively with the other members of the team. A team member who requires high maintenance in the area of social interaction could become a great liability. The pastor should address the importance of working together as a team. The team concept should be the role model for the individual members. The “JOY” example should be stressed. In order of importance, a servant must seek to exalt “Jesus” with his spirit. He should then look to the care and benefit of all “Others” on the team. Final consideration should be “yourself.”

b. How to handle disputes with team members

A dispute prevention and resolution process should be established for the sake of the team’s morale. The best dispute prevention is a definite authority chain, clearly defined written instructions as to the team’s purpose and actions, and pre-deployment servant leadership training. If two members do become embroiled in a dispute, the team leader should be prepared to exercise spiritual discernment and lead the team members to a resolution. Prior to deployment, each member should be instructed in dispute prevention and resolution. It would be wise to begin with Psalm 62:5.

c. How to handle changes without disrupting the team

Generally speaking, every team will experience changes which can be unsettling after plans have been made, discussed, and agreed upon. However, a wise pastor will train people on the necessity for flexibility in a fluid situation. The team leader should be instructed not to announce premature plans or make agreements without good information. The team members should be educated as to the continually changing nature of a disaster zone. Together, the leaders and team members must assume that all changes of plan are necessary changes. However, it should always be the effort of the leadership to carry through on the announced plans.

D. Financial Plans and Church Security Needs

1. Church Rainy Day Fund

If the church is able to prepare for the teams’ deployment with a small fund kept for that purpose, it would be wise. A fifth Sunday offering for the purpose of such would make certain that immediate funds would be available. If the church is financially able to set aside an initial amount of money to be replenished by the fifth Sunday offering this would be good also.

2. Team Money to Travel

A member of the team other than the team leader should be assigned as treasurer during deployment. The recording of expenses and receipts is a guarantee of good stewardship. It will also guarantee that at least two people will be responsible for the spending process. It will also release the team leader to concentrate on the team and its work.

An amount should be established for the team to use in cash and credit card. The church may wish to authorize someone to use their credit card or provide a credit card. The cash amount should be monitored for security during travel and work.

3. Insurance

a. The Greatest Insurance is Assurance of FAITH

Those who depend on insurance to confirm the validity of their actions will have few actions. Because life is filled with hidden and open dangers, the only true insurance is faith that God will protect and divert these incidents. If you do not engage in life because of fear, you will accomplish little. ORH believes that attempting great things for God takes a person of character. You must be willing to step by faith, and prepare for the unexpected as best you can.

The benefit of your work for Christ in the lives of your people must not be limited or curtailed. Because the world is marred by sin, the world has found it necessary to protect itself in order to recoup or protect funds. The Christian should be at ease in being as wise as the worldly people. We have one great advantage; God is our assurance.

Because you work with people who may not be as faithful to God or as wise as you might want them to be, you should provide protection for their folly. Sometimes God, while working with them, must protect you. One way God has done this is to provide a means to recoup or protect funds. Use this wisely in order to be a good steward of God's provision.

b. Contact your Insurance Agent

The team leaders should contact the insurance company which represents the church. The following questions should be asked.

1. Do you cover travel teams that travel inside and/or outside of the United States?
2. If yes, please explain the coverage and amounts.
3. If no, do you have a coverage product for travel teams?
4. If yes, please explain the coverage and amounts?
5. Do you cover our travel teams inside the United States?
6. If yes, please explain the coverage and amounts?
7. If no, do you have a coverage product for travel teams in the United States?
8. If yes, please explain the coverage and amounts?

If the coverage is limited and the amounts paid out low, it would be wise to seek extra coverage regardless of the cost. Please remember that on trips you are not fully knowledgeable of all the possible situations you will encounter. Broad insurance with high coverage is always the goal. Personal Injury, hospitalization, evacuation, liability, auto, death and dismemberment, property damage, workers, and directors and officers should be in the policy before engaging in trips.

It is wise to ask as many questions as possible of your insurance agent. Also, ask for written descriptions if they are available. Give your insurance agent a complete breakdown of the trip which you are taking. Do not hide or fail to give the agent a complete picture of every detail. Ask the agent if the insurance he is selling to you will cover the trip as you have outlined it.

Do not be embarrassed to ask multiple questions. Your life depends on it. Do not assume anything.

4. Church Liability

Operation Renewed Hope is not authorized to give legal advice. The S.E.R.T.S. manual content is strictly suggested information for the benefit of the church and its leadership. Prior to any involvement with disaster relief the duly authorized leadership of the church should obtain legal counsel from a practicing attorney and insurance coverage from a duly authorized agent of a servicing insurance company concerning their particular policies and coverage.

The pastor and leadership of the church are responsible for all decisions concerning the liability, composition, safety, and guidelines for a trip. It must be understood that the church is not an agent or party to Operation Renewed Hope. Operation Renewed Hope is strictly an information source for the church and in no fashion authorizes the potential church team. All actions are under the purview and authority of the individual church and its leadership.

Operation Renewed Hope offers a complete training seminar on this subject at no charge to the church. Please contact ORH at (orhus@aol.com) to schedule a seminar for the church leadership.

Always have an incident and accident report form available to your team. This will be covered in the seminar that ORH offers.

5. Notarize

All official or legal documents with signatures should be notarized prior to leaving on the trip.

E. Communication Preparation

1. The Importance of Contact with Team

It is crucial that you always remain in contact with your team while they are in the disaster region. Set up a system for consistent contact each day between the church and the team. Reporting to the church makes the church a part of the team.

It is crucial that the team members stay in contact with one another. Small walkie-talkies with 5 to 6 mile radius are very good for this purpose. Always preplan an alternate time and place for contacting each other in the event of an unexpected separation and/or loss of communications. (“Who should I call or where should I go if I am separated from the team?”) Maintain emergency contact information for the relatives of each team member.

It is crucial that the team have someone monitoring the weather conditions for them. This report is essential so that team members do not become victims rather than rescuers.

Some churches may be able to rent or buy a satellite phone for communication processes. Others may have ham radio operators who could coordinate operations in the field.

2. The Importance of the Gospel Presentation

The most important communication is giving the Gospel to people. You should always make a system for your team to communicate the Gospel to the lost. It would be a great tragedy to meet the physical needs but not meet the spiritual needs. The team should have Bibles and doctrinally

correct tracts. Please do not take your “hobby horse” tracts. The key is the Gospel. There must be a clear presentation of Jesus and the way to accept Him.

IV. Properties (Tools and Equipment)

A. Communications Equipment

1. Amateur (Ham) Radio

If some of your team members can acquire a ham radio license, they will find this very helpful in regions affected by disaster. R.E.A.C.T. International also coordinates a network of radio users (including Citizen’s Band) throughout the world. You may have a R.E.A.C.T. group in your area (<http://www.reactintl.org/>) to help train your team members. R.E.A.C.T. might have a network in place in the disaster region as well.

2. Cell Phone

Cell phones may work for the first two days after a disaster strikes a region. From experience, we know that the batteries at the cell tower will last about this long. We have also discovered that sometimes text messages can get through even when voice communication cannot. Be sure to take extra batteries and your automobile plug-in recharger.

3. Sat Phone

Satellite phones are excellent but expensive.

4. Laptop

A laptop with a dial-up connection would work very well if a server can be located in the disaster region. Don’t forget to take extra batteries.

5. National Access Connection to Internet

Some cell phone providers have a national access plan to provide internet access through the cell network. This would be very convenient for traveling teams.

6. Mobile Satellite TV with Internet connection

Some regular RV’ers have a satellite TV access to the internet. This would be very good for internet access or internet phone.

7. GPS

If possible, the S.E.R.T.S. team should have a Global Positioning System. This is because street names and addresses are often obliterated in a disaster region. GPS locations provide helpful contact points for resources and teams.

B. Demolition, Cleanup, and Construction Equipment

Sometimes, in the process of working, it will become necessary to use trailers, power sources, chain saws and power hand tools. The church must verify the source of this equipment and the

churches' liability in the use of such equipment.

It might be a reasonable thing for a church to assemble a tool pantry which could be used immediately by a team going to the disaster area. You may also wish to assemble medical supplies and sanitation supplies.

1. Materials

A church seeking to develop or deploy a demolition or construction team should make certain of the available building materials. It must not be assumed that materials will be available when your team arrives. The team leader should make certain that all arrangements have been made by the recipient church to have materials available to avoid a wasted trip. Some teams have even loaded building materials from their home location to move to the recipient church. Make sure these plans are clear and communicated to the proper members of the recipient church.

Do not assume that the recipient church has communicated with all the proper officials about building codes. Be sure to ask them how you can help them in this area. The materials and plans for demolition and reconstruction should meet or exceed the building codes of the area of the recipient church. Before deploying his team, the team leader should make certain that the recipient church will have all of these issues resolved before deploying the team.

Building permits may or may not be required because of the disaster element. Because this might be true, it must not be assumed as true. The team leader should contact the recipient church for the proper permissions. The team should not deploy until these permits are acquired by the authorities of the recipient church.

2. Heavy Equipment Usage

Sometimes it becomes necessary for motorized or heavy equipment to be used. Only trained professionals should use this equipment. A novice with desire is not a good choice. The equipment to remove tree damage can be dangerous. If it is utilized by your team, be sure to have someone available who is regular user of such equipment.

The cost of the equipment and its replacement should be considered. Do not rent a piece of equipment thinking it is covered by insurance. Make sure your insurance will cover the equipment.

Do not dig with equipment without proper knowledge of where you are digging. Make all arrangements with local authorities to avoid hitting power lines, water lines, or phone lines.

If you are moving equipment be sure that all who are involved are able to secure a piece of equipment for movement. Be sure that all trailers and vehicles involved in the movement are adequate to move the heavier equipment.

3. Fuel Source for Team

Fuel can be an extremely difficult to find in the disaster area. Those teams deploying immediately after the impact event should be prepared to supply their own fuel for their teams' vehicles and fuel operated devices.

An emergency fueling plan should be developed on the way to the site by observing “fall back” locations for food and fuel. Fuel should only be carried in approved containers.

VI. Hope Boxes

A. The Joseph Project

As we noted under the Biblical Principles for Disaster Relief, there are Biblical principles and illustrations showing us how to prepare for disasters. For instance, on page 9, we discussed how Joseph prepared Egypt well in advance of a disastrous famine. In the same way, we believe that we can unite our efforts to prepare for disasters, well before they occur. To remind believers of what we are trying to do, we have dubbed this phase of preparation, “The Joseph Project.”

B. Pre-G.O. Event Involvement – Before the Crisis

1. The G.O. Concept Timing

“G.O.” (God’s Opportunity) marks the day that a disaster occurs. “Pre-G.O. involvement” would be referred to as G.O. with a negative number such as G.O. -1. This would mean one day prior to the G.O. Event; therefore, G.O. -5 would be five days before the event. G.O. -1 refers to those preparations that can and should be made before a disaster strikes.

Ideally, it would be good if we could prepare food and other resources well before a disaster strikes. However, this is not always possible, but should be our goal.

2. Church Participation Ideas Prior to G.O.

a. Money Collection for Food

Churches may donate money for a purchase of food to be stored in warehouses for efficient distribution by ORH. At the confirmation of an impending G.O. event ORH response vehicles would move to the edge of the G.O. impact area. Churches with pre-planned Gospel and Food teams would then deploy to the G.O. impact areas with the response vehicles to pack and distribute “Hope Boxes.” This would be the most efficient and uniform, but it would also exclude churches wishing to involve their whole congregation in the G.O. event ministry.

b. Pre-event Food and Supply Collection

The second alternative for food, water, and baby product response would be a product collection drive before a G.O. event is impending. Well in advance of the crisis, a church can collect products to enable a quick “first response.” This can also be done in conjunction with other fundamental churches in the area. After the product collection is completed the churches may schedule a truck pick up. This food will be transported to ORH warehouses and be assembled by S.E.R.T.S. teams from sending churches.

This collection would not be put in individual “Hope Boxes.” The food would be grouped according to product kind and size. These would be boxed in kind, preferably in sturdy “banana boxes.” The boxes would be put on pallets in kind. This would prevent the need to purchase the

food at time of need. Thousands of dollars could be saved. The food would be moved to the ORH warehouse and later collated into “Hope Boxes” with the S.E.R.T.S. Gospel and Food Teams in the G.O. impact area. This would also be great for the period after the urgent need for “Hope Boxes” for the walk-in distribution centers at churches.

c. Pre-assemble Hope Boxes

The third suggestion is that Churches collect non-perishable food, assemble Hope Boxes, and send these to ORH warehouses (by shipment or with a S.E.R.T.S. team).

d. Pre-assembled Special Needs Hope Boxes

The fourth suggestion is that Churches may prepare Special Need’s Hope Boxes to send to the disaster region. (Contact ORH for specifics.) Some churches might like to produce boxes of specialty items for babies, children, and women. These are items that are not in the “Hope Boxes”. These are items such as diapers, formula, and feminine products. After the church collects and boxes in kind, the church may contact ORH for pick-up. Again it would be good to include other churches to make the movement of the truck cost-effective.

Note for the church that choosing to pack boxes of food must be careful of the boxes which they use. Boxes for packing must be banana box from grocery store or an apple box from the company that sells them. Boxes must be strong so that they will not crush even when stacked 8 to ten high on pallets. Wooden pallets must be the standard size of 4’ X 4’. The box must be packed in strict accordance with appendix A. The box should not contain any glass containers or fuels.

3. Most needed Items at the beginning of the G.O. Event

The most immediate need for those in the G.O. impact area is water, food, shelter, blankets, fuel, electricity, and baby supplies. Ideally, it would be good if we could prepare all of these items in advance of the G.O. event. However, this may not be possible. Churches cannot be expected to be government relief agencies. We have limitations of funds, but not a lack of funds. ORH has made a policy of supplying food, water, and baby supplies as our primary first response. Since there is no one single way to develop the resources for this first response we offer to the pastor and his church our recommendations:

The churches collecting the food or supplies might want to consider a gospel outreach in conjunction with the collection. One church had its members go door to door distributing bags to homes willing to donate the products. They provided a list of the products needed in the bag. They included gospel tracks, church brochures and materials about why they were doing this community project. They were able to witness personally to many people as they distributed bags. This is a great way to involve your church.

C. The Nature of Hope Boxes: Phases of Needs

1. Preparing Help According to Circumstances and Time

Key to any disaster relief program is the effective packing and distribution of emergency supplies of food, water and other essentials for survival. ORH Hope Boxes must be prepared, packed and distributed according to an appropriate assessment of the condition of the people. ORH has

developed six basic Hope Box models it recommends be used for disaster relief and each model has been tailored for a specific purpose and time of the G.O. Event.

As you will see, churches of any size can help ORH by organizing relief teams that can purchase, pack and distribute at least one type of the following described Hope Boxes. Remember the “G.O.” (God’s Opportunity) refers to the day that a disaster strikes – and we must go to help those who are in distress. The number appearing after “G.O.” is a reference to the number of days after a disaster strikes. The needs in a disaster field change as the day’s progress after a “G.O.” opportunity. We must adapt our preparations to these needs.

2. G.O. – 270 through G.O. +10

PRE-G.O. Hope Boxes contain only canned goods and non-perishables. Churches may pack and store such boxes up to 270 days in advance of an event and may continue to do so after the event (usually about ten days). This question might arise: how can you plan for disasters a full nine months ahead? The easiest answer is that there will always be seasonal storms, flooding and fires that devastate populated areas. Planning ahead allows S.E.R.T.S. team members to devote their energies to presenting the Good News of the Gospel. See Appendix A for a suggested packing list.

3. G.O. + 10 through G.O. + 20.

These Food Hope Boxes contain everything listed in Appendix A, plus perishable items such as cereals, grains, pasta, sugar, tea and coffee. Obviously, these boxes will have to be prepared quickly, in the heat of the crisis. This hurried pace can hurt the quality of the contents, so great care must be exercised in this phase.

4. G.O. - 30 through G.O. + 30.

Underwear Hope Boxes are filled with an assortment of children’s, women’s and men’s NEW undergarments. All sizes are needed so churches are encouraged to designate specific sizes for specific groups of donors. Boxes may be pre-packed and stored by churches in anticipation of the next opportunity (G.O.) to serve. Underwear Hope Boxes will be opened at the point of distribution and families will be permitted to rummage for the sizes they need. Some rationing may be required depending on supply and demand. See Appendix B for a suggested packing list. ***Please do not send used clothing.*** Several disaster sites in recent years have been plagued by enormous amounts of used clothing. In many cases, mountains of used clothing had to be hauled away and burned.

5. Toiletries Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. +30).

Toiletry Hope Boxes are packed with miscellaneous toiletries. Like Underwear Hope Boxes, these boxes will be opened at the distribution point and rationed as deemed appropriate. See Appendix C for a suggested packing list.

6. Cleaning Supplies/House Care Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. + 30).

Cleaning Supply Hope Boxes are designed for house clean-up and minor repair work. Cleaning supplies must never be commingled with foodstuffs. Cross-contamination of food and cleaning

agents can produce deadly results. Breakable containers should be avoided at all times. The ideal packing container may be a plastic five-gallon bucket. See Appendices A and B for a suggested packing list.

7. Baby Care Hope Boxes (G.O. -30 through G.O. + 30).

As the relief efforts continue after an event, the needs of infants and toddlers become increasingly urgent. These boxes could be packed and stored in anticipation of an event. Such boxes will be opened at the distribution point to be distributed to families based on need and as deemed appropriate. See Appendix A for a suggested packing list.

8. G.O, +10 through G.O.+150

The food and Supplies can be put in a food pantry for people to shop through at the church. The food will arrive at the church in boxes of kind for shelving.

In Appendix E, we have listed three basic means for distributing resources. We learned these by trial and error during the 2005 Hurricane season. These systems will help the receiving church organize the best means to help members of the community.

Appendix A – Contents for General Hope Boxes G.O. +1 through +10

ANCHOR BAPTIST MISSIONS DISASTER RELIEF

A note about the “stages”-- no disaster is the same. Hurricane Katrina required the longest period of response in Stage One that Anchor Baptist Missions has ever experienced. Some situations require a short Stage One response and no further response (those situations are rare). Disaster Relief must be flexible to the situation and to the people being served.

In most cases Stage One should be incorporated with bottled water until a safe source of water is secured in the effected area. We are hoping to assemble clothing boxes which contain: socks, undergarments and if possible something like a jogging suit or t-shirt and pants. Our policy is to send new clothing-used clothing takes an incredible amount of volunteer hours and most disaster locations are over run with unusable used clothing.

Stage 1 “Picnic Boxes”

These boxes are designed to provide for a family of four for a couple of days in an emergency situation. They are specifically designed to require no heat for cooking and no refrigeration. Once the box is delivered, a family can survive two days, sometimes longer, on its contents using the box for storage. The ingredients below are provided as basics - items can be added but we suggest these items as a minimum. If you choose to add items, please make sure you add things that can simply be opened and eaten and products that have a shelf life of at least 6-8 months.

Plates	Vienna sausage
Utensils	Canned Fruit
Cups	Canned Chicken Breast
Paper Towels	Pork and Beans
Cereal Bars	Snack Crackers
Granola Bars	Saltines
Apple Sauce	Raisins
Juice	Little Debbie Snacks
Peanut Butter	Toilet Paper
Tuna	Handy Wipes
Gospel Tracts	Powdered Milk

Stage 2 “Personal Care Boxes”

These boxes are designed to provide the basic hygiene necessities for a family of four for a

Disaster Relief: A Guide To The Local Church

few days. This box is best packed in a large plastic “shoe” box to provide for a dry environment and for later storage. We encourage the addition of scripture with all of our boxes.

4 Toothbrushes	Toothpaste
Disposable razors	Small Shaving Cream
Unisex Deodorant	Bar of Soap
Comb & Brush	Relief Wipes
Lotion	Pain Killer (aspirin, Tylenol. . .)
Anti-acid	Alcohol
Ladies Personal Hygiene Supplies	Band Aids
Bible/Tracts	Handy Wipes

STAGE 3

“Hot Boxes”

These boxes are appropriate for the later stages of a disaster situation-after power and possibly water have been restored. Both don't necessarily have to be completely restored but the area has to be in the process of getting utilities back and have a supply of water. Once again, the menu is designed to feed a family of four for two days and items included require heat and water. If fixed in appropriate portions and eaten at meal time-nothing requires refrigeration.

Instant Potatoes	Cereal
Macaroni and Cheese	Apple Sauce
Ready to Eat Soups	Pork and Beans
Chicken Noodle Soup	Green Beans
Corn	Tuna
Beef Stew	Peaches
Saltines	Peanut Butter

Appendix B – Special Contents G.O. +20 days

- Baby Food
- Assorted Diaper Sizes
- Assorted Women's Underwear
- Assorted Men's Underwear
- Assorted Children's Underwear
- Assorted Cleaning Supplies
 - Brushes
 - Mops
 - Rags
 - Cleaning Fluids
- 1 Flashlight with batteries
- Toiletries
 - Toothbrushes
 - Toothpaste
 - Soap
 - Razors
- 3 Cans of Corn
- 3 Cans of Green Beans
- 3 Cans of Beans and Meat
- 2 Cans of Chicken
- 2 Cans of Turkey
- 5 Plastic eating utensils
- 1/2pk Paper towels
- 25 Paper Plates
- 5 Candles
- 1/4pk Toilet Paper
- 1 Wet Wipes

Appendix C – Cleaning Agreement for Clean Up Teams

Clean Up Team Agreement

Date:	Time:	Team Member:
Home owner name:		
Home owner address: (address, city, state, zip)		
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Cell Phone:
General Description of Work by Room:		
General Plans of Cleaning:		
Cleaning materials to be used:		
Signature of Home Owner:	Date:	

Appendix D – S.E.R.T.S. Team Member Questionnaire

S.E.R.T.S.
Self-Sustaining Emergency Response Teams of Servants
General Application Form
(Church Address)

Name: _____
(First) (Initial) (Last)

Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip)

Phone: _____
(Home) (Work) (Fax) (Cell)

General: _____
(E-mail)

(Age) (Gender) (DOB) (Passport#)

(Nearest Airport) (Passport Expiration)

Church: _____
(Name)

(Address)

(City) (State) (Zip) (Phone)

(Pastor's Name)

Emergency Contact: Who should be contacted in case of emergency?

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Capabilities: _____

Experiences: _____

Disaster Relief: A Guide To The Local Church

Education:

_____	_____	_____
(Degree)	(School)	(Completion Year)
_____	_____	_____
(Degree)	(School)	(Completion Year)
_____	_____	_____
(Degree)	(School)	(Completion Year)
_____	_____	_____
(Degree)	(School)	(Completion Year)

Health:

Medicine:

(List all Medicines presently taking.)

General:

(Describe general health condition.)

Allergic
Reaction:

(List anything to which you are allergic.)

Please answer the following:

1. Have you ever broken the law and been prosecuted? (Yes) (No)
2. Do you use illegal drugs? (Yes) (No)
3. Do you use Tobacco? (Yes) (No)
4. Do you use Alcohol? (Yes) (No)
5. Do you attend church regularly? (Yes) (No)
6. Do you use profanity? (Yes) (No)
7. Do you have any medical condition to prevent you from going on a trip?
(Yes) (No)
8. Do you have any mental problem to prevent you from going on a trip?
(Yes) (No)
9. Have you ever attacked someone physically because of anger?
(Yes) (No)
10. Have you had a negative encounter with Law Enforcement? (Yes) (No)
11. If you are college age and below, have you ever been expelled from school?
(Yes) (No)

If you answered “yes” to any of the questions above, please, write a separate explanation.

12. Are you willing to pay your own expenses for trips? (Yes) (No)

Disaster Relief: A Guide To The Local Church

- 13. Are you able to endure discomfort, poor food, rough travel, and helicopter flights?
(Yes) (No)
- 14. Can you work with teen-age student trainees? (Yes) (No)
- 15. I give permission for the distribution of my name, address, telephone, and email
to other team members. (Yes) (No)
- 16. I give my permission for my photograph to be used in promotional information about the
S.E.R.T.S. efforts. (Yes) (No)

Please give an account of your personal salvation.

Please mail this application as soon as possible. Please include a copy of the information page of your passport.

Thank you for requesting this application. Pray that God will lead our work together.

The information I have given in this application is truthful.

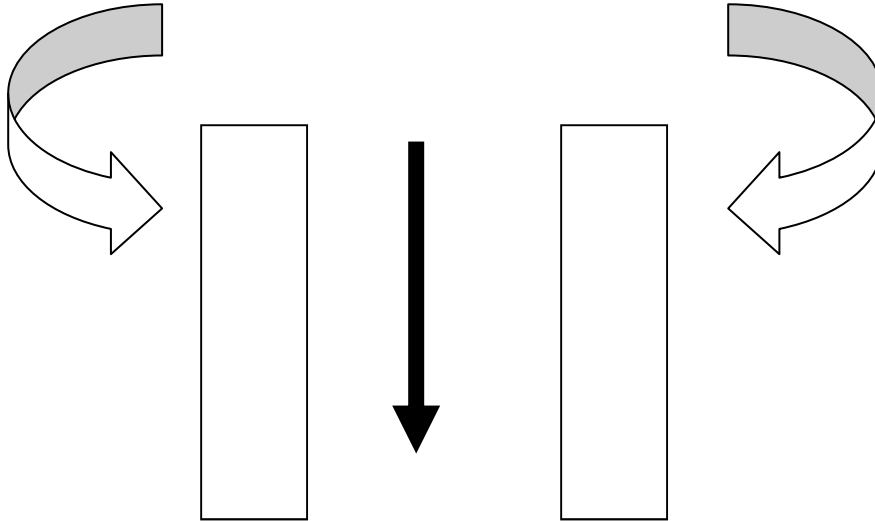
(Signature) (Print Signature) (Date)

Appendix E – Systems for Distribution at a Disaster Site

“Drive Through” Distribution Model

Hope Boxes and/or homogenous pallets prepared by churches throughout the U.S.

Some goods purchased from wholesaler in or near devastated region (to complement received supplies.)



Description: The “drive through” model allows recipients with vehicles to drive through the aisles while attendants place the desired goods in the vehicle. This model is efficient, but it raises safety concerns since people will be working near moving vehicles.

Prerequisites:

1. This requires a large warehouse or an outside staging area with no perishable goods.
2. This requires that many recipients have and can use vehicles. If this is not the case, this model could still be used for the quick assembly of Hope Boxes if a pickup truck, flatbed truck or trailer were available.
3. Since this model may cause traffic backups, it requires that the staging area be placed well away from heavily traveled highways.
4. Depending on the available manpower and the nature of the goods on pallets, this model may require a pallet jack to move the pallets.

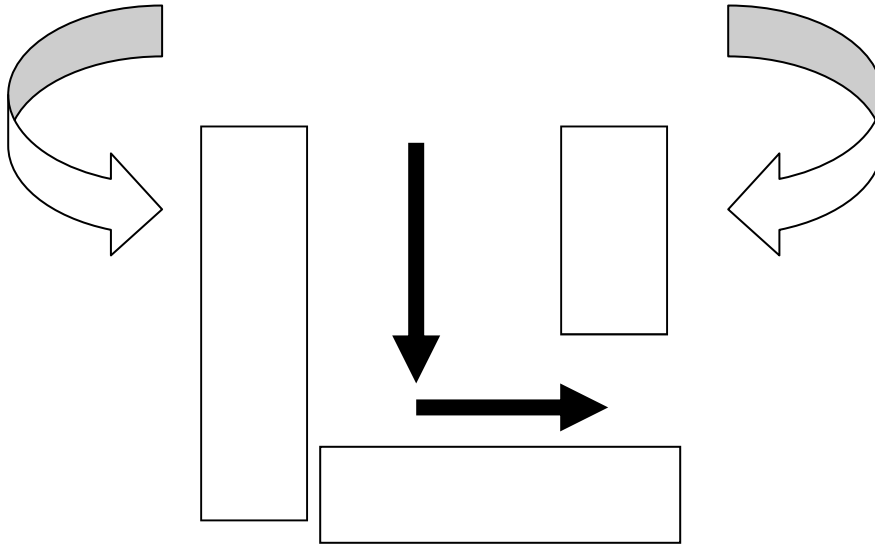
Recommendations:

- a. This model allows the process to move quickly but limits personal time with recipients. Therefore, it is recommended that you establish a precise registration process in order to get more information for personal follow-up.
- b. Since this model reduces personal time with recipients, special emphasis should be given to placing Gospel materials in their hands.
- c. Depending upon the quantity of various goods, it may be necessary to set a quota on some items.

“Walk Through” Distribution Model

Hope Boxes and/or homogenous pallets prepared by churches throughout the U.S.

Some goods purchased from wholesaler in or near devastated region (to complement received supplies.)



Description: The “walk through” model allows recipients to stroll through the aisles of pallets or shelves of goods set up for this purpose.

Prerequisites:

1. This requires a large room or a shaded outside staging area with no perishable goods.
2. This requires that many recipients have some means of transportation. If this is not the case, this model could still be used for the quick assembly of Hope Boxes.
3. Depending on the available manpower and the quantity of the goods on pallets, this model may require a pallet jack to move the pallets of goods.

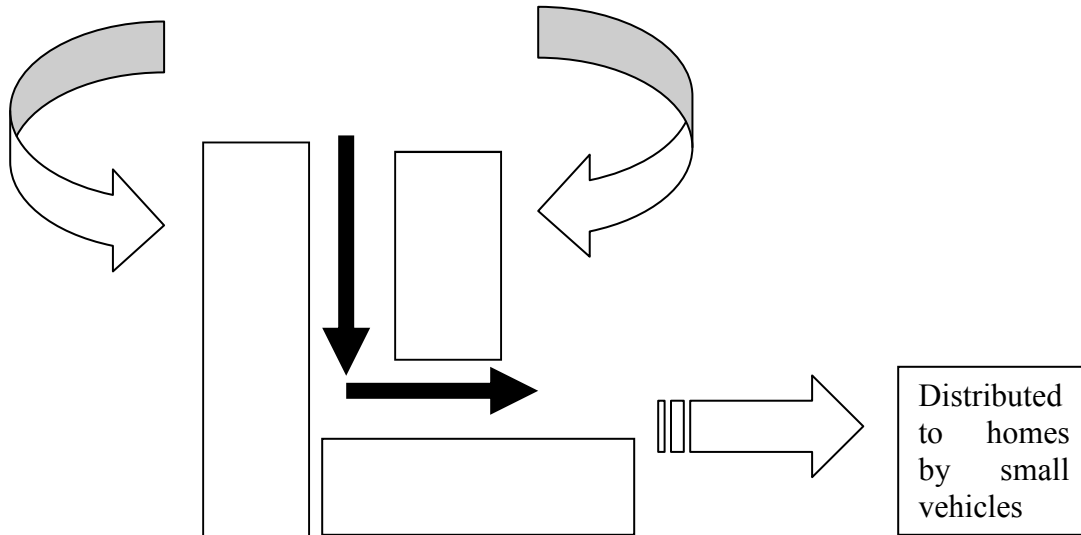
Recommendations:

- a. This model allows the process to move at a good pace, but still allows attendants to have personal time with recipients.
- b. If possible, each recipient should receive a personal Gospel presentation. In some cases, it may be possible to conduct a small chapel to present a Gospel message just before recipients enter the storage area.
- c. It is recommended that you establish a precise registration process in order to get more information for personal follow-up.
- d. Depending upon the quantity of various goods, it may be necessary to set a quota on some items.

“House to House” Distribution Model

Hope Boxes and/or homogenous pallets prepared by churches throughout the U.S.

Some goods purchased from wholesaler in or near devastated region (to complement received supplies.)



Description: The “house to house” model allows recipients to receive prepared Hope Boxes in their homes.

Prerequisites:

1. This may require a large truck or staging area if it is necessary to assemble Hope Boxes.
2. This will require vehicles to transport Hope Boxes to homes.
3. This requires workers who can lift and carry boxes, drive through devastated areas and personally deliver a Gospel witness.

Recommendations:

- a. This model allows the process to move at a slower pace, and therefore allows workers to have more personal time with recipients.
- b. If possible, each recipient should receive a personal Gospel presentation.
- c. To avoid wasting goods, it may be wise to visit each home with a list of available goods to discover what each household needs. Then, return with a Hope Box packaged to meet their needs. This approach allows even more personal time to present the Good News of Christ.
- d. It is recommended that you establish a precise registration process in order to get more information for personal follow-up.
- e. Depending upon the quantity of various goods, it may be necessary to set a quota on some items.
- f. Note that this model is especially useful in ministering to the elderly and handicapped or where working vehicles are not readily available to recipients.

Appendix F - OSHA Regulations

OSHA Health & Safety Construction-related

Regulations - T - 850 to 1000

http://ehso.com/oshaConstruction_T.htm

[Back to the main OSHA Construction Regulations Page](#)

Subpart T - Demolition

§ 1926.850 - Preparatory operations.

(a) Prior to permitting employees to start demolition operations, an engineering survey shall be made, by a competent person, of the structure to determine the condition of the framing, floors, and walls, and possibility of unplanned collapse of any portion of the structure. Any adjacent structure where employees may be exposed shall also be similarly checked. The employer shall have in writing evidence that such a survey has been performed.

(b) When employees are required to work within a structure to be demolished which has been damaged by fire, flood, explosion, or other cause, the walls or floor shall be shored or braced.

(c) All electric, gas, water, steam, sewer, and other service lines shall be shut off, capped, or otherwise controlled, outside the building line before demolition work is started. In each case, any utility company which is involved shall be notified in advance.

(d) If it is necessary to maintain any power, water or other utilities during demolition, such lines shall be temporarily relocated, as necessary, and protected.

(e) It shall also be determined if any type of hazardous chemicals, gases, explosives, flammable materials, or similarly dangerous substances have been used in any pipes, tanks, or other equipment on the property. When the presence of any such substances is apparent or suspected, testing and purging shall be performed and the hazard eliminated before demolition is started.

(f) Where a hazard exists from fragmentation of glass, such hazards shall be removed.

(g) Where a hazard exists to employees falling through wall openings, the opening shall be protected to a

Disaster Relief: A Guide To The Local Church

height of approximately 42 inches.

(h) When debris is dropped through holes in the floor without the use of chutes, the area onto which the material is dropped shall be completely enclosed with barricades not less than 42 inches high and not less than 6 feet back from the projected edge of the opening above. Signs, warning of the hazard of falling materials, shall be posted at each level. Removal shall not be permitted in this lower area until debris handling ceases above.

(i) All floor openings, not used as material drops, shall be covered over with material substantial enough to support the weight of any load which may be imposed. Such material shall be properly secured to prevent its accidental movement.

(j) Except for the cutting of holes in floors for chutes, holes through which to drop materials, preparation of storage space, and similar necessary preparatory work, the demolition of exterior walls and floor construction shall begin at the top of the structure and proceed downward. Each story of exterior wall and floor construction shall be removed and dropped into the storage space before commencing the removal of exterior walls and floors in the story next below.

(k) Employee entrances to multistory structures being demolished shall be completely protected by sidewalk sheds or canopies, or both, providing protection from the face of the building for a minimum of 8 feet. All such canopies shall be at least 2 feet wider than the building entrances or openings (1 foot wider on each side thereof), and shall be capable of sustaining a load of 150 pounds per square foot.

Last updated on 01/21/05

"OSHA Construction Safety Regulations - Subpart T - Demolition.
" OSHA Health & Safety. 1/21/2005. OSHA.