



West Virginia
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

VOAD MISSION

AUGUST 4 2015

SPRING 2015 STORMS

RAGE THROUGH WV

PASTORAL CRISIS

INTERVENTION TRAINING



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SPRING 2015 STORMS RAGE THROUGH WV



With spring 2015 came an uproar of heavy rains, mudslides, rock falls, and flooding for West Virginia. From March 2015 to July 2015, West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (WV VOAD) has been involved in 5 severe weather incidents. Displaced families, flooded homes, landslides, broken septic systems, contaminated wells and destroyed bridges are main concerns for long term recovery, especially for those with health and physical limitations.

March (Thor)

Number of requests for help – 201
Number of Counties – 17

April Flooding

Number of requests for help - 955
Number of Counties – 11

July Flooding

Number of requests for help –369
Number of Counties—10



COUNTIES HIT HARDEST

Below Poverty Level

Boone	20.7%
Lincoln	27.3%
Logan	19.8%
McDowell	36.3%
Mingo	22.9%
Wayne	20.0%

* United States Census Bureau 2009-2013



Through its network of disaster relief agencies, WV VOAD has been facilitating access to much needed resources for residents suffering home damage from recent storms. Member agencies have been coordinating supplies, mucking out homes, assessing home damages and providing emotional and spiritual care to families affected. WV VOAD will continue to collaborate with state/local officials and emergency managers on long term recovery efforts for March, April and July 2015 storms. Keep up to date on counties affected by disaster and recovery efforts in the VOAD Mission newsletter and on the WV VOAD webpage under Disaster.

VOLUNTEERS HELPING WV FAMILIES RECOVER FROM FLOOD

June was a great month for volunteers! The WV VOAD hosted three volunteer teams that helped repair two homes severely damaged by March 2015 storms. Each team dedicated a full week of their time to securing insulation, replacing drywall, installing electric and plumbing, painting and setting flooring to return the homes to safe conditions. Thanks to our volunteers, both families have been able to move back into their homes and return to a sense of normalcy. WV VOAD and the Mingo County Long Term Recovery Group continue to coordinate volunteer groups to repair houses devastated across the state. If your organization would like to volunteer with the WV VOAD, check out our [How To Help](#) page on the WV VOAD website.

OHIO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST YOUTH GROUP



combined their youth groups to the increase impact of their mission trips. The youth are responsible for raising the gas, food and supply funds for yearly mission trips through bake sales, carwashes and spaghetti dinners. Once projects are completed, the teams present what work

was accomplished and what they learned at Sunday morning congregation.



The Pilgrim United Church of Christ from Cuyahoga and Richfield United Church of Christ are part of the National United Church of Christ Organization and

PENNSYLVANIA METHODIST AND PRESBYTERIAN



First Presbyterian and United Methodist group deliver donations

The First Presbyterian Church of Irwin and the Community United Methodist Church sit only five minutes away from each other in Irwin, Pennsylvania. United in their

commitment to serving others and sharing the love of Jesus Christ, the two churches joined together for a mission trip to West Virginia. But before leaving Pennsylvania, their congregations made sure to pack them with plenty of donations (towels, bed linens, kitchen equipment, and personal care items) to help storm impacted families return to normalcy.



"That's the reason we're here, to give back and serve"-Don Dolhi

THE HOCHSTETLER FAMILY

Lee Hochstetler, his wife Susan and their daughter Sarah came from Waxhaw, North Carolina to volunteer a week with WV VOAD. Lee and Susan are Linguist who assist with bible translation in Mali, Africa.



Pastoral Crisis Intervention Training

Disasters not only bring physical devastation but emotional and spiritual suffering. Answering the need for a formal disaster spiritual care program to appropriately train individuals in disaster spiritual care, the WV council of Churches (COC), WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and WV DHHR Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities are sponsoring Pastoral Crisis Intervention Trainings. Pastoral Crisis Intervention is a combination of faith-based resources and traditional techniques of crisis intervention. In the event of a disaster, it is critical that clergy and

laity are able to provide disaster spiritual care according to best pastoral practices, while adhering to local incident command protocols. The two-day course is certified by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation and is open to all faith traditions at no cost. Pastors, chaplains, counselors, mental, behavioral health responders and anyone interested in faith-based healing can benefit from these practical guidelines and strategies for people with emotional care in times of need. This program is designed to help both professional and lay people identify characteristics of trauma and traumatic events,



the normalcy of traumatic grief reactions, learn proper death notifications and body identification techniques, become skilled at identifying warning signs of complications and learn the importance of early intervention and support. The next Pastoral Crisis Intervention Training will be held at the Word of Life

Church in Logan, WV on Monday, August 24 from 9am to 5pm and again on Tuesday August 25 from 9am to 5pm. For more information or to register for the training, please go to the wvresiliency.com website. Look for all upcoming available trainings on the WV VOAD webpage.

WV VOAD SPOLIGHT: BETZI YUNGCLASS



Service for 7 years. Betzi is working this summer through the Ohio Conference of the UCC to assist the WV VOAD with assessing storm damaged homes and estimating cost for home repairs. She also acts as Site Supervisor when volunteer teams work with the WV VOAD. Betzi came to WV with her

Great Dane Mona in June and will head back to Florida in September to work with the Florida Recovery Team.

FUN FACTS ABOUT BETZI

BIRTHDAY: Feb. 24th
 ENJOYS BAKING,
 READING, MOVIES &
 THE OUTDOORS


Betzi Yungclas, has been a full time volunteer with the United Church of Christ (UCC) Partners and

Disaster Preparedness Tips

According to the National Weather Service, carbon monoxide poisoning is a leading cause of death after storms in areas experiencing power outages. Using alternative sources of power can cause carbon monoxide to build up in your home and poison your family.

- **Never use a generator inside your home or garage, even if the doors and windows are open;**
- **Keep generators at least 20 feet from your home;**
- **Install battery-operated or battery back-up carbon monoxide detectors near every sleeping area in your home; and**
- **Check detectors every six months to be sure they are working properly.**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
<h2><u>Upcoming Trainings</u></h2>						
<p><u>Pastoral Crisis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug. 24 9am-5pm • Aug. 25 9am-5pm 						
<p>Word of Life Church 518 Mudfork Rd. Logan, WV 25601 wvresiliency.com</p>						
<p><u>DISASTER PREPARDNESS TRAINING</u></p> <p>Training for congregations and nonprofits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept. 12 9:30am-4:30am 						
<p>Presbyterian Church 508 Second St. SW South Charleston WV, 25303</p>						
<p>Training for Food Pantries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept. 12 6:30am-9:00pm <p>Long Term Recovery Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept. 13 2:00pm-6:00pm 						
<p>Look for All Upcoming Trainings On the WV VOAD Webpage</p>						
27	28	29	30			



WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster is a humanitarian association of independent organizations that may be active in all phases of disaster. Its mission is to identify unmet needs and facilitate efficient streamlined service delivery to those imperiled or impacted by disaster while eliminating duplication of effort through cooperation, coordination, communication, collaboration in the four phases of disaster: preparation, response, recovery and mitigation. West Virginia is a member of the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

**To submit articles and ideas to the
VOAD Mission please email:**

wwwoad.publicinformation@gmail.com