

Brother Knights,

Shown below are the highlights of yesterday's conference call. Please distribute this to as many of our Brother Knights as possible. The needs described below are definitely something we can help with. Any Council or individual who thinks they could possibly assist in these endeavors please contact Cassandra Mobley (cmobley@msfoodnet.org), (601)973-7085.

Also anyone who helps should provide details to me as Disaster Response Chairman through their District Marshals and District Deputies.

This is something we can do. Let's make it happen.

Fraternally,

Jerry Schmuck, PSD,DM

State Disaster response Chairman

Greetings All In-State VOAD Partner Representatives,

First, thank you for being on the call yesterday and representing your organization. It demonstrated again the involvement and commitment of our various partners in responding to disasters facing our state, even in one so far removed from our traditional activities.

Just a few highlights from the call from our partner's perspective.

1. ESF #6 – Mass Care anticipates a number of scenarios or needs whereby volunteer organization assistance may be needed.
 - a. Food Provision for individual(s) participating in Self-Quarantine/Isolation.
 - i. As individuals enter into Self Quarantine they do so with a fixed amount of food supply and household commodity needs. As these are consumed, the need to resupply

without breaking the Self-Quarantine process. Supplies will need to be “dropped” off and exposure should be limited for the safety of the recipient and deliverer.

- b. Social/Emotional/Spiritual Support for those experiencing difficulty in the loss of social contact, particularly those who are participating in Self-Quarantine in order to prevent exposure due to the potential length of separation.
 - i. Support will need to be provided without physical exposure. (i.e., phone, email, etc.)
 - ii. Ability to escalate to critical emotional care support if needed.
 - c. Contact for monitoring those “vulnerable” individuals who have little or no support network available due to Self-Quarantine of themselves or their caregivers.
 - d. If schools do not provide hot meal preparation in support of child feeding programs, there may be a need to support hot meal preparation and provision.
 - i. If confinement time continues/containment guidelines escalate, there may be a need to provide assistance to schools in manning kitchens.
 - e. With Social Distancing practices, several organizations are reporting a need for volunteers in preparation for activities (food banks) and others have identified that volunteer levels will be lower due to practice.
2. State organizations are developing plans for their areas of responsibility vulnerable populations (rehab, disability, etc.) and are identifying partners who may be able to assist.

All ESF 6 partners are actively involved in preparation and the identification of anticipated needs. Additional needs are anticipated to begin developing within the next two weeks.

CURRENT NEEDS:

At this time, Mississippi Food Network has listed the following CURRENT needs for volunteer support. Any organization that can assist with these needs please contact Cassandra Mobley (cmobley@msfoodnet.org), (601)973-7085. Volunteers can be directed to the MS Food Network Volunteer Portal for scheduling to assist at www.msfoodnetvolunteers.org

1. Volunteers will be assisting with stocking incoming product, packing food boxes, and preparing for shipment to points of distribution. (Jackson Metro Area)
2. Volunteers with trucks/trailers who can provide delivery services of palletized food boxes to points of distribution across the state of MS in supplement of regular monthly shipments. Demand is expected to be high as containment efforts escalate and the points of distribution will need additional supplies. (Jackson Metro Area/Statewide)

3. MS Food Network local points of distribution, who are often local congregations or community groups, will in most likely occurrence need additional volunteer support in providing distribution services in the local areas. (Statewide)

Again, any organization that could possibly assist in these endeavors please contact Cassandra Mobley (cmobley@msfoodnet.org), (601)973-7085.

The National Disaster Distress Helpline 24/7/365 crisis counseling & emotional support continues to be available for anyone experiencing distress or other mental health concerns following the tornadoes in Tennessee or during the ongoing COVID-19 infectious disease outbreak. Calls (1-800-985-5990; press "2" for Spanish) and texts (text TalkWithUs to 66746) are answered by trained counselors from a network of independently-operated crisis centers located across the U.S. The DDH is funded by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration & administered by Vibrant Emotional Health. SAMHSA tip sheets available for download include "Coping During Infectious Disease Outbreaks" <http://bit.ly/2ThfO2X> & "Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health: Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation During Infectious Disease Outbreaks" <http://bit.ly/2xpbCXQ>

The weeks ahead are going to be interesting. Please participate in as many of the conference calls that you can. If your organization has identified that you will not be conducting volunteer operations during this time, please advise me or Terry. We totally understand and respect each organization's decision in these matters. NEXT ESF #6 Mass Care Partners Coordination Call is scheduled for MONDAY, 03/23/2020 at 10:00 AM.

Hubert E. Yates, MSVOAD Board President

MS Baptist Disaster Relief Representative

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(601)416-0743