**NALC Disaster Response**

**CONGREGATIONAL COORDINATOR**

\*Recommended Guidelines

Congregational Coordinators for NALC Disaster Response enable local congregations to effectively and efficiently bring the love of Jesus to their communities when disasters strike. As NALC Disaster Response, we turn chaos into compassion, assisting families to find their “new normal” in times of disaster.

**There are 3 stages to any disaster and 4 components in each stage:** 1. **Stage 1** is when a disaster strikes and First Responders provide search and rescue activities for public safety in which NALC Disaster Response does not engage. 2. **Stage 2** is Early Response: we provide spiritual Christian care for those impacted, donations management by distributing emergency relief supplies (see attached list from WNALC) and provide volunteer coordination of debris removal teams, establishing volunteer housing and showers. The first steps of case management are initiated during Stage 2. 3. **Stage 3** is long term recovery repair and rebuilding of family homes, providing spiritual Christian care, volunteer coordination and donations management. NALC Disaster Response provides the case management.

The 4 components incorporated in the above descriptions are: Spiritual Christian care, volunteer coordination, donations management, and case management.

**Congregational coordinators may:**

* Assist national disaster coordinator in scheduling Disaster Preparedness Training for their congregation
* Assist national disaster coordinator in scheduling youth and/or adult mission trips that are disaster-related
* Assist pastor in recognizing National Disaster Preparedness Month each September
* Coordinate a “Stuff the Truck” event; collecting emergency relief supplies to stock the regional warehouse
* Recruit a team of congregational members to implement congregational disaster plan when disasters strike
* Coordinate and help develop a Congregational Disaster Plan
* Coordinate Family Preparedness and development of survival kits
* Introduce themselves to local government officials, municipalities, local churches, etc. which will aid in making connections when disasters happen

When disasters strike in the Mission District:

* Communicate with the national disaster coordinator; completing an initial assessment of damages to the church building, members’ homes, and the community.
* Track with congregational treasurer any disaster-related donations
* Assist in the coordination of and distribution of donations for early response
* Assist in the coordination of volunteer teams and establishment of housing/showers for volunteers
* Coordinate with Regional Disaster Coordinator for the Mission District and the National Disaster Coordinator

\*This document may be adapted to fit the needs of the congregation. Please review with the national disaster coordinator.