

NALC Disaster Response

Introduction to the Spiritual Christian Care Training Process

Introduction

The NALC Disaster Response Task Force has set a goal to provide training so that people may be approved to become Endorsed Disaster Response Volunteers, Prayer Ministers, or Spiritual Care Providers, in an NALC Disaster Response setting. Such trained people will be enabled to offer a spiritual presence and atmosphere, the ministry of prayer, and/or the ministry of spiritual care, to disaster victims and disaster response volunteers.

Mission Statement:

We seek to support NALC Disaster Response trained volunteers to have some degree of understanding of the dynamics of trauma. Also, we seek to support Prayer Ministers and Spiritual Care Providers by teaching them how to bring a sense of God's presence and support through the means of personal presence, basic conversation, simple prayer, and an appropriate use of Scripture.

The purpose of all training and support aids:

We seek to support our NALC Disaster Response volunteers by training them to gain confidence in how to engage and handle many of the sensitivities of ministry with disaster victims and volunteers.

Yet, we encourage our volunteers to keep such prayer and spiritual care ministries at a simple level. Volunteers will tend to avoid going in depth with spiritual counseling or long-term spiritual direction with disaster victims. Our time with them is short; and the immediate setting calls for the basics of spiritual ministry to be at work.



The Five Divisions of Christian Ministry to be Trained For:

1. Regular Disaster Response Volunteer: (Note: this training is not required for you to serve as a volunteer; however, this training is highly recommended.) These training presentations are for first time disaster response volunteers, or for volunteers with field experience.

2. Trained Disaster Response Volunteer: (Note: this training is not required; you may serve as a Regular Volunteer with the NALC without this training.) This training is for all disaster response volunteers who desire to understand the trauma people are going through.

Understanding the effects of trauma will help you to feel more comfortable around disaster victims. Also, this training will help you to focus on why you are doing what you are doing.

3. Prayer Minister: This training is open to any NALC Disaster Response volunteer who has completed the Trained Volunteer Training Division. You may be using a hammer or a saw. You may be fixing up a person's home, place of work, or place of worship. You may be helping a disaster victim to fill out forms.

4. Spiritual Care Provider: This form of training is for those who sense a call to provide spiritual care with disaster victims and disaster response volunteers. This training is open to those volunteers who have completed the Trained Volunteer and the Prayer Minister Divisions.