

Disaster Spiritual Care Volunteers

Since 1997, Disaster Spiritual Care responders deployed by the Red Cross have collaborated on scene with other American Red Cross responders in caring for people affected by natural and human-caused disasters. The Disaster Spiritual Care program respects the fundamental principles of the Red Cross movement, assuring the message of neutrality and impartiality in a way that supports our mission. This program provides consistent and reliable services in all regions, to all persons, regardless of faith tradition. The program is designed to be scalable, from a single-family house fire to a major mass casualty disaster. The Red Cross Disaster Spiritual Care program represents excellent community care and best practices in the field.



Bringing Care, Comfort and Hope...

Spiritual Care Responder Opportunities:

Anticipate, Assess and Meet Disaster-Related Spiritual Care Needs

- Respond to local disasters as a member of the local Disaster Action Team (DAT)
- Use your community assessment skills in a disaster shelter
- Provide spiritual care outreach as a member of a team following a disaster
- Work at a service center where you can use your spiritual care skills to determine the best options in Red Cross assistance
- Join an integrated care team to build community resilience, family by family

Spiritual Care Responder Eligibility:

Candidates are eligible to be DSC volunteers if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Candidate is a disaster spiritual care provider in good standing from a National Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster (NVOAD) member organization;
- Candidate is a professional or Board-certified chaplain;
- Candidate is an endorsed leader in a local faith community as defined below.
 - A. Letter of endorsement from the member's faith-based organization
 - B. Documentation of spiritual care or chaplaincy training



American Red Cross
Kansas-Nebraska-SW Iowa Region

For more information contact

Fr. Steve Thomlison, Regional Disaster Spiritual Care Advisor
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Become an American Red Cross Disaster Spiritual Care Volunteer!



Are you...

- Ordained religious leader?
- Lay volunteer?
- Stephen's minister?
- Acolyte or Eucharistic Minister?
- Deacon/Deaconess?
- Worship Leader?
- Youth Minister?
- Active in your own local place of worship?

www.redcross.org/volunteer

EASY Volunteer Sign-Up:

1. Go to www.redcross.org/volunteer : Click on the **APPLY NOW** button
2. Complete the "Create a Red Cross ID" section. (HELPFUL HINT: be sure to remember your password!) click "**Create my Red Cross ID**"
3. Tell us where you live, how to contact you and the Red Cross chapter closet to you
4. Click **SUBMIT APPLICATION**
5. Verify your email address using the blue hyperlink
6. Update your profile. If applicable, upload letter of endorsement or documentation
7. Read & accept the Red Cross policy section
8. Review and Indicate Opportunities of Interest: **DISASTER CYCLE SERVICES VOLUNTEER**
9. Complete the required information to initiate the Red Cross Background Check
10. Patiently wait to hear from a Red Cross specialist, when contacted express your interest to support the Disaster Spiritual Care team

Required Training for all Disaster Volunteers:

1. New Disaster Volunteer Orientation (Classroom: 1 hour)
2. Disaster Cycle Services: An Overview (Classroom: 2hrs OR online: 1hr)
3. Everyone is Welcome - Disability Integration (Classroom: 1hr)
4. Psychological First Aid (Classroom: 4 hrs)
5. Concept of Operations Overview (Video 19 mins)
6. Shelter Fundamentals OR Recovery Services: An Overview (both online)
7. Deployment Fundamentals (Online: 30 mins)
8. Health Status Record and current Driver's License on file

Required Training for Disaster Spiritual Care:

1. Disaster Spiritual Care: Introduction (Online: 45 mins)
2. Disaster Spiritual Care Fundamentals (Classroom: 5 hrs)



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