



**WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?
PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT ... VOLUNTEER!**

FLORIDA VOLUNTEER MONTH 2008

DISASTER VOLUNTEERS STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

- Volunteer Florida serves as the agency responsible for coordinating volunteers and donations in times of disaster as a part of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT).
- In response to survivors' needs during the four powerful hurricanes that pounded Florida in the summer of 2004, the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Volunteer Florida, organized what was then the largest voluntary agency activation in the history of U.S. natural disasters. In 2005, Volunteer Florida continued those efforts in response to Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

Florida's Volunteers & Donations 2004 - 2005 Hurricane Seasons

More Than **252,000** Volunteers
Served **10.6 Million** Hours!

20.2 Million Meals Prepared & Served
13 Million Meals Donated
1.4 Million Bags of Ice
34.7 Million Bottles of Water
35,000 Roofs Tarped/Dried In

Total In-Kind Donations.....	\$85.6 Million
Total Volunteer Hours.....	\$185 Million
Cash Contributions.....	\$18.4 Million
Total Contributions.....	\$289 Million
Value of Volunteers & Donations.....	PRICELESS!

- Volunteer Florida coordinated the efforts of voluntary agencies in response to "The Groundhog Day Tornadoes" of February 2, 2007. In the first week alone, more than 6,500 volunteers were mobilized.
- Volunteer Florida and partner agencies provided logistical support to firefighters during the wildfires of May 2007.

THE VERY BEST WAY TO HELP!

CARE!

CASH – Financial gifts get help to people *fast!*

ASK before collecting items that may not be needed. Only give items requested by relief agencies!

RESPOND! Get trained by and volunteer with a voluntary disaster-relief agency!

EVERYONE can help! Go to a volunteer Center in your community!