
How to Become a Partner

If you are a 501(c)(3), faith-based or other volunteer organization with an emergency management role and would like to become a partner, please email us at info@volunteerflorida.org with your organization's information and a brief description of the role you play.

You will receive a link to fill out an application for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to partner with us.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER FLORIDA

Florida established its Comprehensive Emergency Management plan in 1993 to include a system of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) to oversee the state's response to disasters. Each of the 18 ESFs in Florida is headed by a lead agency that unites supporting agencies with similar functions in effective disaster operations.

The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Volunteer Florida, is the lead agency for ESF 15, Volunteers and Donations. In pursuit of its mission, Volunteer Florida maintains a strong network of partnerships to ensure the needs of disaster survivors are not through donations and volunteer service.



WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

YOU CAN HELP!

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 15

Train to respond

Volunteers can:

- Educate the public on disaster response and recovery needs.
- Prepare and serve meals to survivors and relief workers.
- Connect survivors with relief agencies.
- Provide child care for disaster survivors.
- Manage Volunteer Reception Centers.
- Organize debris removal or clean-up assistance to the elderly and disabled.
- And much more!

Think before acting

An influx of unexpected or I needed volunteers and donations creates an additional burden for communities already struggling to respond to and recover from a disaster. Before traveling to a disaster area:

- Learn where and when your skills will be needed.
- Discuss with volunteer organizers how **your** needs for food, water, and shelter will be met while you are volunteering.



The Florida Disaster Fund

The Volunteer Florida Foundation raises funds to support Volunteer Florida, helping administer high-impact national service programs and promote volunteerism throughout the state, while managing the Florida Disaster Fund, Florida's private fund established to assist communities with disaster recovery. The Foundation is also responsible for the Governor's special initiatives, including the Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, as well as awards that honor Florida's outstanding volunteers, educators, health care professionals and veterans.

The Volunteer Florida Foundation is a direct support organization of the Volunteer Florida Foundation and is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization in the State of Florida.

WHEN MAKING DONATIONS...

FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE THE GREATEST IMPACT

Relief agencies use monetary donations to meet survivors' specific needs, while avoiding the burdensome expense of sorting, packing, and transporting goods. These organizations purchase supplies in impacted communities, helping to regenerate the local economy.

CONFIRM THE NEED BEFORE COLLECTING ITEMS

Some relief agencies that have the ability to store and distribute donated goods may request specific items. Get precise information and coordinate with relief agencies to ensure that only needed items are collected. Follow their specific instructions for packing and transporting your donations. Be wary of claims that "everything is needed". The gridlock caused by unneeded donated items prevents the flow of more crucial supplies from reaching impacted communities.