
Church Damage Protocols

Purpose: To assist the Associate in responding to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of disaster survivors.

Disaster Occurs: Impact/Emergency/Rescue

- Associate researches scope of disaster
- Associate networks re: Mid Council leadership
- Associate contacts Mid Council/Church
- Associate discerns with Mid Council the size and nature of team
- Mid Council invites PDA
- Associate identifies Team Lead and they discuss composition of team

Team Lead contacts Mid Council

- Preliminary sense of situation as Mid Council perceives it
- Agreement re: time of team arrival, where/when to have initial meeting
- Expectations of what the team might do
- Information re: local contacts, suggested housing, mobile phone numbers

Team Lead before Deployment

- Determine if other teams have been deployed to the area
 - Arrange to receive copies of reports from those deployments
- Create the team
- Share anticipated dates of arrival/departure with team members
- Share preliminary expectations with team members
- Share names of team members with Associate
- Arrange for housing for team members while deployed
- Arrange for transportation for team members while deployed

Deployment

- Team is deployed
- Team contacts Mid Council and pastor of affected congregation
- Team provides ministry of presence
- Team worships with the congregation
- Team begins initial assessment, including
 - Scope of disaster
 - Capacity of Mid Council/congregations to participate in recovery

- Pre-existing context of Mid Council and congregation
- Need for emotional and spiritual care
- Support needed from PDA (e.g. funding)
- Team offers appropriate PDA resources
 - Presentation of Church Damage Isolated Event (PPT and notes) **or**
 - Presentation of Church Damage Community Event (PPT and notes)
 - Indicators of Risk (PPT and handout)
 - Presbyterian Investment Loan Program (PILP)
 - Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC)
 - Board of Pensions Assistance
- Team gathers and shares information with Mid Council and partners
 - Value of interfaith/ecumenical collaboration
 - Additional PDA resources and services
 - Compassion Fatigue
 - Emotional Spiritual Care
 - Care for the Caregivers
 - Funding/grants
- Team serves as liaison between Mid Council and partners concerning needs
- Team receives names of one or two other contact persons in addition to the pastor

Team Reports

- Team gathers daily to evaluate the experience
- Team completes field reports
- Team Lead submits reports with confidential information to Associate

Follow Up

- Team develops a follow-up plan with specific dates and responsibilities
 - Anniversaries
 - Rededication
- Team Lead communicates follow-up plans with Associate
- Team participates in conference calls and organizing meetings as appropriate
- Share Indicators of Risk again (PPT and handout)
- Follow-up Team is comprised of original team members if possible
- Executive Presbyter is kept informed
- Indicators of Risk is offered again