
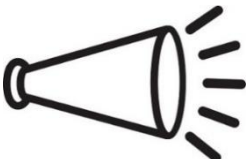



Disaster Response Fact Sheet

The West Virginia Commission for National and Community Service (dba Volunteer West Virginia) has been involved in supporting disaster volunteer and donations management. At times, we have assumed additional responsibilities in coordination with the Governor's Office, the WV Department of Homeland Security, and with WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

Since 1994, Volunteer West Virginia has served in disaster response in a variety of ways, which include unaffiliated disaster volunteer coordination, donations management, public information messaging, managing a disaster hotline, connecting impacted citizens to resources, and the resettling/hosting of evacuees during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. We were heavily involved in the June 2016 Flood Response.

Volunteer West Virginia is a state agency that creates a bridge between community nonprofits and service providers and the government sector. **During a disaster we have four primary roles:**

<p>1. Mobilize State & National AmeriCorps Resources to assist with response and recovery. We facilitate requests for AmeriCorps NCCC and AmeriCorps Disaster Response Teams, which are national resources. <i>Note: WV AmeriCorps members are restricted to assisting in the area where they serve. Other restrictions may apply.</i></p>	<p>2. Connect unaffiliated disaster response volunteers with disaster response organizations.</p> 
<p>3. Conduct disaster information messaging, such as volunteer or donation needs, safety info, etc. We do this via our websites: Ready.WV.gov and Volunteer.WV.gov and respective social media platforms, and e-newsletters. <i>Note: Preparedness messaging is conducted all year round via ReadyWV's multi-media platforms.</i></p> 	<p>4. Facilitate and support the set-up and operation of local Volunteer Reception Centers for the purpose of managing and coordinating unaffiliated spontaneous volunteers. This is ONLY done when requested by WV VOAD and/or a local or state emergency response agency. <i>Note: since the pandemic, most volunteer coordination is done virtually.</i></p> 

Volunteer WV's Mission

Volunteer West Virginia, the state's Commission for National and Community Service challenges West Virginians to strengthen their communities through service and volunteerism. We identify and mobilize resources, promote an ethic of service, and empower communities to solve problems and improve the quality of life for individuals and families.

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