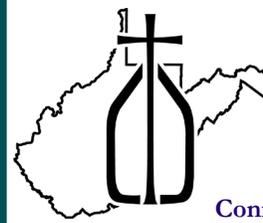


BULLETIN UPDATE FOR DISASTER COMMITTEES

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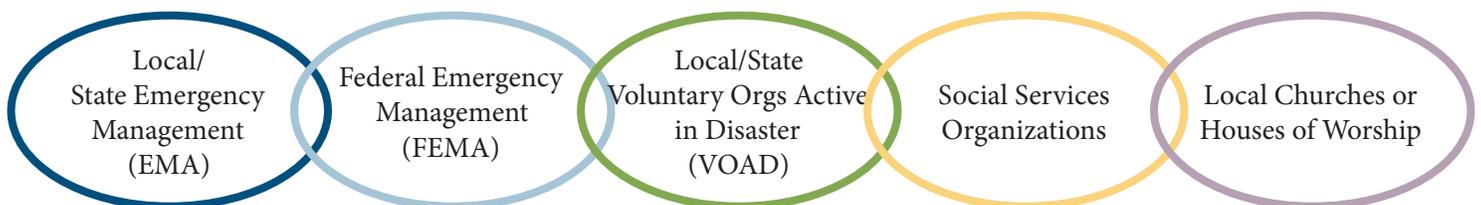
Long Term Recover Groups. What are they? What do they do? Who typically joins one? Since LTRG's are such a vital aspect of recovery work, these are important questions to answer as your Disaster Ministry gets going. Your committee may or may not choose to convene or join an LTRG, but either way, you'll want to find out if one is active in your area after a disaster. At the very least, your committee may have vital information to pass along to the LTRG. CCWVa supports and is active with LTRCs in communities where they form.

THE BASICS OF LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUPS

A long term recovery group (LTRG) is a cooperative body that is made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business and other organizations working within a community to assist individuals and families as they recover from disaster.

LTRGs are as varied in their structure as are the communities in which they work. The personality and operation of each group is unique and reflects local needs, available resources, cultural diversity, leadership style, and community support. No matter how a group is structured or what it calls itself, the goal is the same: **to unite recovery resources with community needs** in order to ensure that even the most vulnerable in the community recover from disaster.

Identifying agencies and organizations that commonly provide disaster services is often the first task for LTRGs. These organizations can become prospective partners for recovery, and may be able to assist in the formation and development of your long-term recovery group.



Each LTRG establishes their own policies for handling cases that they might be presented with. Two of the most common questions to ask are:

1. **WHO...** are you going to help, and how will they be considered eligible?
2. **WHAT...** is eligible to be repaired or replaced (if the Group will be involved in repair/reconstruction)?

Answers to these questions will largely depend on the resources available.

The efficacy of a given LTRG is correlated with the participation of agencies and community organizations. We encourage you to consider cooperating with the LTRG if one exists, even if your Disaster Committee does not choose to join it.

We envision a West Virginia where all people can access the services they need to be happy, healthy, and reach their full potential. Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.