

Disaster Relief Center operated by Valley Churches United
for North Santa Cruz County Victims of Disaster

Disaster Plan

Disaster supplies are stored at Valley Churches United. They will be distributed to our area as needed. Keys to the disaster storage supply area are available at:

Valley Churches United - 336-8258
Annette Marcum - 336-8035, 916-709-0001 c
St. Andrews Church - 336-5994
Ben Lomond Fire Department - 336-5495
Red Cross - 462-2881

We will open immediately to serve the needs and provide direct aid to victims of disaster. The Emergency Food Pantry will immediately convert to a Disaster Relief Center to serve North County (see map).

All volunteers who report to work will have seen the tape available at Valley Churches United for First Aid and CPR instruction.

All volunteers are informed and need not be called by phone, but know to report in person. All volunteers have keys to the office.

We will serve as a place for FEMA to send people who need immediate aid before FEMA is ready to act.

We will provide a place for Red Cross to interview and distribute what they provide.

We will respond without interrogation to disaster victims referrals made by our local community leaders and Fire Departments, Churches, and know community members.

We will refer Disaster Victims to other agencies in need of:

1. Counseling
2. Help with paper work to fill out Government form
3. Work crews to:
 - a. Clean up debris

- b. Clean up Senior shut-in houses
- c. Minor repairs-done by volunteers from community, churches and organizations
- 4. Match people with housing available for displaced persons
- 5. HRA-referral to County services

If our own building is destroyed or red tagged we would set up a tent in the parking lot or rent a trailer to activate the Disaster Center immediately.

Priority of donated fund distribution will be by:

Funding by Damage Assessment

- 1. House totally lost
- 2. Major damage
- 3. Must relocate
- 4. Medical hardship & damage

Funding by Priority of Need

- 1. Senior shut-ins
- 2. Low-income seniors
- 3. Families with children
- 4. Disabled adults
- 5. Adults

We will purchase our Food and Gas Vouchers and Materials from local businesses to stimulate the economy. We will use local contractors familiar with Santa Cruz Building Codes for emergency repairs to get people back into their homes as quickly as possible.

Funds donated to help people will be converted immediately to do just that.

Our goals are to directly aid the victim in their time of need before Government Funds or long-term aid become available.

Long-term aid will be directed to those who fall between the cracks and are unable to get Government Loans to finance repairs or rebuilding, when funds are available.

We will never use donated money intended to help victims as loans of any kind, interest-free or not, still adding another burden to their already stressed situations.

We will have radios available and will lock them into KSCO, the emergency response station that did such a good job after the earthquake.

We have four nurses who would respond to Medical First Aid needed if the Fire Departments were swamped.

We have four VCU volunteers trained by the Red Cross for Disaster Assessment to speed up Red Cross Aid.