Volunteer Opportunities with Mass Care Facilities during Emergencies and Disasters
BACKGROUND

Executive Order RP57

Founded upon the Texas Governor’s directive for State Agencies to prepare and participate in the development of a program of preparedness to meet the needs of special needs populations in the event of a catastrophic event (hurricane or man made disaster).
State and local jurisdictions are seeking resources (manpower) to train and prepare for activation in the event of a disaster.

Area Agencies on Aging are participating by accessing volunteer and staffing resources to assist with preparation and implementation of the Texas Governor’s program of emergency preparedness.
Opportunities

- Medical Care Facilities
- Red Cross Shelters
- Faith-Based Shelters
- Local (City /County )
MEDICAL SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER

Designed for those whose age, frailty, mobility, functional and/or medical disability make them vulnerable and at risk in disaster situations.

MSNS are intended to provide a safe environment for those requiring limited medical assistance or surveillance.

Temporary, providing emergency special/supervised housing and medical care.
RED CROSS SHELTERS

• Established in response to a disaster
• Provide temporary shelter & housing assistance
• Provide limited financial assistance & clothing/furnishings
• Provide service coordination
• Provide nutrition
FAITH-BASED SHELTERS

- Operated by churches and other religious groups
- Provide pastoral care
- Volunteer coordination
- Limited monetary assistance
- Donation management & distribution
LOCAL SHELTERS

• Established in response to a disaster
• Provide temporary shelter
• Provide nutrition and basic support services
• Provide service coordination
MEDICAL SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS

• Classification

  Category 1.. Persons Dependent on Others
  Category 2.. Persons with Disabilities
  Category 3.. Persons Needing Assistance with Medical Care
  Category 4.. Persons Requiring Extensive Medical Oversight
  Category 5.. Persons in Institutional Settings
OTHER SPECIAL POPULATIONS (NON-MEDICAL)

• Older Americans
• Children
• Homeless
• Non-English Speakers
• Visitors/Tourists
DISABILITY GROUPS

• Basic and specialty communication skills (sign language, etc)
• Sensitivity training
• Basic knowledge of disability
• Maintain dignity and confidentiality
Your Role in the Process

- Assist with registry of evacuees,
- Conduct assessments of need,
- Advocacy,
- Assist with triage,
- Assist with specialty services

Language barriers, aging and disability issues
Certification and Training

NIMS (National Incident Mgmt System)
http://nimsonline.com/

American Red Cross
http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/
RESOURCES continued..

CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams)
https://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/

VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters)
http://www.nvoad.org/

Local Texas Area Agencies on Aging
http://www.dads.state.tx.us/contact/aaa_directory.html
More Information

• For More Information concerning Volunteer Opportunities during times of Emergency and Disasters contact…

• Local American Red Cross Chapter
• Local Area Agency on Aging