



v. September 13, 2019

New York State Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NYVOAD) EMERGENCY MANAGER'S TIP SHEET

What is VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) Movement?

An association of organizations at the national, state and county level, that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters by promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster.

National VOAD

- An association of most of the U.S. domestic disaster response non-profits. National VOAD is named within the National Response Framework and Recovery Framework, alongside the American Red Cross, as the primary provider of Mass Care and recovery services.
- Each state and U.S. territory has a State VOAD that, in coordination with state EMAs, liaises between National VOAD members and State VOAD members to support ESF 6 (Emergency Support Function 6) unmet needs at either the state or county level.
- Founded in 1970, as a 501(c)3 Nonprofit, National VOAD has grown to include over 100-member organizations supported by a staff of 5 national employees.
- Core Principles of the 4Cs: Cooperation, Communication, Coordination, and Collaboration
- NVOAD adopts Points of Consensus and Guidelines as best practices tool and resources across all planning and response functions of national, state and local members.
- Via a Memorandum of Understanding, FEMA maintains a seat for NVOAD in the National Response Command Center – this position coordinates between FEMA HQ, FEMA Regions, State Emergency Management and State VOADs (NYVOAD) during national emergencies.
- NVOAD members directory: <https://www.nvoad.org/voad-members/national-members/>

New York (State) VOAD

- NYVOAD has 49-member organizations that can respond across New York State in collaboration with national members, NYS Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (DHSES), county EMAs and FEMA Region II.
- State members are activated and deployed by NYVOAD and required to adhere to all NVOAD Points of Consensus and Guidelines during deployments.
- Of the 62 counties in New York, 37 are covered by 22 COADs (Community Organizations Active in Disaster). These are associations of NYVOAD members or other local nonprofits that operate within any specific county.
- NYVOAD's is governed by a volunteer board of up to nine leaders from across the state, a FEMA Region II VAL (Voluntary Agency Liaison) and DHSES VAL and supported by a half-time staff person provided by the Chair's employer - currently, New York Disaster Interfaith Service (NYDIS).
- NYVOAD adheres to the principles established by National VOAD.



How does NYVOAD support County Emergency Managers?

When ESF 6 support is needed by any county or counties, EMs should contact DHSES Individual Assistance and request NYVOAD to activate and convene an ESF 6 coordination call between FEMA Region II, DHSES, NYVOAD and county COAD, if one exists. NYVOAD will also provide technical assistance and support to help form a COAD, Long-term Recovery Group or Unmet Needs Roundtables, as needed. NYVOAD members offer the following services to individuals and their primary residences - among others, on request:

- Animal Care
- Debris Removal/Chain Saw Teams
- Disaster Case Management
- Emotional and Spiritual Care
- Feeding
- Muck and Gut
- Home Repair/Rebuild
- Roof Tarping
- Sheltering (Red Cross Only)
- Unmet Needs Roundtable

VOAD members DO NOT:

- Haul debris or use heavy equipment
- Work on 2nd Homes or Rental Property
- Assist government buildings
- Assist for-profit business

How Can Counties Request Help?

- Contact:
 - NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES)
 - Jamie Marcella, State Voluntary Agency Liaison in Individual Assistance
Phone: 518-292-2895 or Email: jamie.marcella@dhses.ny.gov
- Be able to provide the approximate number of households affected, buildings damaged, and statistics on the unmet needs of disaster survivors.

COAD (Community or County Organizations Active in Disaster):

- A permanently established association of NYVOAD members and local nonprofits who respond to the ESF6 needs of its members and a county emergency management agency. COADs are, in essence, local VOADs.
- Offers programs, services and trainings that build resilience and operational capacity within the disaster lifecycle phases; mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.
- Participates in: disaster education, hazard vulnerability analysis, local emergency management plans, training, exercises, and educational courses for local leaders.
- Promotes the expertise, language skills, cultural and religious competency of its members to encourage whole-community resilience and recovery.
- Strengthens and improves individual and family preparedness, community resilience and area-wide disaster coordination.
- are the primary point of contact for NYVOAD within each county and ensures all its members adhere to the NYVOAD Points of Consensus & Guidelines.