

DDC Conference Call March 6, 2018 3:00pm ET

Attendees: Bob Patalano, Leonard Stoner, Ed McKimmy, Burton Wolf, Mary Etta Reinhart, Brent Carlson, Forrest Wilkinson, Gary Gahm, John & Mary Mueller, Cliff Kindy, Dave Klein, John & Mary Mueller, Bob Eisemann

Staff: Roy Winter, Terry Goodger

### **Marion, SC**

- Project site in Marion remains open and active.
- Volunteer housing still at St John's AME in Marion
- Due to some delays with the availability of certain federal aid, we have been working with multiple partners to secure enough cases in SC. That funding is now being released and cases are available for us. These could be repairs with the possibility of maybe even new builds down the road.
- We have also started some work with the Baptist just over the line in NC to aid in recovery there too.

### **Eureka, MO**

- Winding down work from open 2015 flood cases
  - Preparing for project close the week of March 25, 2018
  - Salvation Army has completed their work. Denise and Chris no longer employed by Salvation Army but continue to volunteer with local response and partner with BDM to continue work thru March
  - Sammy Deacon is spearheading move from Eureka, MO to Shenandoah District
  - Vehicles and Trailers will remain in Shenandoah District until ready to relocate to new project site. Current plan is to move week after Easter.
  - 2017 Flooding recovery is being handled by Catholic Charities
- Will not have enough momentum in their efforts to have recovery work available in time for BDM to remain in Eureka.

### **VOLUNTEER NEEDS:**

Eureka, MO	March 11-17	8 spots OPEN
Project 2	May 13-19	8 spots OPEN
Project 2	June 3-9	OPEN
Marion, SC	July 29-Aug 4	5 spots OPEN
Project 1	Sept 9-15	8 spots OPEN
Project 1	Oct 7-13	8 spots OPEN
Project 1	Dec 9-15	8 spots OPEN

### **New Project-2 location options** *(update at bottom of list)*

- Biggest piece for either location is finalizing housing. Conversations are happening in both locations for the best housing location.
- Option 1 - • BDM staff and leaders have been in conversation with partners in NC to aid in Hurricane Matthew recovery
- o Possibly locations would be Robeson and/or Cumberland counties in NC
- BDM will also be in conversation with Baptist, UMCOR and local LTRGs regarding partnering and aid in NC
- Option 2- a second site in SC:
- Approvals for a federal grant program are in the process of being released right now. Our local partners anticipate that there will be a large amount of cases available with this funding for BDM to

work on. They have asked if we can provide additional volunteers to help speed up the homes that can be completed.

- Steve Keim and Kim Gingerich are continuing to communicate with local partners this week to confirm the availability of additional cases and the possibilities for housing.
- As soon as a decision is made, we will communicate that out to everyone.

*\*\* In the weeks following the call, arrangements were made to open Project 2 in Lumberton NC. This site will be open to volunteers starting the week of April 22, 2018*

### **Puerto Rico**

- \$94,000 has provided relief activities including church-based programs like feeding programs, food distribution and some minor repairs. This has also provided a container of relief supplies including tools, generators, water filters and canned chicken from the Mid-Atlantic and Southern PA districts.
- Roy reported on the Puerto Rico District Conference:
  - Conversations with the district still focusing on how to move forward with a long-term recovery program. Rather than waiting to start work with locally developed recovery groups, BDM and the District will develop our own case management and recovery process. We hope in time to connect with local recovery efforts once they are developed.
  - A \$200K grant from the Emergency Disaster Fund is being requested to support PR (*note: since the meeting this funding was approved*)
  - This grant will aid in LTRG, Case Management, home construction/repair, equipment, travel & staff expense

**DRSI & U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI)** (Disaster Recovery Support Initiative – an early recovery program of the COB, Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ)

- DRSI staff Rachel Larratt has been in USVI since October, Tim Sheaffer arrived in Dec
- DRSI staff and the UCC are supporting St Thomas recovery
- DRSI will be aiding with case management in hopes of starting construction sooner
- DRST will be in USVI at least 6 months
- DRST in the process of purchasing vehicle and hiring Case Management staff
- Volunteer housing and office space has been obtained and is being prepared for use

### **Short-term and Local Responses**

- Lorida, FL
  - John Mueller led a two-week response in Lorida, FL.
  - Work was done on the Lorida Church of the Brethren roof
  - Also worked on buildings in Palm Estates
  - Residents of Palm Estates really stepped up to house and feed volunteers as well as offer their help with repairs
- Shenandoah District and Middle PA Districts have teams working in WV

### **Important 2018 Dates**

- DPL Training – April 23-May 3, 2018 - Marion SC Project
- Mid-Atlantic Auction – Saturday, May 5th, 2018 - Carroll County Agricultural Center, Westminster, MD [www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction/](http://www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction/)
- National VOAD Conference – May 7-10, 2018 – Providence, RI [www.nvoad.org/2018-event/](http://www.nvoad.org/2018-event/)
- Shenandoah Auction – Friday & Saturday, May 18 & 19, 2018 - Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, VA [www.shencob.org/disaster auction](http://www.shencob.org/disaster-auction)

- Church of the Brethren Annual Conference – July 4-8, 2018 - Cincinnati, OH [www.brethren.org/ac/](http://www.brethren.org/ac/) (BDM Meet-Friday, July 6 - 7:30-8:30AM)
- BDRA Auction in PA – September 21-22, 2018 - Lebanon Valley Expo, Lebanon, PA– [www.brethren-disaster-relief-auction.org](http://www.brethren-disaster-relief-auction.org)
- DPL/DDC Conference – October 30-November 2, 2018 - Location: Camp Swatara

### **CDS Update**

- Many trainings planned for 2018 and are filling up quickly – contact Sherry Chastain at the office for more details ([schastain@brethren.org](mailto:schastain@brethren.org))
- NY training March 3 went smoothly in spite of transportation related to the bombogenesis storm that caused severe winds, rain & snow.
- CDS had teams ready to respond to both the FL school shooting and the severe rain/flooding in the mid-states. Red Cross advised the teams were not needed.

### **Nigeria**

- Roy reported that a large relief program continues. So far, the COB has provided more than \$5 million for this response.
- Current programs focus on home repairs, trauma recovery, education, displaced person camp management, livelihood training and emergency feeding as necessary.
- While the situation improves, security is still a major challenge. Some areas are not accessible, kidnappings continue, bombings and the attacking of farmers.
- The nomadic cattle herding tribe, Fulani, are now attacking farmers as well.
- In the midst of these challenges the Church is growing with 3 new districts and many new churches.

### **Misc. Rebuild Updates**

- AEDs were donated and are now at both sites
- Huston's have left their BVS positions with BDM after the death of their daughter and are no longer out on project.
- FEMA Visit to New Windsor – Mar 21 (*FEMA visit was canceled due to bad weather*)
  - o FEMA to see new/updated offices and visit the warehouse
  - o Time for discussing BDM's role with FEMA

### **Prayer requests/praises:**

Family of Helen Kinsel  
 Erv and Joan Huston and family  
 Final arrangements for housing for a new site  
 Project leadership needs