



# FLORIDA PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

In Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA)



Kathy Broyard, Statewide Disaster Coordinator

Summer 2012

## *Tropical Storm Debby*

Tropical Storm Debby brought much needed rain to Florida, but the unjust consequences are overwhelming. Eight people lost their lives. 304 people were rescued. 32 counties have received a federal disaster declaration. The American Red Cross sheltered 1186 people. The Salvation Army and Red Cross provided over 130,480 meals and snacks. As of a July 10<sup>th</sup> report, 73 homes were destroyed, 303 had major damage, 608 had minor damage, 1255 were affected and 2162 homes were still inaccessible and could not be evaluated.



Photo: Billy Grace



Disaster Recovery Centers were opened in 14 counties to assist these clients with temporary housing assistance, filing claims, answering questions and providing crisis counseling.

As the new Chair of Florida VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) I have been leading weekly conference calls with our state VOAD partners. These calls help to coordinate the collaborative response efforts of our faith-based, community, governmental (local, state and federal) and private sector partners. Representatives



from FLAPDAN (specifically from St. Augustine and Tampa Bay Presbyteries) have participated in these calls as communities within their bounds have been affected. As we move from response to long-term recovery, more updates will go out as the need for rebuilding volunteers becomes defined.



## **FLAPDAN Coordinator elected Chair of Florida VOAD**

Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) is the statewide collaborative body of non-governmental organizations that facilitates communication, cooperation, and coordination of member organizations in all phases of disaster. At the Annual Meeting in May, I was elected Chair. In past years, I have served as Treasurer and Vice Chair. I will serve Florida VOAD for the next year along with Vice Chair David Yarborough (Lutheran Services Florida), Secretary Liz Lee (United Way of Brevard County), Treasurer Greg Strader (BRACE), and At-Large members Beth Boyd (American Red Cross) and Rebecca Brislain (Florida Association of Food Banks).

## SPRING TRAINING...

Our Spring FLAPDAN meeting included training on Congregational Preparedness and Hosting Disaster Volunteers. Members of the PDA National Response Team (NRT), Milton Fulton and Doug Macdonald shared their insight and expertise in these areas. Bill Welch was chosen as moderator-elect and will fill the role of FLAPDAN moderator when Alisun Donovan steps down in October.



Mark your calendars now!



**Fall FLAPDAN Meeting & Training**  
**October 29<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 4 pm**  
**in Central Florida Presbytery**



The PDA National Response Team Annual Meeting and Training was held at beautiful Lake Tahoe, and included a mock disaster training exercise with the churches, emergency management and local VOAD in Reno. It was incredibly well planned and executed, and incorporated training in spiritual and emotional care, long term recovery and volunteer hosting. Thanks go to PDA staff and volunteers for a very valuable experience.

The training I received at the recent National VOAD Annual Conference in Norfolk, VA has helped tremendously in my new role as Florida VOAD Chair. I also attended workshops at the Governor's Hurricane Conference in Fort Lauderdale and training at the FEMA Individual Assistance Conference in Atlanta.



## Looking Ahead...

Upcoming speaking engagements and workshops include Presbytery of Florida's Presbytery Meeting, Christ Presbyterian Church in Ormond Beach, and Central Florida Presbytery's FISH (Fresh Ideas Start Here) Leadership Development event. As always, I am available to assist churches in creating or reviewing their disaster preparedness plan, conduct a workshop at your church or do a brief presentation at a Presbytery Meeting. Please feel free to contact me.

In partnership,  
*Kathy Broyard*

**FLAPDAN is now on Facebook!!**

Check out our page at  
<http://www.facebook.com/FLAPDAN>  
and don't forget to **LIKE US!**



[Florida Presbyterian](#)  
[Disaster Assistance](#)  
[Network](#)



**Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network**

Phone: 941-483-0675 • Toll Free: 877-FLA-PDAN (877-352-7326)

Email: [fla.pdan@pcusa.org](mailto:fla.pdan@pcusa.org)