Voluntary Organizations Play Vital Role in North Carolina's Recovery

Disaster survivors who sustained losses from Tropical Storm Fred are getting help from many nonprofit and faith-based organizations in North Carolina.

Dozens of voluntary organizations are playing a vital role in helping survivors who have unmet needs as a result of the disaster. These organizations provide a wide range of assistance to disaster survivors, including flood debris cleanup, shelter, food, clothing, counseling, home repairs and reconstruction.

Many of the organizations belong to the North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (<u>NCVOAD</u>). This is a coalition of nonprofit organizations that respond to disasters.

NC 211, managed by <u>United Way of NC</u>, provides health and human services information and referrals through a free statewide phone number. Disaster survivors in western North Carolina can call 2-1-1 or go online to <u>nc211.org</u> to find available services in their community. Real-time caller data is available at <u>211counts.org</u>.

For information on how to volunteer to help, visit <u>Volunteer | North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (ncvoad.org)</u>.

FEMA's Voluntary Agency Liaisons (VALs) assist voluntary, faith-based and community organizations with federal programs, deadlines, coordination of effort and donation management. They also identify populations with special needs and help applicants avoid duplication of benefits. In addition, VALs educate, guide and promote long-term recovery in affected communities.

For more information about Tropical Storm Fred recovery in North Carolina, visit <u>fema.gov/disaster/4617</u> and <u>ncdps.gov/TSFred</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@NCEmergency</u> and <u>@FEMARegion4</u>.

