

Foreword

This third edition workbook has been developed for the sole use of those involved in the Disaster Relief Ministry of American Baptist Men. No one is permitted to use the names and addresses in this book for any other purpose.

We Can Help!

We are trained, equipped and prepared to help with clean up from
floods,
tornados,
ice storms, and
inland hurricanes
– any disaster that calls for "cleanup".

Three trailers are equipped with the necessary tools and over 275 men, women and youth are "on call" to help when needed, if time permits.

Depending on the need, we will be a "chain saw" team or a "mud out/muck out" team; also, site inspection and general clean up.

We come from many walks of life – Some of us are "retired", some are taking time off from work or school. Our teams come from all over Illinois and Missouri.

We come freely, not expecting to be paid. We consider this part of our Christian faith and so we come in the love of Jesus.

It is our hope that this workbook will enable us to be prepared to respond to disasters when our help is needed.

Our ministry is summed up in these quotes:

"Christians with our sleeves rolled up!"

"Chains saws for Christ"

"It's not about the trees!"

"A spirit of Cooperation"

"A miracle from God"

~ Mac Shotwell and Van Peters, Coordinators

Our Mission Motto

*"Because Jesus Came,
We Come."*

Our Mission Statement

ABMen's Disaster Relief ministry seeks to serve those affected by federally declared disasters, as well as disasters within Illinois and Missouri, in cooperation with ABMen/USA, the Great Rivers Region of American Baptists and the wider disaster response community.

In so doing we further fulfill our Christian mission by demonstrating the compassion of Christ and the ministry of wholeness and renewal.

Our Mission Field

Where there is a need within
the Great Rivers Region.

Mission Field Guidelines

- (1) At a meeting of the American Baptist Men's Board of Directors for the Great Rivers Region, meeting on December 3, 2004, the following action was taken:
 - No one under the age of 18 will be allowed to use or run power equipment.
 - Youth between 16-18 years of age need a permission slip signed by a parent or legal guardian.
 - Youth under 16 years of age need to be accompanied by an adult (parent or legal guardian).
- (2) At the same December meeting, the board of Directors decided to tag
 - \$2,000.00 in our Disaster Relief budget for Emergency only. These funds will be used when we are called to a disaster and need funds for transportation, meals, lodging, additional equipment and related expenses.
- (3) Each team member must wear a photo identification badge. These will be provided at training sessions and on site.
- (4) "When we arrive at a new disaster location, we bring many things with us. Experience, skills, our tools, clothes appropriate to the climate, a willingness to serve, and many other parts of us come along. The people we work with in communities oppressed by the effects of racism will note them all. Our bearing as Christians is also noted." *
- (5) "As we work in the midst of the effects of racism whether for ABMen's Disaster Relief or upon returning home, may we be given the grace to speak with respect, see with new eyes, and act with understanding." *
- (6) "Given that we seek to treat all disaster victims as equals, the most important part of speaking with respect is to speak with people, not about them. Get to know people as individuals with hopes, fears, insights, and shortcomings. Just like you (and me!)" *

* Taken from the appendix in our first edition workbook and printed with permission from the Mennonite Disaster Service. For the entire text, locate a copy of our first edition.

"When Disaster Strikes"

A brief history of the Disaster Relief Ministry by Mac Shotwell

The Flood of 1993! Remember? It was out of that disaster that the dream for a Disaster Relief Trailer and Ministry among American Baptist Men was born.

"Out of every bad situation, something good will happen!"

When LaVerne, my wife, and I were in seminary we heard these words. Being young and inexperienced, we doubted that quote! We questioned it. We even argued with our professor. That was in 1957 and in the years since we have discovered that, indeed, it is true. For example: out of a bad, destructive flood here in Illinois, some good things began to happen!

I was executive minister of the Great Rivers Region at that time, and I was overwhelmed not only by the destruction of the flood, but by the outpouring of love and compassion. Hundreds of people from across the nation came to help.

Dan and Marie Vitioe accepted my invitation to join our staff to manage the many volunteers as well as oversee the cleanup in the village of Hull and other places along the Mississippi. Frank Sparks accepted the invitation to manage the cleanup around the Alton area. One Great Hour of Sharing money came to help as well as gifts from many of the churches in this Region.

Out of that flood experience an idea was born! Some of us began to have a vision of a disaster relief trailer equipped and ready to respond when the call came for help. At our 1995 Men's Conference we discussed this dream. Mel Sparlin, Van Peters and David Johanpeter presented me with a model of our dream – a toy replica of what the trailer would look like. The dream became a reality in 1996 at my last regional convention as executive minister. The trailer was on display, and I was honored to learn that it was being dedicated to me!

Ken Webster, who had been on several teams that came to help in 1993, became a member of the ABMen's staff at Valley Forge and helped make the vision a reality...

Our trailer was the first of 13 across our American Baptist family. On reflection, Ken remembers, "The efforts of the men of the Great Rivers Region were an incentive for the rest of the men across the country. The ministry literally took off and has become a nationally recognized entity in the disaster relief community by both FEMA and the Red Cross. The Great Rivers Region trailer was our pilot program. March 15, 1997 is a day I'll

never forget. When I saw that trailer sitting in the middle of the flood ravaged neighborhood in Cincinnati on its first response, it was hard not to be proud and boastful.

For various reasons, the trailer sat dormant after two initial missions. In February of 2004, the ABMen's Council of the GRR asked me to join them in helping to reactivate this ministry. I was pleased to know that I would be working with dedicated men like Warren Craig and John Phillips and a host of men to which I would soon be introduced or reintroduced.

The trailer was first relocated from Carthage to Gridley and more recently moved to Congerville where it will be close to the residence of John Phillips, our trailer coordinator and driver.

At a prayer breakfast in Springfield in April 2004 the need for revitalization and reactivation was presented. I asked the men to (1) pray, (2) give and (3) go when the need to help came. With gratitude to God and thanksgiving to a host of people, these three things are happening!

The power of prayer is felt almost daily as this ministry is renewed. Over \$10,000.00 has been received in monetary gifts, equipment and supplies. Elsewhere in this workbook you will find a list of some of the donors: Teams are being formed in each of the five areas of our Region and three communities struck by tornados have been helped. (More about this later.)

In May of 2004, Warren Craig and I went to Louisville, Kentucky to attend the 12th annual conference for Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). We learned more about the 4 Cs for Disaster Relief Ministry: Cooperation, Communication, Coordination and Collaboration.

We met with American Baptist Men's coordinators from across the country. As mentioned earlier there are now 13 regions with trailers. What began as a dream here in this Region has now become a reality across our American Baptist family.

Before we were ready to respond, a call came for help from Winchester and Jacksonville, both communities hit by tornados. On May 27 and 28, 2004 twenty-one men from teams two and four, plus some youth and one ABWoman helped.

Earlier we had been in touch with the leadership in Utica where team one was ready to respond, but our help was not needed. On July 17, 2004, eleven men from team three and four men from the First Baptist Church of Rantoul responded to a tornado disaster t

the Triangle Trailer Park just north of Rantoul. On November 22, 2004, eight from team one helped with clean up from the flood and tornado in Utica.

On these four "maiden voyages" we learned many things and feel better equipped to respond "when disaster strikes" and the call comes for help.

As this ministry was reintroduced at the ABMen's Conference in Bloomington in July 2004 the following questions and answers were shared:

WHY? – Because Jesus asked us to be his hands and his feet. To help those in need. As our mission motto states: "Because Jesus Came, We Come!"

WHEN? – When the need is present and the call for help comes.

WHERE? – Anywhere in our Great Rivers Region or within a 500 mile radius of Springfield, Illinois.

WHAT? – Help clean up! Once the need has been appraised and the help requested.

WHO? – Anyone who is well and able and can give the time.

HOW? – See the Plan for Action diagram later in this book.

Many years ago, when I was struggling with God's Call and His Will for my life, I read a definition of a "call". It went like this:

"A call is a need,
the knowledge of that need, and
a consciousness of your ability to meet that need."

As we engage in the reactivation and revitalization of this disaster relief ministry, my prayer is that we will see the needs, acknowledge them and be conscious of when and how we can help. With God's help and call, when a disaster strikes and we are needed, we will respond!

Our Story by Numbers

Year	Volunteers Responding	Number of Sites	Number of Days	Communities Served	Volunteer Hours
2022	20	7	7	2	650.0
2021	45	24	10.0	4	951
2020	24	52	15	4	459
2019	19	13	3.5	1	239
2018	49	42	45	5	966
2017	55	34	21	6	1428
2016	52	9	12	2	822.5
2015	22	6	17	2	214
2014	0	0	0	0	0
2013	81	71	37	11	1373
2012	21	12	7	2	280
2011	65	26	34	4	1169
2010	14	4	5	2	180
2009	116	196	39	6	1960
2008	127	50	46	9	1595
2007	25	25	4	2	273
2006	80	60	7	1	2900
2005	99	63	37	1	2760
2004	45	14	4	4	480
Total	959	708	350.5	68	18699.5

At \$22.50 an hour, to date we have saved victims \$420,738.75

(Numbers as of August, 20 2022)

Beginning in 2018, Volunteer Hours include travel time as per National ABM.

Disaster Relief Responses

Resp. #	Year	Place	Date	Team Leader(s)
63	2022	East St. Louis, IL	Aug. 10-12, 15	John Hoenig, Terry Maurizio, Ron McLaughlin
62	2022	Bremen, KY	May 10-11, 13	Van Peters
61	2021	Edwardsville, IL	Dec. 22	John Hoenig, Dick Gilaspie
60	2021	Benton, KY	Dec. 14-16	Van Peters
59	2021	Gibson City, IL	Aug. 23-26	Van Peters, Terry Marusio, Brian Romanaski
58	2021	Bloomington, IL	July 26-28	Van Peters
57	2020	Lake Charles, LA	Nov. 5-10	Van Peters
56	2020	Lake Charles, LA	Sept. 9-15	Van Peters
55	2020	Marissa, IL	Aug. 11-12	Ron Haynes
54	2020	Roanoke, IL	Aug. 5-6	Ron McLaughlin
53	2019	Granite City, IL	Aug. 23-27	John Hoenig
52	2018	Taylorville, IL	Dec. 7-12	Terry Maurizio/Paul Stivers
51	2018	Beaumont, TX	Oct 22-26	Van Peters
50	2018	Beaumont, TX	Apr. 8-14	Brian Romanowski
49	2018	Watseka, IL	Mar. 8-10	Brian Romanowski
48	2018	Puerto Rico	Feb. 5-24	Brian Romanowski/Jim Daugherty/Bill Humenczuk
47	2017	Bailey's Prairie, TX	Nov. 12-18	Terry Maurizio
46	2017	Lake Charles, LA	Oct. 8-14	Brian Romanowski
45	2017	Lake Charles, LA	Sept. 17-23	Van Peters
44	2017	Elkville, IL	Mar. 4-7	Van Peters
43	2017	Baton Rouge, LA	Jan. 8-14	Terry Maurizio
42	2016	Baton Rouge, LA	Nov. 1-5, 13-19	Terry Maurizio, Brian Romanowski
41	2016	LSBC	Apr. 13-15	Van Peters
40	2016	Kincaid, IL	Jan 7-9, 11-15, 19	Terry Maurizio, Paul Stivers, Elmer Voudrie
39	2015	Quincy, IL	July 22-24, 27-29	Terry Maurizio, Paul Stivers
38	2015	Coal City, IL	June 24	Chuck Johnson
37	2013	Diamond, IL	Dec. 1-3	John McConnel
36	2013	Gifford, IL	Nov. 19-23	Brian Romanowski
35	2013	Wayne, NE	Oct. 24-28	John McConnel
34	2013	Edwardsville, IL	June 11-14	Van Peters, John Hoenig
33	2013	St. Louis, MO	June 11-14	Ron Kinner, John Hoenig
32	2013	Moore, OK	May 31-June 3	John McConnel, Chuck Johnson
31	2013	Peoria, IL	May 6-17	Jon Dainty, Brian Romanowski
30	2013	Marseilles, IL	May 2-3	John McConnel
29	2012	Red Bank, NJ	Nov. 14-20	John McConnel, Chuck Johnson
28	2012	Harrisburg, IL	Mar. 4-6	Van Peters
27	2011	Joplin, MO	June-July	Paul Webb, John McConnel (2x), Gary Short, Elmer Voudrie, David Harman
26	2011	Olive Branch, IL	May 22-25	Van Peters
25	2010	Haiti	Nov. 3	Chuck Johnson
24	2010	Carbondale, IL	Apr. 17	Van Peters
23	2009	Louisville, Ky	Oct. 18-23	Elmer Voudrie
22	2009	Carbondale, IL	June 10	John McConnel, Chuck Johnson
21	2009	Herrin, IL	May 17-22, May 25-29, June 7-10, June 15-19	Elmer Voudrie, Dick Gillespie, John McConnel, Chuck Johnson, Ron Haynes, Van Peters

20	2009	Murphysboro, IL	May 14-16	Ron Haynes, Larry Stanton
19	2009	Cairo, IL	Feb. 18-20	Paul Stivers
18	2008	Cave In Rock, IL	Feb. 8-13	Ron Haynes
17	2008	Warsaw, IL	Sept. 10-Oct. 2	Chuck Johnson, Paul Webb, Jack Smith, Ron Greenfield
16	2008	Buffalo, IA	Sept. 2-3	Jack Smith
15	2008	Oregon, IL	Aug. 13	Jack Smith
14	2008	Andalusia, IL	July 28-Aug. 5	Jack Smith
13	2008	Quincy, IL	July-Aug.	Ron Greenfield, Elmer Voudrie
12	2008	Monkey Run, MO	July 22-24	Paul Webb
11	2008	Rockford, IL	July 17	Jack Smith
10	2008	Davenport, IA	June 24, July 12	Jack Smith
9	2008	East Moline, IL	July 12	Jack Smith
8	2008	Jacksonville, IL	Dec. 2007-Jan. 2008	Mac Shotwell, Paul Stivers
7	2007	Elgin, IL	Aug. 28-29	Jack Smith
6	2006	Springfield, IL	Mar. 13-20	Mac Shotwell, Ron Greenfield, Gary Short
5	2005	Wiggins, MS	Sept-Oct	Jack Smith, Bob Higgins, Kevin Comfort, Ron Greenfield, Dave Comstock
4	2004	Utica, IL	Nov. 22	Richard Allen
3	2004	Rantoul, IL	July 17	Dave Comstock
2	2004	Jacksonville, IL	May 27-28	Paulsen, Shotwell & David Johanpeter
1	2004	Winchester, IL	May 27-28	Philp Paulsen and Mac Shotwell

Disaster Relief Leadership Team ABC/GRR

(Updated August 2021)

ABM/GRR President:**Dick Gillaspie**

7019 N. Teton Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614
Home: 309.692.5320
Mobile: 309.648.1267
gillasr@netscape.net

Coordinator:**Van Peters**

159 Faith Dr.
Creal Springs, IL 62922
309.212.8797
v.peters42@yahoo.com

ABM/GRR Treasurer:**Earl Troyer**

P.O. Box 211
Goodfield, IL 61742
309.965.2342
etroyer38@gmail.com

Team One**Captain:**

VACANT

Assistant:

VACANT

Team Two**Captain:**

Terry Maurizio
415 Hollow Ave.
Jerseyville, IL 62052
217.853.0651
gooutinjoy@hotmail.com

Assistant:

Richard Ruyle
27602 Range Line Rd.
Jerseyville, IL 62052
618.535.2508
rruylefs@gmail.com

Team Three**Captain:**

Brian Romanowski
204 Barbara Dr.
Mahomet, IL 61853
309.826.8116
bs.romanowski@gmail.com

Assistants:

Dick Gillaspie
7019 N. Teton Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614
Home: 309.692.5320
Mobile: 309.648.1267
gillasr@netscape.net

Gordon Frobish

19043 E 1250 N Rd
Fairbury, IL 61739
Home: 815.692.4094
Mobile: 815.674.2369
frobes@maxwire.net

Team Four**Captains:**

Jeff Waters
4445 Mary Todd Rd.
Mattoon, IL 61938
217.259.9364
mt4445@consolidated.net

Duane Miesner

102 Lindsay St.
PO Box 125
Tildon, IL 62292
618.718.9274
demiesner@outlook.com

Assistants:

Ron Haynes
Don Rogers

Team Five**Captain:**

John Hoenic
443 Shady Lane
Edwardsville, IL 62025
618.656.9323
ghoenig@sbcglobal.net

Assistant:

Bill Humenczuk
8624 W. 116th St.
Overland Park, KS 66210
913.338.4478
bhumenczuk@kc.rr.com

Pastor Counselor:**Mac Shotwell**

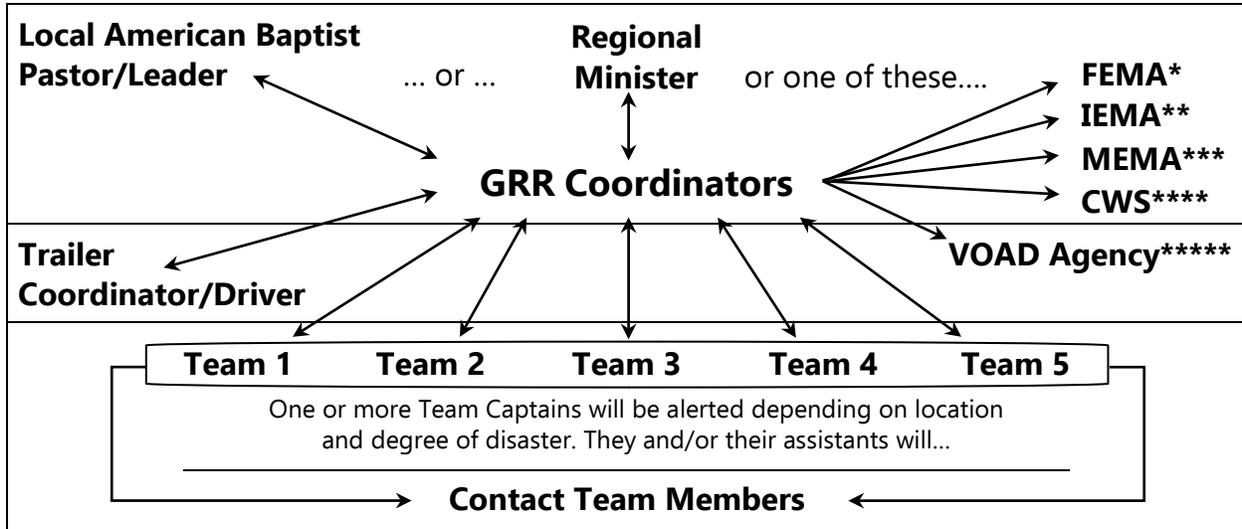
2521 Lindbergh Blvd.
Springfield, IL 62704
Home: 217.546.3422
Mobile: 217.891.4463
macshotwell@gmail.com

Trailer Coordinator:**Ron McLaughlin**

365 Main Rd.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
618.534.2946
mclidot@gmail.com

ABMen Disaster Relief Response Plan for Action

When disaster strikes in the Great Rivers Region or within a 500-mile radius of Springfield, IL, any of the following can contact the GRR Coordinators or the Coordinators can contact any below to determine if a need for response is present:



When a Disaster Strikes

- (1) Be Pro-Active. Call local contact (Mayor, Street Department, Local Emergency Management, Pastor) and offer our help.
- (2) Call Mac or Van and report need for help.
- (3) Site inspection and Advance Team led by Van and perhaps Team Leader. Will estimate how many volunteers needed and for how long.
- (4) Arrange for housing and food for team – Mac or Van will arrange.
- (5) Team Leaders initiate call for help to team members.
- (6) Team Leader makes arrangements to have a truck and driver on hand to move trailer to various work sites.
- (7) Call for additional help, if needed, will be out on ABMen's website and GRR website.

"Be Prepared!" – Five Year Goals

(Updated April 2014)

Goal One: Create and maintain at least one team in each of the five area of the Great Rivers Region with a captain and assistant for each team. Subdivide the teams into smaller geographical units with team leaders which will enable quick response and contact when teams are needed to be alerted.

Goal Two: Enlist and maintain 25 or more members for each team and offer Hands-on training each year at the annual men's fall gathering.

Goal Three: Equip and maintain the disaster relief trailers. The 18-wheeler will be used for storage, one of trailer for mud-out and one for chainsaws.

Goal Four: Meet annually in spring as a Regional Leadership Team (coordinators, trailer coordinators, team captains and assistants) for communication, planning, evaluating and ongoing support. Also be represented at National Coordinators gatherings.

Goal Five: Keep team members informed with periodic publishing of "UPDATE" as part of "UPSTREAM" publication or separate mailings.

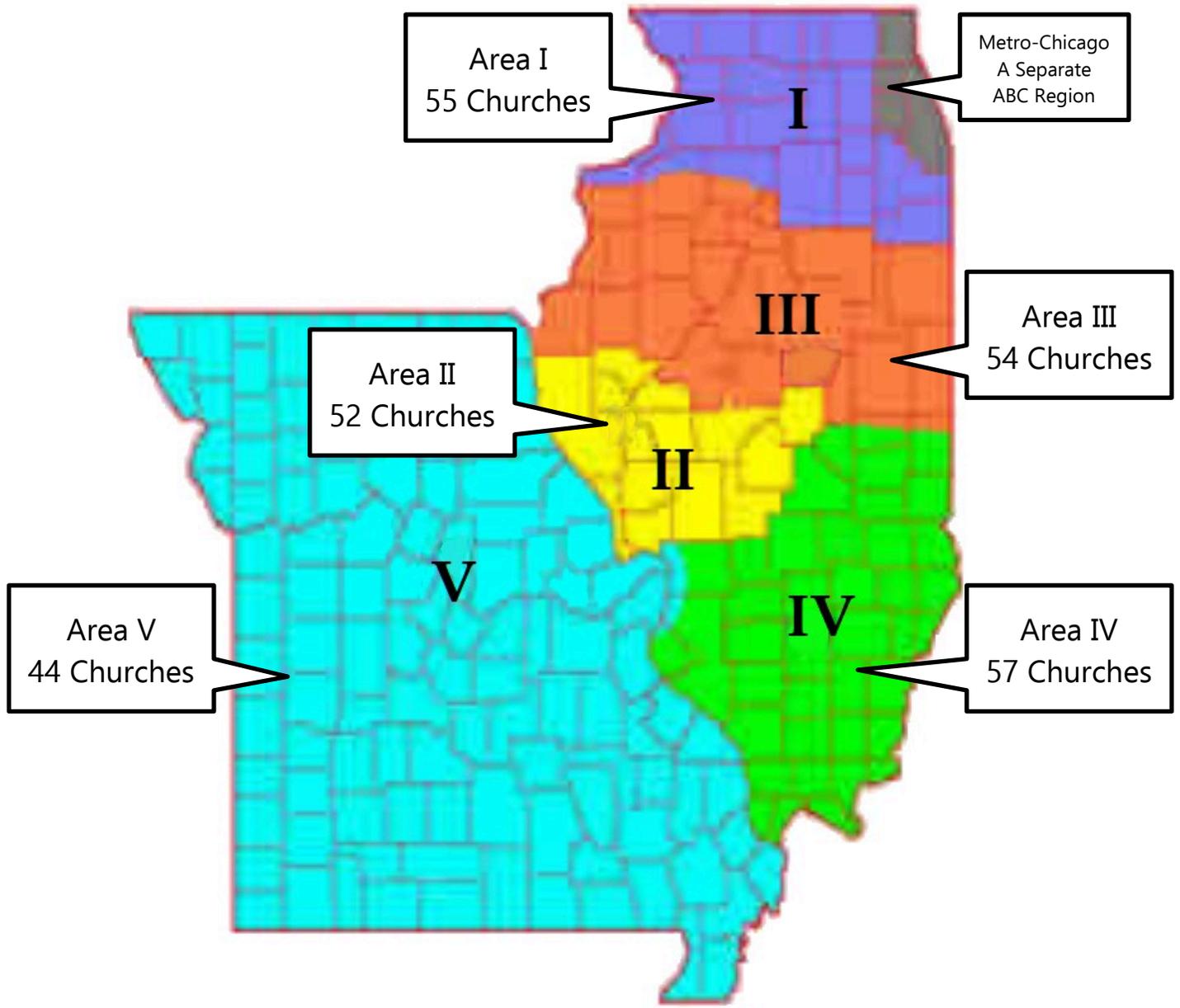
Goal Six: Be in communication with IEMA, MEMA (Illinois and/or Missouri Emergency Management Agency), VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster), local Emergency Managers, Mayors, and local authorities, cooperating with them when disaster strikes.

Goal Seven: Be ready to respond when a disaster strikes anywhere in the Great Rivers Region. When disaster is outside the Great Rivers Region, we will cooperate with our National Disaster Coordinator and/or the Regional Disaster Coordinator and respond as needed.

Goal Eight: When we respond to a disaster call, the team should take time to pray for God's guidance. If we ask why we do what we are doing, we will refer to our motto: "Because Jesus Came, We Come". If the inquirer wants to know more, a personal testimony is in order. When possible, we will leave a Bible and a devotional guide as gifts for the survivors and pray with them.

Service Areas of the Great Rivers Region

Effective January 1, 2001



ABMen have 13 Districts that can have a voice on the ABMen General Board.
At this time, we have 8 District Representatives.

"Because Jesus Came, We Come!"

Biblical Basis for Our Ministry

All Scripture taken from the New International Version (NIV).

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Matthew 25: 35-36, 45

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me...Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."

James 2:14-17

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

Romans 12:1

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."

ABMen's Disaster Relief Response Leadership Position Descriptions

Regional Disaster Relief Coordinator(s)

Primary Responsibilities: Oversee entire disaster relief operations for the ABC of Great Rivers Region and serve as primary contact with American Baptist Men's Ministries, USA. Continue to organize and manage this ministry, providing training sessions and work days as needed. Authorized to activate the regional ABMen Disaster Relief system when needed. Represent this ministry at ABMen's Board of Directors, GRR and at ILVOAD and other disaster relief gatherings. Help enlist and maintain team membership roster, edit UPDATE and meet at least once a year with the Leadership Team.

Accountability: Reports to ABMen's Board of Directors, GRR.

Disaster Relief Trailer Coordinator and Assistant

Primary Responsibilities: Manage maintenance of disaster relief trailers, keeping the contents up-to-date and in working condition. Manage an up-to-date WISH LIST of items needed for the trailer. Keep a list of potential drivers and, when a disaster relief call comes, enlist a driver to pull the trailer to the designated site. If unable to stay with the trailer, work with the team leader in designating someone to be the trailer coordinator at the site.

Accountability: Work directly with Regional Disaster Relief Coordinator(s).

Disaster Relief Team Captains and Assistants

Primary Responsibilities: Enlist members for your team and keep in touch, coordinate and supervise team at disaster scenes. Maintain contact with the Regional Coordinator at least every other day when on an assignment, provide proper I.D. to volunteers on site, keep adequate records of work performed and expenses incurred, and obtain permission for any purchase in excess of \$100.00.

Disaster Relief Response Responsibilities

Coordinator and/or Team Captain or Advance Team Leader

1. Visit (if possible) the site(s) to determine work to be done.
2. Make contact with one or more of the following: FEMA, IEMA, MEMA, Red Cross, City Mayor or Manager, Local Disaster Relief Coordinators.
3. Check with local American Baptist pastor and church (if available), or other church or community organization assigned to feed and sleep the team.
4. For each assigned site: complete "Liability Release & On-Site Information" form with "victims" to be helped and leave brochure, "When Disaster Strikes", with "We are here to help you!" enclosure. (One form and brochure for each site. Supply will be in the trailers)
5. Determine place to park trailer and who will be in charge of trailer (trailer coordinator at site).
6. With Trailer Coordinator, alert Driver to plans.
7. Make arrangements for meals and rest room facilities.
8. Make arrangements for overnight accommodations if needed.

Team Leader On-Site

(May be team captain or assistant OR designated team leader)

1. Call members of team and alert them to need to respond.
2. Give information on what to bring and where to meet. Each day have all team members sign-in (for insurance purposes and for emergency contact). (Form in trailer. Clerk can help.)
3. Announce meal plans and sleeping arrangements.
4. Select on-site trailer coordinator and clerk (if possible)
5. Meet with team before work begins, explain work to be done and assign tasks. (Make sure "Liability Release and Site Information" completed.)
6. Have a time for a brief devotional and prayer before work begins. If "victims" are present, you may want to pray with them, also.
7. Keep the safety of your team members in mind at all times and be sure they do not

take unnecessary risks. (Most are not professionals in this work.)

8. Encourage team members to take rest breaks and provide them bottled water.
9. Continue as "boss" and "overseer" of the work to be done.
10. Keep in touch with the Coordinator.
11. When assignment completed, send coordinator:
 - (1) names of all volunteers
 - (2) No. of sites worked
 - (3) No. of days worked
 - (4) Total hours worked (no. of volunteers x hours worked each day x days worked)
 - (5) Work site assignment forms
 - (6) Brief testimony and pictures (if possible).

On-site Clerk

1. Assist Team Leader and trailer coordinator when needed.
2. Serve as secretary for each mission.
3. Take care of paper work.
4. Make calls to potential sites as needed.
5. Check volunteers in each day.
6. Assist team leader in contacting local leaders
7. If orange shirts and/or vests need laundering, try to get this done.

On-Site Trailer Coordinator

1. In charge of trailer while on assignment.
2. Assist team leader in assigning tools and supplies. (Use form in desk for checking out and back in supplies)
3. Distribute magnetic ID signs for on-site use on volunteers' vehicles. (Use forms in desk for assigning signs out and in)
4. See that all tools & supplies are in working order
5. Make sure the chains are kept sharpened.
6. Report needed repairs to Trailer Coordinator in field. (Leave note in desk)
7. Assist in taking ID pictures, when needed.

8. Make sure the trailer is locked when no one is in charge.
9. If no water bottles in trailer and it is hot, check to see if local hosts are providing. If not, purchase as needed and send bill to Coordinator or Treasurer.
10. Distribute green/yellow vest to all workers and orange t-shirts as supply lasts. (Donation for t-shirts: \$10.00 optional. Vests are to be returned to trailer)
11. As needed, see that vests are laundered and any used t-shirts that were not purchased.
12. Check in all supplies after use.

General Recommendations For ALL

1. Always be sensitive to the needs of the disaster victims. This is not a time to evangelize or theologize about their predicament. Inevitably opportunities will arise to explain why you are there. The best response is our mission motto: "Because Jesus Came, We Come!" If appropriate, having prayer with them before or after your work may be helpful. (Also, we will discuss the possibility of leaving a Bible.)
2. When doing debris cleanup, salvage pictures and personal documents if at all possible.
3. Always enter the disaster area with a full tank of gas. See "Learnings" list for more information.

Resources for Ministry Promotion

The following resources are available to help share the message of this ministry, to enlist more team members, to discover financial resources and to promote ongoing support.

Videos

1. "American Baptist Men Disaster Relief '97": 7-minute VHS report on the South Dakota flood response, featuring our 18-wheeler trailer on one of its first assignments, giving an overview of why and how we respond.
2. "American Baptist Men Help": 4-minute VHS segment from a Kansas City TV channel's report on tornado response.
3. "Mississippi Flood Relief": 15-minute VHS report on the Hull, IL flood relief in 1993, which gave rise to the creation of our ABMen's Disaster Relief ministry.
4. TV Interview with Mac Shotwell and Ron Greenfield: 20-minute public access TV program (Nov. 2008).
5. "When Disaster Strikes": PowerPoint Presentation
6. A 20-minute CD-R PowerPoint with script and brief video of 1993 flood. A history and report on this ministry in GRR.
7. A 25-minute CR-R PowerPoint with script, including #1 under videos above and a brief segment from #3 above.

DVDs

1. "ABMen Disaster Video" (2006): 15-minute DVD. Gives overview of some of the scenes from video (in Section A above) and scenes up to and including Katrina.
2. "ABMen's Disaster Relief Response Chain Saw Safety": Created by Jack Smith and John McConnel, giving an overview of how to use the chain saw with safety instructions.
3. Work Site Pictures: Individual pictures with stories of various work sites.
4. Display Boards: highlighting this ministry and specific sites.
5. Speakers: Some members of the leadership team and response teams may be available. If invited, expenses should be covered by inviting host.

Contact Mac Shotwell or any of the Team Captains to order any of the above.

Data on the Trailers

(Including Insurance)

Our 18-Wheeler Disaster Relief Trailer (Trailer No. One), a gift in 1996 from Caterpillar in Peoria, Illinois, is a 1981 Stoughton (30 ft. length by 13.3 ft. height). The second trailer (Trailer No. Two), purchased in 2006 is a 2001 green colored 18 ft. Wells Cargo with a ramp rear door and side access. The third trailer purchased new in 2009 (Trailer No. Three) is a white colored 20 ft. Page with ramp rear door and side access dedicated to the memory of Charlie Schumaker.

Certificates of Title

Original Certificates of Title are located in the trailers, with copies in the home of the disaster relief leadership coordinator and the trailer coordinator.

Trailer Name	Title Holder	Title	Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
Trailer No. One	Great Rivers Region Box 3786 Springfield, IL 62708-8378	T4225759012 Issued 8/12/2004	1DW1A3421BS311209
Trailer No. Two	American Baptist Men PO Box 211 Goodfield, IL 61742-0211	X6219065030 Issued 8/7/2006	1WC200H2511094951
Trailer No. Three	American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region PO Box 211 Goodfield, IL 61742-0211	X9035008029 Issued 2/04/2009	40LUB20249P155092

Insurance On All Trailers

Policy in Regional office, with insurance identification cards in the trailers and copies in the home of the leadership coordinator and the trailer coordinator.

- (1) With Church Mutual Insurance Company, 2412 East Washington St. Suite 5A, Bloomington, IL 617-694-4410. Telephone: 800-554-2642. Fax: 309-663-1099. This policy includes a \$1,000,000 limit of liability with \$5,000 medical payments per person. There will be a \$500 deductible on each of the trailer's insurance coverage. Regional representative: Mike Mounce. Contact: Barb McElroy.
- (2) "All volunteers for the disaster relief ministry will be insured through the liability and medical payments insurance program. The legal liability limits are \$300,000 each occurrence." Quoting Mike Mounce from Church Mutual in a letter to Dwight Stinnett, dated July 28, 2004. Secondary to the individual's own policy.
- (3) Separate insurance will be carried on the tractors, borrowed or rented.

Keys to the Trailers

- (1) Robert Gebhardt – Trailer Coordinator (Master Key)
- (2) Harold Monroe – Assistant Trailer Coordinator and Team Two Assistant
- (3) Mac Shotwell – Coordinator
- (4) Van Peters – Coordinator
- (5) Chuck Johnson – Team One Captain
- (6) John McConnel – Team One Assistant
- (7) Terry Maurizio – Team Two Captain
- (8) Ellis Loper – Team Two Assistant
- (9) Brian Romanowski – Team Three Captain
- (10) Dick Gillespie – Team Three Assistant
- (11) Elmer Voudrie – Team Four Captain
- (12) Les Sorensen – Team Four Assistant
- (13) Ron Haynes – Team Four Assistant
- (14) John Hoenig – Team Five Captain
- (15) Bill Humenczuk – Team Five West Assistant
- (16) Doug and Jennifer Brady – LSBC Managers
- (17) Extra in Green Trailer (for use onsite by Team Leader/Trailer Coordinator)
- (18) Extra in White Trailer (for use onsite by Team Leader/Trailer Coordinator)
- (19) Ron Kinner
- (20) _____
- (21) _____
- (22) _____

Magnetic ID Car Signs

- Two in each trailer for placing on cab pulling trailer Team captain and assistant each have one
- Ten in each trailer (to be checked out on site for use by volunteers with vehicles)
- These should be used when checking out sites as well as when you drive to the site for actual work with team.
- When positions are replaced, both signs and keys should be given to the new replacement.

Disaster Relief Guidelines

1. **Flexibility** is essential. What works in one setting may not in another. We must "roll with the punches". It is not time to be rigid.
2. Be **Cooperative** and work with other disaster response teams. Coordinate and work with assigned local, regional or national leaders.
3. Must **Insist** that safety equipment be worn as needed. (Insurance coverage void if not used.) Only trained team members should be allowed to use power equipment.
4. **Insurance:** "Volunteers are covered from the time they leave home to the time they return home, but it is important to remember that our coverage is supplemental (secondary) to an individual's own health plan. For the most part, our insurance covers what each individual's plan does not cover – Up to \$5,000 or \$10,000, depending on whether it is an overnight trip. If an individual does not have their own insurance, our maximums per incident will be all the coverage they have. Accidents are covered as supplemental coverage. Major illnesses (heart attack, stroke, etc.) that are direct causes of the work being performed are covered as supplemental coverage." (In communication from Roland Sundberg to Mac Shotwell and Elmer Voudrie, May 2009.)
5. "It is understood that team members responding to a disaster call for help within our Region will care for their own expenses enroute to and from the work sites. If this is a personal hardship, exceptions can be made by the team leader and one of the coordinators. Room and board on the sites will be arranged by the coordinators and/or team leaders. If a team responds to a call outside our region the policy for covering expenses will be made by the president and one of the coordinators." – ABMen's Policy



American Baptist Men Disaster Relief Response
Liability Release and On-Site Information
— To Be Completed Before Work Begins —
Homeowner Statement of Understanding

Knowing that American Baptist Men's Ministries is using volunteers and there is no liability coverage, I understand and concur and give my permission for work to be done on my property.

I further fully and forever release and discharge American Baptist Men, its directors, employees and agents from any and all claims, damages, or causes of action present or future, whether the same be known, anticipated or unanticipated, resulting from or arising out of service of American Baptist Men volunteers.

I have read and understand and hereby sign the foregoing Statement of Understanding this ____ day of _____ (month), 2022

Signature: _____

PLEASE PRINT

Homeowner Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

Description of Damage and Help Needed: _____



American Baptist Men Disaster Relief Information

The homeowner should expect one of our members to call and schedule a time to look and review what work needs to be done. You will receive a phone call and or text from one of our people about getting into or on your property for the requested work. The call will probably be from another area code so please answer.

We will make 3 attempts to contact you and if we make no contact, we will assume your job is completed and your request will be removed from the active queue.

Expect our people to wear orange. The American Baptist Men Disaster Relief will never charge for any of our services.

We do not do mobile homes because there is no way to do a complete tear out without compromising the integrity of the structure, nor do we offer services for commercial or rental property (unless signed by renter and owner for rental property).

The signed Mission request is not a guarantee of services. The date your request is received is not the priority by which work is done. We will make every effort to get to your job in a timely order.

Once we arrive and your work begins, our volunteers will do the work discussed with our assessor and you unless we deem other work may be needed or we are unable to do the work. If your home requires a mold retardant (shock wave), you will be required to be out of the house during the application process for 4 hours. If we encounter **asbestos** in your job, work will be halted, and disposal will be at the owner's expense.

Van Peters, State Director
American Baptist Men Disaster Relief for Great Rivers Region

If any questions, please contact:

ABMen's Disaster Response

Date: _____ Place: _____

Please Sign In
(For insurance purposes)

	Print Name	Cell Phone #	Emergency Contact & Phone	Medical Info
1)				
2)				
3)				
4)				
5)				
6)				
7)				
8)				
9)				
10)				

Sign ME Up!

Yes, add me to a Disaster Relief Team

Please Print and Mail to Coordinator or Team Captain

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No. _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Team Member Responsibilities (Clip and Save)

1. When called, respond if possible.
2. Learn from caller the details of where, when and what.
3. Indicate to caller how much time you have available.
4. Pool ride with other team members when possible.
5. Wear t-shirt with our logo and vest. (Available on site)
6. Bring photo ID badge. (Will be provided on site if needed.)
7. Wear steel toe-enforced boots (if available)
8. Dress for type of work indicated and bring change of clothes and toiletry items if plans are to stay overnight.
9. If needed and requested, bring additional tools if available.
10. If additional workers are needed, attempt to solicit from your church and/or community and notify team leader.
11. Take work orders from Team Leader.