THE ECOSYSTEM OF DISASTER VOLUNTEERS

Guidance to Protect Volunteers from COVID-19 During Natural Disaster Response and Recovery
The Ecosystem

The Whole of Community

Government Programs

National Faith based Organizations

Spontaneous Volunteers

The Whole of Community

VOAD

Local Organizations

Neighborhood Groups
Motivation

- “Some volunteers may be motivated to understand more about their community or learn through hands-on experience. Others may volunteer as they feel the work will develop or enhance them as a person and help them to feel better about themselves”

- Disasters leave people feeling that they lack control, volunteering helps them gain that control and feel safer and connected
- The culture of service through volunteerism is engrain in many cultures, we see this strong presence in the faith community
Barriers to adhering to safety protocols

- Limited time to volunteer
- Superwomen Mentality
- Service to others over self
- Belief Systems
- Lack of mandates and regulations
- Limited access to PPE
Who is responsible?

- Organizations must develop their own volunteer/worker safety protocols:
  - Enact Hierarchy of Control Measures
  - Disseminate protocols to the volunteer/worker
  - Enforce protocols across volunteers and workers
  - Provide PPE
  - Have a back up plan

- Volunteers must understand what to expect and ensure they are comfortable with the risk:
  - Understand the organizations protocols
  - Adhere to the protocols
  - Have a back up plan
GET TRAINED
GET CONNECTED

www.disastervolunteerismacademy.org
www.readyresponders.org
lorloff@worldcares.org