

11.3.11 DISASTER SERVICES UPDATE

Friends and Partners,

We would like to take a moment and congratulate the new members of AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps Class 18 from the Southwest and Pacific Regions on their recent induction to service! Welcome and have a great term of service! We would also like to recognize the Field Team Leaders and Corps Members from AmeriCorps NCCC's North Central and Atlantic regions as they prepare to graduate this month. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to improving communities affected by disaster!

This year has been a very active year for disasters. There has been a great deal of work our partners and our friends. We would like to recognize the work of our Disaster Response Cooperative Agreement Program Partners for their hard work this year. Thank you for "Getting Things Done" in communities that have been affected by disaster! We could not have responded to the many disasters without you!

If you would like to learn more about how you can assist communities affected by disaster visit www.serve.gov or <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/howtohelp.shtm> If you would like to learn more about how to prepare your family and or community please visit www.ready.gov.

SPOTLIGHT AMERICORPS VISTA PROGRAM AT BE READY ALLIANCE COORDINATING FOR EMERGENCIES (BRACE)

The Florida CNCS State office recently received an email from an AmeriCorps VISTA sponsor thankful for the support of their agency and crediting a recent award to having VISTA members.

"I wanted to bring to your attention that the support provided by the Florida Office of the Corporation for National & Community Service was instrumental to BRACE being named as the top award winner by FEMA in the category of "Promising Partnerships" for 2011. It would not have been possible for BRACE to have performed at a level to earn one of FEMA's top awards without the support of the VISTAs that have helped build the capacity of BRACE. I hope that your Office will have an opportunity to take credit for what you have helped make possible for the benefit of vulnerable residents of Escambia County and Florida. This is the link to the award announcement:

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/councils/awards/2011/awardwinners2011.shtm>

Corporation for National and Community Service

Congratulations to BRACE and their VISTA's! You can learn more about AmeriCorps VISTA at <http://www.americorps.gov/about/programs/vista.asp>. And more about BRACE at <http://www.bereadyalliance.org/default.asp>

TROPICAL STORM LEE

Tropical Storm Lee was the twelfth named storm and thirteenth system overall of the 2011 Atlantic hurricane season, developing from a broad tropical disturbance over the Gulf on September 1. It was designated as Tropical Storm Lee the next day.

"In Pennsylvania, Tropical Storm Lee is turning out to be much worse than Irene, dropping more rain in some areas than Agnes did in 1972". Bernard Brown, CNCS State Director, PA

New York

TIOGA COUNTY

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

October 22 – November 16

One team of 10 members will muck and gut flooded homes, and assist with processing work orders at the Disaster Reception Center, in Nichols, NY (west of Binghamton). This project is under authority of a FEMA Mission Assignment, in partnership with Tioga County

TEXAS WILDFIRES

On Sept 5 a wildfire raced through rain-starved farm and ranchland in Central Texas, causing an evacuation of almost 5,000 residents and destroying 500 homes.

****UPDATE Hoopa Tribal Conservation Corps**

On October 20, thirteen members and two staff members deployed to Bastrop, Texas. This team has been recruiting and managing volunteers, administering the Volunteer Reception Center and Warehouse. On October 27th, the team split to provide support the communities of Waller and Spicewood. The current date for the end of this deployment is November 26.

****UPDATE NCCC Southwest Region**

On October 11, four Team Leaders from the NCCC Southwest Region campus and one Team Leader from the NCCC Pacific region completed a 12 day disaster assignment with the Austin Disaster Relief Network. They worked on relief and recovery of devastating wildfires in the greater Austin area, specifically with the Spicewood Relief and Recovery effort. Accomplishments included clearing over 10 tons of debris by hand, creating an evacuee needs and donations database, reorganizing volunteer documents and updated a volunteer database, sorting donations and participating in homeowner damage assessments.

Corporation for National and Community Service

****UPDATE** North Central Region

7 NCCC members are in Bastrop, Texas (30 miles SE of Austin) under a FEMA Mission Assignment. The members are working with American YouthWorks to coordinate efforts at the Volunteer Reception Center in Bastrop. The team will complete their assignment on November

CENTRAL TEXAS

American YouthWorks

Under the authority of a FEMA Mission Assignment two AmeriCorps grantee programs 30 members deployed to Austin, Texas where they are coordinating a Volunteer Reception Center and facilitate donations management.

Deployment Dates Sept 19 – October 30

HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM IRENE

August 20-August 29th Hurricane Irene wound up by most estimates as one of the top ten most destructive and deadly hurricanes to hit the United States since 1980. While ultimately not as powerful as many had predicted, the storm still killed at least 27 people along its path from the Caribbean to the eastern seaboard. Transportation was shut down all along the east coast, stranding residents and tourists in shelters, airports, and train stations. More than 5.8 million customers lost electricity, thousands of flights were cancelled, flooding washed out roads and destroyed homes, and evacuation orders were issued for hundreds of thousands. Gathered here are pictures from the Hurricane's path. -- Lane Turner

MISSOURI TORNADO

On May 22, 2011, a massive EF-5 tornado struck Joplin, MO and causing significant damage, injury, and loss of life.

****UPDATE** AmeriCorps St. Louis

AmeriCorps St. Louis continues its deployment of over 5 months to Joplin. AmeriCorps St. Louis has been providing volunteer coordination and hour tracking after the devastating May 22nd tornado took 162 lives in Joplin, MO. The program is focusing their efforts on supplying productive and meaningful work for volunteers to assist homeowners in their recovery, acting as a work site for 150 WIB workers in clerical and debris removal positions, maintaining a volunteer hour and registration database, homeowner request database and accompanying phone banks. Current projects also include moving the volunteer/memorial house, the tree planting project, the trail project around the FEMA housing, etc.

ALABAMA TORNADOES

Severe thunderstorms, winds and massive tornadoes moved through the South on April 27, 2011 and caused significant damage and loss of life.

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

October 14 - December 8

Habitat Tuscaloosa has ramped up its building efforts in response to the April 27, 2011 tornados. An 11 member NCCC team will focus on leading volunteers in all stages of new home construction.

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

November 11 – December 8

A 12 member NCCC team is working with Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization (HERO) and Habitat for Humanity of Hale County to build a new home for a family displaced by the April 2011 tornadoes. The team will lead volunteers in all stages of home building.

NORTH DAKOTA FLOODING

AmeriCorps NCCC, North Central Region

9 NCCC members are in Minot to serve with Lutheran Disaster Response. The members are focusing on gutting and mucking homes impacted by 2011 flooding from the Souris River.

LOUISIANA

LAFAYETTE, LA

NCCC Southern Region

October 11 – November 6

The team is working with Habitat and Rebuilding Together Acadiana with a primary focus on rebuilding in Rayne, LA, in response to the devastating March 2011 tornado. With LHFH, the team would lead local and visiting volunteers on new builds. With RTA, the team will lead volunteers in repair and rebuilding projects in Rayne.

SOUTH DAKOTA FLOODING

****UPDATE** *AmeriCorps NCCC, North Central Region*

20 NCCC members deployed to Pierre to serve with Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota. The members are focusing on gutting and mucking homes impacted by 2011 flooding from the Missouri River.

AmeriCorps NCCC, North Central Region

10 NCCC Members are mucking, gutting, and buttoning up homes in North Sioux City, SD and the tri-state area (IA, NE, SD) to assist with the 2011 Missouri River Flood Recovery efforts.

RESOURCES

Google has partnered with FEMA's Ready.gov for National Preparedness Month to make information about how technology can be used prior to / during a disaster available to first responders and the public. Check out some of these innovative tools by exploring the links below.

[National Preparedness Month landing page](#) with new case study videos

[Updated Tools and Resources Page](#) with new case studies and templates

[Get Tech Ready resource for the public with FEMA and ARC](#)

[Blog post with stats on the internet and crises](#)

[Campaign blog post](#)
