

MISSION STATEMENT: The Disaster Relief Ministry of American Baptist Men seeks to serve those affected by local, state and federally declared disasters, with a core ministry of post disaster cleanup of homes and property. This work is done in cooperation with ABC Regions, and the wider disaster response community. In so doing we will further fulfill our Christian mission by demonstrating the compassion of Christ and ministry of wholeness and renewal.

ABMen Disaster Relief is a volunteer-driven ministry that provides assistance to those affected by local, state and federally declared disasters. We respond with volunteer laborers specializing in post disaster cleanup. Our focus is removing storm-damaged possessions, sheetrock, paneling, insulation and floor covering etc. as necessary for the home to dry out such that rebuilding can begin. Any water or mud remaining after the storm or fallen trees and windblown debris are also removed by the volunteers. Our response is usually initiated within 48 hours of a valid request for assistance.

American Baptist Men have been doing disaster response for decades through volunteering for mission trips and construction projects. In the 1990s ABMen's Disaster Relief Ministry was organized using a 40' trailer as an operational base for sleeping and tool storage. We soon learned that we could find lodging in local churches, fire halls etc. The large trailer was replaced with 16' and 12' trailers which can easily be towed with a pickup truck or large SUV. In 2010 we erected an 1800 square foot storage building at the Parchment Valley Conference Center for tool and equipment storage and training.

Generally responses are initiated when a request for assistance is received from a leader or pastor within the West Virginia Baptist Convention, the VOAD Director (WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters), or a representative of a county office of emergency services .

ABMen Disaster Relief is largely subsidized by grassroots donations from individuals and local churches. Grants for teams may also be available from Home Mission Action Team funding from American Baptist Home Mission Societies. All donations should be specifically identified as ABMen Disaster Relief

Questions may be directed to: ABMen Disaster Relief Coordinator, Rev John Vannoy (304)372-3675

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge God and He will make your paths straight”. – Proverbs 3:5-6

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was stranger and you invited me in. 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 for one of the least of these bothers (and Sister) of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25 (NIV)

“So then, my brother, because of God's many mercies to us, I make this appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him”. Romans 12:1 (TEV)

DO YOU HAVE ...

- ❖ A HEART FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY DISASTERS
- ❖ A WILLINGNESS TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF THE LORD
- ❖ ABILITY TO BE AVAILABLE WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

**IF SO, THEN WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF THE
WEST VIRGINIA DIASTER RELIEF TEAM**



DISASTER RELIEF RESPONSE TEAM

We need men from all across the nation to be a part of Disaster Relief Response Teams from their geographic area. Our specially equipped Disaster Relief Trailers are ready to be dispatched to wherever disaster strikes, but we need men who are trained to use the tools and minister to the needs of the people. Will you be one of those men? If so then just say:

YES! I want to help and here is how to contact me for training

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City, State & Zip: _____

Email: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Skills & Safety Training: _____

Allergies: _____

Mail completed form to:
ABMen Disaster Relief Coordinator
Rev. John Vannoy
258 Butcher Bend Road
Mineral Wells WV 26150

Volunteer's Assumption of Risk Agreement and Release

I understand that by volunteering to assist the American Baptist Men-USA Disaster Relief Ministry (ABMen) that I do so at my own risk. Disaster areas are intrinsically dangerous. Normal infrastructure such as the roads, hospitals, utilities, police and fire protection may be unavailable, damaged or operating at less than normal efficiencies. Disaster areas are often unsanitary and unsafe and pose risks of disease and injury. I understand the ABMen cannot guarantee or insure my safety and health while I act as a disaster response volunteer. I understand that I may be exposed to unsafe and unsanitary conditions. I hereby agree that ABMen shall not be liable for any damages arising from injuries sustained by me while I am engaging in disaster relief including any injuries received in traveling to and from the disaster location.

I fully and forever release and discharge ABMen and its affiliates, directors, employees and agents from any and all claims, demands damages or causes of action (including any claim brought by my estate or family) which are connected to or arise out of service as a disaster response volunteer.

I have read and understand the Assumption of Risk Agreement and Release and agree to its terms and conditions.

I have received a tetanus immunization within the last five years. YES No

Please list all known allergies:

Please list all preexisting medical conditions: _____

Insurance carrier:: _____

Policy number: _____

Blood Type: _____

Signature of Volunteer

Printed Name

Date:

Signature of Witness

Printed Name

Date:

Signature of Parent or guardian

Printed Name

Date: _____

If volunteer is under 18, then a parent or legal guardian must also read and sign.

ATTACHMENT # 8

Homeowner's Consent & Release

I understand the ABMen Disaster Relief Ministry (ABMen) is a volunteer nonprofit organization attempting to help individuals impacted by disasters. I agree that ABMen will have no liability for any damage done to my property or person through its efforts to assist me. I understand that the volunteers are "emergency service workers" and as such are given immunity from legal actions which flow from their service as are "emergency service workers"

I give my permission for work to be done on my property by ABMen and its volunteers.

I fully and forever release and discharge ABMen and its affiliates, directors, employees and agents from any and all claims, demands damages or causes of action relating to or arising out of service provided by ABMen or its volunteers.

Telephone number _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Signature of Homeowner

Printed Name

Date

Signature of Witness

Printed Name

Date