

## NCCUMC Guidance for All Response Teams during COVID-19

North Carolina Conference Disaster Response Ministries place high value on person-to-person connections in the context of disaster response. In times of pandemic, however, NCCUMC seeks to protect survivors, care givers, volunteers and our staff from infection as a priority for our work. All response team activities should adhere to critical health and safety protocols in order to:

- Protect residents
- Protect survivors
- Protect volunteers
- Protect volunteers' families

If you feel you or a family member is at high risk please do not volunteer at this time.

### General Guidelines for Volunteers

1. MAXIMUM number of volunteers per trip will greatly be reduced. Maximum capacities vary by site, and are limited by safe sleeping arrangements and room for social distancing at meals.
  - a. All volunteers must be 18 years or older.
2. Be prepared for daily wellness checks (including temperature checks with a non-contact thermometer) in the morning and evening.
3. DO plan for extra time for briefing and preparation for service.
4. DO clean and wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds before, during, and after volunteering.
5. DO avoid physical contact with others and maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet on site and at the center.
6. DO cover your cough and sneezes.
7. DO use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not readily available.
8. DO use proper personal protective equipment (PPE) when needed/provided for the task.
9. DO clean any used spaces thoroughly before and after, including table top surfaces and door knobs / handles.
10. Do help the Construction Manager at the end of the day to clean the worksite and tools.
11. IF anyone on the team experiences any COVID-19 symptoms (listed below), at any point during the volunteer's week, we will have to terminate the trip for the safety of our clients and employees. The group will be asked to leave as soon as they are able to do so.
  - a. Symptoms Include: Cough and Shortness of Breath or at least two of the following:
  - b. Fever, Chills, Muscle pain, Headache, Sore throat
  - c. **If a member of the team is diagnosed with Covid-19 within 14 days of the end of your trip please notify the Disaster Recovery center ASAP.**
12. DO NOT assume that you are at a lower risk if you have recovered from COVID or immune from reinfection.
13. DO NOT volunteer for any activity if, in the last 14 days, you have:
  - a. Experienced symptoms that could be related to COVID-19 (fever, cough, and difficulty breathing).
  - b. Been around anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
  - c. Traveled to any foreign country or hotspot in this country
14. DO NOT attempt to volunteer for any activity if you are feeling sick for any reason or at a higher risk because of serious illness or pre-existing medical conditions.
15. DO NOT touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with gloves or unwashed hands.

## **Volunteer Housing Protocol**

Volunteers will be housed at a Disaster Recovery Center. A kitchen will be available for on-site use.

1. Only Designated bunks may be used for sleeping to ensure safe distancing.
2. Volunteers will need to wipe down, with disinfectant provided, any common areas that were used such as the bathrooms, food prep, and eating areas.
3. WITH EACH USE volunteers will need to wipe down
  - a. ALL countertops used or touched in the kitchen.
  - b. ALL tables and chairs used during the meal.
  - c. ALL Cooking utensils used must be washed with HOT water & antibacterial dish soap (provided).
  - d. ALL meals will need to use disposable plates, cups, silverware, and napkins.
  - e. ALL spaces and countertops used in any of the bathroom facilities will need to be sprayed with disinfectant and wiped down.

## **NCCUMC and Volunteers - Client On-site Protocols**

1. The number of volunteers at each worksite will be limited to provide for distancing. Ideally the client will not be on site during work.
2. If the client, or any member of their household has signs of illness, work will be suspended on that client's home until the client is healthy and it is determined that the area is safe for work to resume.
3. Everyone is to wear masks from the time they arrive at the worksite until they leave. If the client is present and does not have a mask, a mask will be provided to the client(s) to wear while work is being done on their home.
4. We encourage teams to bring their own PPE if possible, however we will have disposable masks available. If you can bring a cloth mask we have facilities on site to wash them daily.
5. If the client is present they will not be permitted to remain in the part of the house where work is underway, and they will be required to wear a mask.
6. Construction Managers should wash hands regularly throughout the day and/or use hand sanitizer as they model safe procedures.
7. Teams will thoroughly clean and disinfect the work area at the end of each workday.
  - a. If the client is in the home, the Team should clean the work site in the morning, upon arrival, before resuming work.
8. Volunteers will wipe down their tools at the end of the day before returning them to their vehicles/tool trailer.
9. Portable restroom facilities will be provided at each work site.