



National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

MENTAL HEALTH AND SPIRITUAL CARE IN EMERGENCIES

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The Salvation Army

Territorial Disaster Services Coordinator

Chair: Emotional and Spiritual Care Committee

Our History



National VOAD was conceived after Hurricane Camille hit the Gulf Coast on August 17-18, 1969

During the 1980's many local affiliates of National VOAD members began forming Local, Regional and State VOAD coalitions

2009:
Partnership
Program begun

1969

1970's

1980's

1990's

2000's

2010's

National VOAD was founded in 1970. By the end of the 1970's, many other organizations joined.

By the mid-1990's, VOAD became a true national movement

2011: Established "Vision 2020," expanding role of National VOAD to grow movement

The 4 C's of National VOAD

Cooperation
Communication
Coordination
Collaboration



 National
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster

Foundation for the 4 C's

Collaboration
Coordination
Communication
Cooperation



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Mission Statement

National VOAD, an association of organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters, provides a forum promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration; and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster.



NATIONAL VOAD TODAY

- ▣ **118 Members**
- ▣ **62 National Organization Members**
 - ▣ Faith-based, Community-based and other Non-Governmental Organizations
- ▣ **56 State and Territory VOAD Members**
 - ▣ Representing Local/Regional VOAD's & hundreds of other Members throughout the country
- ▣ **Over 50 people on the Emotional and Spiritual Care Committee**



National VOAD Today



Committees:

- Advocacy
- Communications
- Community Preparedness
- Disaster Case Management
- Disaster Health
- Donations Management
- Emotional & Spiritual Care
- Housing
- International
- Long Term Recovery Groups
- Mass Care
- United States Islands & Alaska
- Volunteer Management

Task Forces:

- Drought
- Training

Committee Documents:

Points of Consensus:

- Disaster Case Management
- Disaster Spiritual Care
- Donations Management
- Mass Care
- Rebuild & Repair
- Volunteer Management
- United States Islands & Alaska

Additional Resources:

- Multi Agency Feeding Template
- Light Our Way
- Long-Term Recovery Guide
- Managing Spontaneous Volunteer
- National Mass Care Strategy
- Drought Response Guide

What Do NVOAD Agencies Do?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mass care | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Preparedness and training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup | <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional and spiritual care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repairs | <input type="checkbox"/> And much more! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rebuilds | |



National
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster



National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
*Promoting Cooperation, Communication, Coordination and Collaboration
 in Disaster Response*

57

Emotional & Spiritual Care Committee

- *Light Our Way 2006 (Currently being updated)*
- *“DSC Points of Consensus” 2008-2009*
- *“DSC Guidelines” 2014*
- *“DEC Points of Consensus” 2015*
- *“DEC Guidelines” (In development – 5/2018)*
- www.nvoad.org to access these resources



Why Specialized Disaster Training?

While many people naturally have helping skills, they often:

1. Don't understand the impact of disaster
2. Don't understand the disaster setting
3. Fail to do an adequate and ongoing assessment
4. Fail to develop a strategically integrated ESC plan within the disaster operation

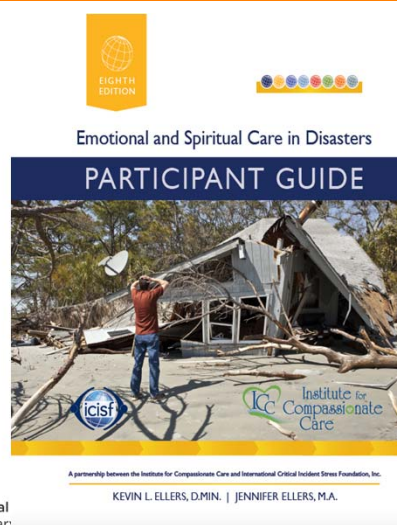
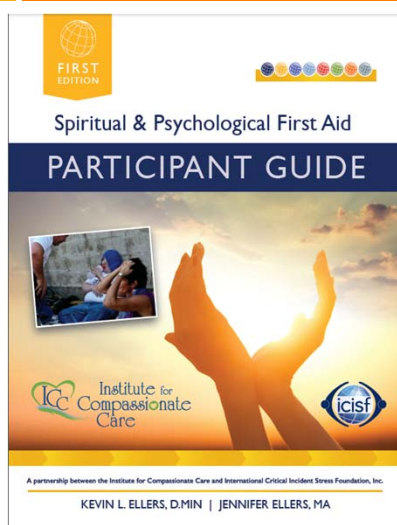


Why Specialized Disaster Training?

5. Fail to update ESC plan to fit the changes in the disaster cycle
6. Don't understand what appropriate spiritual care looks like in a shared setting
7. Operate in silos and don't collaborate with other ESC partners
8. Don't adequately care for the ESC needs of the team during or after deployment



Presentation Material Resources



10 P's of PFA

Presence

Protection

Practical Assistance

Perception

Problem

Psychological Resiliency

Processing

Purpose

Preparing

Passing Off

Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters Course Outline

Day One

Understanding disasters:

What changes

Disaster's impact:

Psychological, physical, emotional & spiritual

Disaster resiliency:

Coping & growing

What survivors need:

What helps most



National
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Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters

Course Outline

Day Two

Defining ESC:

Appropriate disaster care

ESC planning:

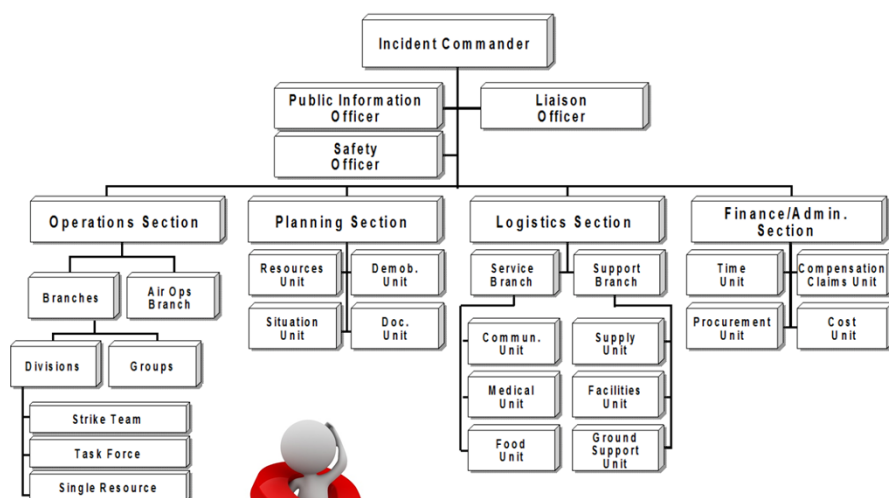
Strategic ESC planning

Building ESC teams:

Competencies

Team care:

Effective team care

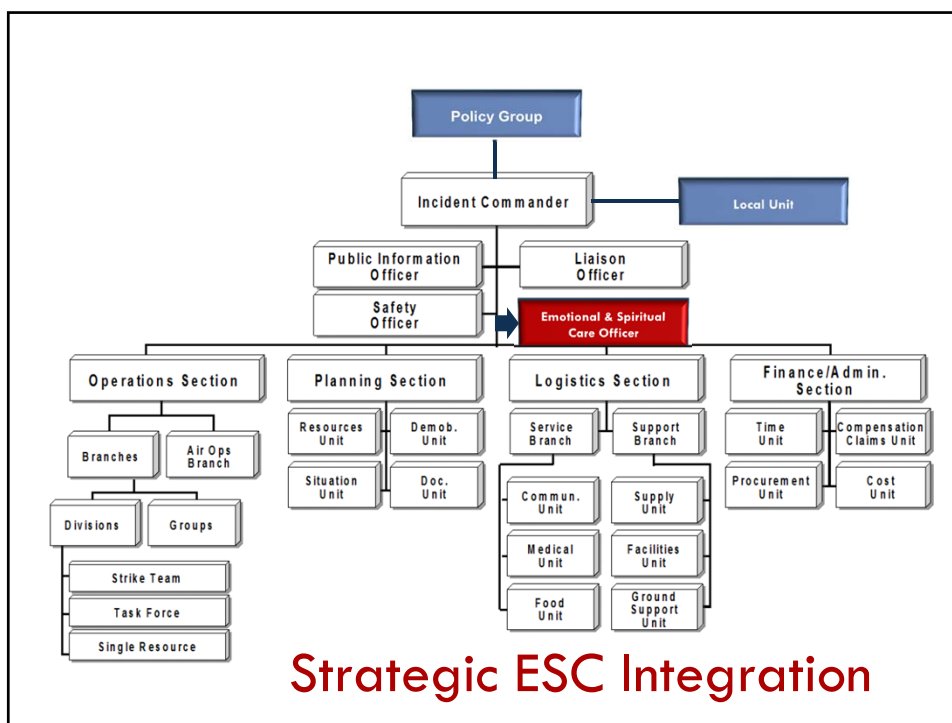


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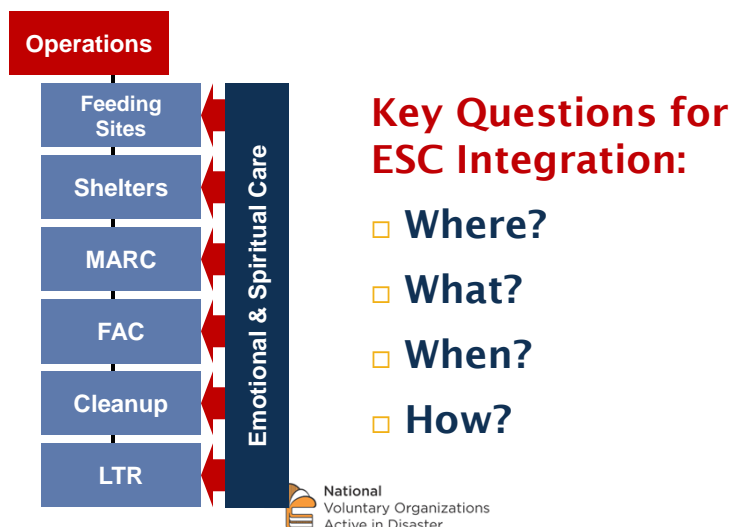


Where is ESC?





ESC Strategically Embedded



Rationale for DSC

- *Spirituality is an essential part of humanity.*
- *Disasters significantly disrupts people's spiritual lives.*
- *Nurturing people's spiritual needs contributes to holistic healing.*
- *Every person can benefit from spiritual care in time of disaster.*

“Appropriate and Respectful Disaster Spiritual Care” Guidelines (*Page 57*)



“Appropriate and Respectful Disaster Spiritual Care”

- **Recognize** the right of each individual and faith group
- **Refrain** from manipulation & disrespect
- **Respect** the freedom from unwanted gifts, sermonizing speech, forced values
- **Avoid** exploitation of power imbalance



NVOAD ESC Competencies

Section four of the guidelines discusses several key points:

- Importance of adequate training and skills
- Critical nature of appropriate supervision
- Defining local vs deployed ESC providers
- See workbook for more details



Table 4.3

COMPETENCY CATEGORIES for Local and National VOAD Member Organization DSC Providers				
Competency in disaster spiritual care is defined as proficiency in three key areas needed to be effective in this specialized ministry. They are personal attributes, knowledge and skills. These factors relate to several core issues in the delivery of DSC:				
COMPETENCY FACTOR	KEY ISSUE	DEFINITION	PRIMARY METHOD OF DEVELOPMENT	DOCUMENTATION
Personal attributes	Who I am	Inherent characteristics and qualities that facilitate healing and help shape others' perception of who I am	Life experience, personal reflection and guidance, instruction, modeling and mentoring from people and sources that influence me	Personal testimony and recommendation from knowledgeable persons
Knowledge	What I know	Theoretical foundations that provide understanding and direction for assessment and action	Structured learning (courses, workshops, personal study, etc.)	Documentation of successful completion of training program(s)
Skills	What I do	Practical functions that bring help to persons in need	Structured learning (courses, workshops, supervised practice, etc.)	Documentation of successful completion of training program(s)

Defining DESC

NVOAD ESC Guidelines define disaster spiritual care as part of the broader crisis intervention process. This process is not psychotherapy, but is an acute short-term helping process designed to accomplish the following:



“Disaster spiritual care is unique; the disaster spiritual care provider engages in **concentrated spiritual care** during which the waves of **critical stress are often so frequent and intense** – and of such duration – that the spiritual care challenge is differentiated from that which is usually encountered in the day-to-day life of the local community of faith. Thus, the **severity level of disaster events** and the **context** in which this support is provided requires **well trained and credentialed disaster spiritual care providers.**”

Goals of DSC

1. **STABILIZATION** after the initial impact of trauma
2. **REDUCTION OF SYMPTOMS**
3. **PROMOTE RESILIENCE AND COPING**
4. **RETURN TO ADAPTIVE FUNCTIONING or REFERRAL**
to continued care by a specialist (e.g. legal aid,
mental health, specific religious provider) as
appropriate



Disaster Spiritual Care Services

- Training for local spiritual care providers to equip them to provide sustainable services that uplift the religious and spiritual diversity of the community as an asset towards recovery
- Assessment of community spiritual needs (See Appendix E in DSC Guidelines)



Disaster Spiritual Care Services

- Deployment of leadership and management specialists to assist in coordinating appropriate disaster spiritual care in shared settings as requested (See glossary for definition of “shared settings”)
- Programs and curricula designed to serve the needs of special populations (e.g. children)



Disaster Spiritual Care Services

- Guidance and assistance in planning memorial and commemorative observances
- Resources to assist local disaster planners to include direct disaster spiritual care services as part of response activities



Disaster Spiritual Care Services

- Respect for all expressions of belief regarding faith and non-faith
- Respect for each person's rich diversity of heritage, language and culture
- Commitment to ethical practices that protect the vulnerable



Excellence in Disaster Spiritual Care Includes:

- Commitment to collaboration with all disaster spiritual care providers, local and deployed
- Commitment to confidentiality
- Spiritual assessments to determine perceived and real needs and assets

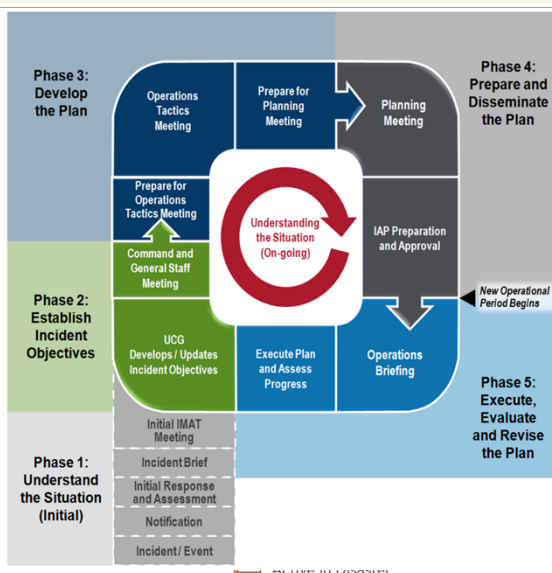


The incident action planning process is built on the following phases:

1. Understanding the situation
2. Establishing incident objectives
3. Developing the plan
4. Preparing and disseminate the plan
5. Executing, evaluating, and revising the plan



The Planning “P”: The Incident Action Planning Process



ESC Planning

**If everything is a priority,
then nothing is a priority!**



**Just showing up
is not necessarily
“Doing the Most
Good!”**

