

IOCC Assists Texas and Oklahoma Communities Ravaged by Torrential Rains

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH IOCC or AMERICORPS

IOCC — In the midst of continuing severe weather, increasing floodwaters, and a rising number of fatalities in Texas and Oklahoma, IOCC is working with Orthodox Frontliners and parishes as well as ecumenical partners to assess a coordinated response.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones in these past few days as well as those who are still searching for missing loved ones," stated IOCC US Country Representative Daniel Christopoulos. "We also pray for the safety of the courageous First Responders who willingly step into harm's way to save others in the midst of these devastating events."

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Help rebuild. IOCC is recruiting volunteers for one week of active service from June 15-20 or July 13-18 to help rebuild homes in Oklahoma damaged or destroyed by devastating storms like the ones they've just experienced. You do not need to be skilled – just energetic! Activities vary depending on location and construction schedules, but can include siding, roofing, framing, landscaping, painting and support. For more details or to register, please visit iocc.org/actionteams.

**OUR PARISH IS ASSEMBLING EMERGENCY HYGIENE KITS, SUNDAY, JUNE 14
PLEASE BRING NECESSARY MATERIALS AND WE WILL ASSEMBLE TOGETHER**

Hygiene Kits

1. Buy a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure to be filled with the following items:

- o One hand towel
- o One washcloth
- o One comb
- o One metal nail file or nail clipper
- o One bar of soap (bath size, new and wrapped in original packaging)
- o One toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE)
- o Six Band-Aids
- o We will secure the bag and pack it in a box, and then secure the box with packing tape.

We will clearly mark the outside of the box with the **type of kit ("Hygiene Kit-IOCC")** and **number of kits** that are enclosed.

Make a donation. You can also help the victims of disasters in the United States, like the Oklahoma tornadoes, by making a financial gift to the United States Emergency Response Fund, which will provide immediate relief as well as long-term support through the provision of emergency aid, recovery assistance and other support to help those in need. To make a gift, please visit iocc.org, call toll free at [1-877-803-IOCC](tel:1-877-803-IOCC) (4622), or mail a check or money order payable to IOCC, P.O. Box 17398, Baltimore, Md. 21297-0429.

ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

IOCC is the official humanitarian aid agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America. Since its inception in 1992, IOCC has delivered \$534 million in relief and development programs to families and communities in more than 50 countries. IOCC is a member of the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian assistance and advocacy. To learn more about IOCC, please visit our website at iocc.org.

Media contact: Rada K. Tierney, IOCC Media Relations, [443-823-3489](tel:443-823-3489), rtierney@iocc.org

AMERICORPS--Chris Orthman and his family recently volunteered to help the victims of the floods in Wimberley. He will be going back, **Monday, June 8. If anyone would like to join him, he plans to be there by noon. Volunteers DO NOT have to stay the whole day. Volunteer opportunities are from 8am -5pm.**



These volunteer opportunities are through AmeriCorps in charge of the volunteer assignments. They are located at Cypress Creek Church VRC (Volunteer Resource Center) on Ranch Road 12 in Wimberley. There is a number listed [512-715-4134](tel:512-715-4134). If they can't help answer questions I am sure they can direct to the correct number. Volunteers MUST check in @ VRC.

They are grateful for any time a person can give. If volunteers arrive by 8am, AmeriCorps will bus you out to the site. Otherwise volunteers will have to drive themselves through restricted areas.

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If minors are planning on going they need an adult with them and to sign a waiver of sending with an adult who is not their parent. Maybe if they call ahead they can email or fax a waiver.

Food, water, masks, gloves, bug spray, sunscreen are provided for volunteers. Volunteers need to wear pants, boots or disposable shoes (old, don't mind getting rid of; you will be up to your knees in mud and decaying garbage).

Please feel free to pass on our number or email address if anyone has questions or wants to join Chris.

Summer and Chris Orthmann

[512-925-6448](tel:512-925-6448)

showurhorns@att.net

