

## **5 STEPS TO TAKE AFTER DISASTER STRIKES**



## Equip Yourself with the Proper Knowledge to Navigate a Disaster:

- Ensure everyone in your household is safe, including your pets.
- 2. Grab your go bag and important / financial documents.
- 3. If home is damaged, document losses and take pictures.
- 4. Call 2-1-1 or visit NashvilleResponds.com to report immediate needs.
- 5. Call your insurance provider to report damage.

Prepare for the next disaster at:

NASHVILLERESPONDS.COM/GET-PREPARED/

Nashville VOAD members represent a diverse group of highly-competent organizations that provide a wide range of skills in service to our fellow neighbors and communities. The coalition is dedicated to whole community engagement and recognizes that the VOAD values and practices represent a proven way to build resilient communities. Our combination of faith-based, community-based, and nonprofit organizations and government agencies represents hundreds of professional staff and volunteers with unique skills and a resourceful spirit.

Discover all member organizations:

NASHVILLERESPONDS.COM/ABOUT-US/





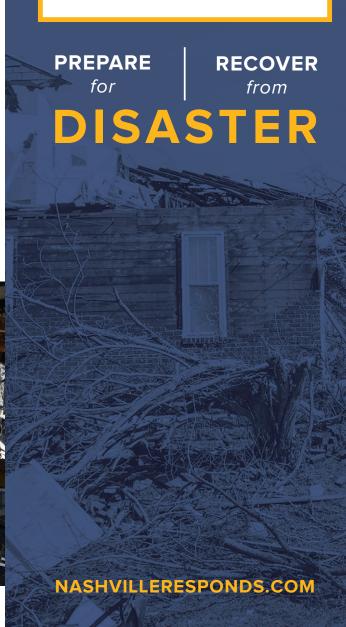




Since not all disasters are of the size and scale to trigger an OEM activation, VOAD members also engage with representatives within the Mayor's office and with members of the city council to ensure that, no matter the size of a disaster, Nashville-area residents affected have access to the resources and expertise of VOAD member organizations. By working directly with council members, those that know and understand the unique needs of their constituents, Nashville VOAD can call upon the agencies providing resources best suited for the needs of each neighborhood.









The Nashville VOAD is a coalition of dozens of nonprofits, community organizations, faith-based institutions, and government departments working together to ensure effective response to disasters through the 4 Cs—cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration.

The goal of the Nashville VOAD is to provide knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle to help disaster survivors in Davidson County communities.

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. —African Proverb

During times of an active disaster, the Nashville VOAD fosters an effective delivery of services in response to Davidson County's impacted communities. It provides a single point of coordination for all member organizations available to assist survivors so that needs are met in the most efficient and equitable manner possible.





## A strong and responsive VOAD:

The partnership between the Nashville VOAD and Metro Nashville's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is meant to ensure successful disaster preparation, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts for the community. OEM collaborates with the Nashville VOAD to ensure a coordinated response between the city and the VOAD in times of large-scale, city-wide disasters, as well as provides opportunities to educate and train alongside our membership and residents for future disasters.

- Builds trust between organizations and the community
- Creates a structured immediate response to disasters

**COMMUNITY BENEFITS** 

- Enables a single-point of entry for survivors requesting assistance
- Brings diverse groups together to solve issues
- Supports long-term recovery by supporting local initiatives
- Provides an educational resource to community residents
- Fills the gaps not covered by insurance, state and federal assistance



Nashville VOAD works alongside the Nashville OEM and Metro Nashville departments to help assess the city's damage and needs.

Survivors are directed to **visit NashvilleResponds.com or call 2-1-1 to report needs** and/or discover available resources.

Local case workers connect Nashville VOAD member organizations available to respond to survivors and address immediate needs. Needs may include: Food/ Nutrition, Temporary Housing, Financial Assistance, Debris Clean-Up, Spiritual and Emotional Care.

Communication with Davidson County survivors via news release, email, text, and social media increases to provide insight into the recovery process including: steps in documenting damage/loss of personal items, updates regarding local, state and federal assistance, helpful legal tips and scam alerts, dedicated events connecting survivors with resources, and more.

The Nashville VOAD forms a Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) based on the type of disaster and greatest needs in the community. Committees within the LTRG may include: Advocacy, Allocations and Distribution, Case Management, Communications, Construction, Emotional and Spiritual Care, Housing Solutions, Materials Management and Volunteer.

## Collaborative Long-term Recovery Resources Often Encompass:

Mental health support
Direct financial assistance
Food assistance
Home repair and construction
Household goods
Housing placement
Insurance + FEMA mediation

Legal assistance
Mortgage Assistance
Primary healthcare services
Rent assistance
Short-term housing
Tree debris removal
Utility payment assistance

As resources remain available, assigned **case managers** walk alongside a survivor through the recovery process until needs are met.