

Church Core Team

Disaster Preparedness Small Group – LEAD TEAM



Churches of Greater Austin
Bringing Hope into Crisis™

Church Core Team Defined – A team committed to serving the Lord and their church leadership by focusing on preparing their church before a disaster and helping to lead response efforts in times of crisis.

People are much more likely to respond to crises and sustain long-term effectiveness when they are a part of a team. There are many skill sets needed to help lead a local church in responding to a crisis effectively; not one person possesses all the skills and strengths needed to manage alone. (*1 Corinthians 12:14-31, Hebrews 10:24-25*)

Fully Functioning Core Team

DRC / Co-DRC / Shepherd Lead / Training Lead / Serve Team Lead

- **DRC** (Disaster Relief Coordinator) – Appointed by and supports church pastoral staff offering leadership, direction, and communication to disaster preparedness activities, including planning, training, coordinating, and developing volunteers to become a Life-Sustaining Church™. The DRC is identified and appointed by church pastoral leadership.
- **Co-DRC** – Serves to support and back up the DRC in disaster preparedness activities and leadership. Shares in the planning and implementation of all core team goals to serve better the church pastoral leadership, the congregation, and ultimately the community in times of major disaster.
- **Shepherd Lead** – Serves to support communication and training for both active and future church shepherds.
 - Outside of disaster times, recruits, encourages and walks with new volunteers to become trained shepherds ready to support future survivors.
 - In times of disaster operations - Supports all survivor activities through communication with ADRN Shepherd Support Team. Communication, matching, financial support, and shepherd emotional/spiritual care are primary functions of this leader.
- **Training Lead** – Serves to support church core team in all aspects of ADRN advanced and I AM Ready™ Basic Trainings.
 - Outside of times of disaster – Recruits, encourages, and offers opportunities for developing volunteers in the congregation to become I AM Ready™ through the ADRN Volunteer portal.
 - In times of disaster operations - Supports DRC to activate trained volunteers and initiates communication through the core team to engage untrained volunteers to prepare and serve quickly. Communication, training implementation, and administrative support to DRC, Co-DRC, Shepherd Lead, and Serve Lead are primary functions of this leader.

- **Serve Team Lead** – Serves to support all “boots on the ground” operational activities in and out of times of disaster.
 - Outside of times of disaster - Develops opportunities with church mission/outreach leadership to plan, prepare, partner, and practice engaging volunteers and developing a strategy for leadership through serving the community.
 - In times of disaster operations – Supports core team to activate volunteers to serve the church pastoral leadership, the congregation, and ultimately the community.

Objectives for Core Team

- Support the vision/mission of your church in and out of times of disaster.
- Develop a shepherd leader to support trained shepherds and develop newly introduced shepherds in the church.
- Develop a training leader to support and facilitate ADRN advanced training opportunities.
- Develop a serve team leader to support the physical mobilization of serve teams.
- Develop a Church Disaster Response Plan – “What does your church do?”
 - See Pre-Disaster Checklist / DRC Guidelines provide support and outline.
 - Connect w/ Sector Leader for support & connection to other churches.
- Develop a **Life-Sustaining Church™ Model** (See description next page)
 - Offer Church Disaster Response Small Groups based on DRC Guidelines.
 - Offer Preparedness PEACE – Personal Preparedness Small Groups.
 - Offer Disaster Relief Shepherd small group opportunities.
 - Discover leadership and resources available in your congregation.
- Strengthen relationships with church leadership – serve outside of disaster!
- Share leadership opportunities and develop leadership within the Church.
- Identify new volunteers – **Host I AM Ready™ Basic Training**.
- Strengthen and empower existing volunteers with opportunities to serve.
- Become personally prepared for disaster utilizing Preparedness Peace training.

Getting Started

- Make personal invites through existing relationships in the Church. Small Groups are always a great way to engage others and discover those interested in developing a preparedness team to support your leaders!
- Communicate with individuals in your Church already active with ADRN. DRC has access to all trained volunteers through the ADRN volunteer portal.
- Host an ADRN I AM Ready™ Basic Training.
- Host a volunteer gathering – Share vision and the purpose of integrating Disaster Preparedness into small groups at your Church.

Next Steps

DRC / Church Core Team Guidelines

Core Team Development Process

DRC Guidelines are nine specific meeting outlines available for your church core team to process together... establishing identity, clarity, direction, and readiness to serve your church effectively, as a team, in and out of times of disaster. The following is a list of the DRC / Church Core Team Guidelines found at portal.adrn.org (see 'DRC Tools' in DRC profile)

1. Church Vision / Mission
2. Goals & Purpose
3. Relational Authority
4. Roles & Responsibilities
5. Serving Outside of Disasters
6. Communication
7. Deploying Teams
8. Shepherding Families
9. Personal Preparedness
10. Life-Sustaining Church™

Life-Sustaining Church™

ADRN Goal for every network Church

Life-Sustaining Church = A network church prepared and ready to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of their congregation and the community they serve in times of disaster through collaboration with local churches, community partners, and local government.

Building a Life-Sustaining Church™

Share with the congregation!

Utilizing the DRC/Core Team Guidelines as a roadmap, we encourage every core team to develop a church-specific next-step disaster response guideline to share with their church body. This is an excellent opportunity for core teams to collaborate and genuinely merge the church vision/mission with basic preparedness principles and church disaster plans small group leaders can share. (*Habakkuk 2:2*)

- **Share** the WHY, HOW & WHAT of disaster preparedness and mobilization in an easy-to-understand format any small group leader in your church can lead.
- **Discover** personal gifts, talents, and resources in your church as your disaster response guidelines create a space to discuss and collaborate about preparedness topics.
- **Set expectations** as you share your church mobilization plans before the next disaster.
- **Engage** and Equip Women, Men's, Co-Ed, Young Adult's, Youth Small Groups, and even kids in your Church with a basic understanding and opportunity
- **Always Integrate the basics** of personal preparedness as you share the importance of supporting the **3-Cs** of disaster response as you engage your Church body.
 1. **Church Pastors/Staff** – Serve the church leadership team.
 2. **Congregation** – Assist in serving members in your Church.
 3. **Community** – Mobilize volunteers in your church to unite with others and serve the greatest needs in the event of a significant disaster.