

Boots on the Ground

Where We've Been

A 10th Anniversary Tribute 9-11: A Heroes Harvest

HELP Foundation team members and volunteers traveled back to Missouri for the week of September 11th. The week marked the 10th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. The HELP Foundation facilitated a volunteer outreach event called *Heroes Harvest*. Volunteers participated in the event as a way of paying tribute to local heroes. The event took place at Joplin Family Worship Center (JFWC), a hub for commodities since tornadoes ripped through the area May 22nd. Volunteers met all the volunteer task needs of the week and helped put the church sanctuary and teaching rooms back in order. Before *Heroes Harvest*, the church sanctuary housed food and water. It was used as a commodities pick-up room for local residents. Goals of the weekend included cleaning and restoring the sanctuary, and moving commodities to a secure holding area outside. Moving commodities out of the sanctuary allowed the church to continue helping the community and restored the sanctuary as a place of prayer and solace. In addition to helping the worship center, the HELP Foundation Incident Management Team (IMT) used the event to practice its volunteer management arm. The IMT used the weekend to support an Incident Action Plan for a volunteer reception center. *Heroes Harvest* was recognized as one of the events in the "I Will-911 National Tribute Movement" campaign. The event also fostered the importance of preparedness awareness, as September is National Preparedness Month. To date, Joplin Family Worship Center has helped over 6,000 families serving over 20,000 people. *We would like to extend a special thank you to Pastor's Dan and Cindy Wermuth and JFWC Community Liaison Lowell Lane for their support of Heroes Harvest.*

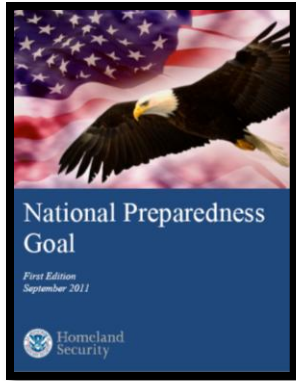


Top row-Renee Branson, Todd Staton, Denise Chuick, Pastors Dan & Cindy Wermuth, Jennifer Dishman, Buddy Dishman. Bottom row-Abby Lipman, Irene Milam, Erika Lamberth, Nick Yaws, Jose Garay, Lindsay Smith.



A CERT Yourself: A New Blog

HELP Volunteer Mark Johannningmeier has created a new blog dedicated to everything CERT (Citizen Emergency Response Team). His blog highlights training opportunities and helpful tips on preparedness. Mark brings a personal touch to the blog by sharing his experiences and posting the latest CERT happenings in greater Houston area. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness and offers training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Click and start learning today! Mark welcomes your comments and suggestions. <http://acertyourself.wordpress.com/>



HELP Aligns With Presidential Policy Direction # 8:

A National Preparedness Goal

In the coming months we will begin to hear more and more about the National Preparedness Goal. The Department of Homeland Security recently announced the release of the country's first-ever National Preparedness Goal. The goal is the first deliverable required under Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) # 8: National Preparedness.

The national goal serves as the outline for helping America strengthen preparedness in five specific areas, prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery.

The HELP Foundation supports preparedness initiatives in all five areas and looks forward to building partnerships with other entities to work toward the national goal.

FEMA Administrator, Craig Fugate is encouraging organizations around the country to work together to help prepare our nation. "As we work to build a more prepared nation, we must work with the entire community –the public and private sectors, faith-based and non-profit organizations, and most importantly the public," said Fugate.

The new goal builds on prior work of various stakeholder groups from around the nation, drawing upon lessons learned from large-scale and catastrophic events. Based on a recent press release from the Office of Homeland Security, "National Preparedness is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the Nation by preparing for the full range of 21st century risks that threaten national security, including weapons of mass destruction, cyber-attacks, terrorism, pandemics, transnational threats and catastrophic natural disasters."

Stay connected to the HELP Foundation for more information on the National Preparedness Goal in the coming months.



The HELP Desk...A Note from Tony.

When I think back to September 11, 2001, like other Americans I can remember exactly what I was doing when tragedy struck our nation. As I watched the morning unfold on the news, I wasn't sure where our nation would be or the turn of events that would happen from that day forward. Now on the 10th anniversary of 9-11, I feel blessed and proud to have watched America rebuild and strengthen. I want to thank all the men and women who serve our nation before, during and after disaster strikes. It's with these thoughts that we honored our heroes by helping the community of Joplin, Missouri as it continues to recover. *Heroes Harvest* wasn't just an event but a catalyst as the HELP Foundation continues to serve communities around the country. As we finish out 2011 I want to encourage each of you to take time for yourself, spend time with your family, and thank God for freedom! -Tony



Volunteer of the Quarter

We would like to thank Denise Chuick for her support of HELP Foundation initiatives during the third quarter of 2011. Denise brings years of experience in school safety and risk management. Denise is a certified Athletic Trainer and the owner and President of DM Chuick Consultants, LLC. We look forward to working with Denise. Her knowledge in implementing emergency response training programs in schools, will be a great addition to the HELP services toolbox. To find out more about DMChuick Consultants, LLC visit www.dmcschoolsafety.com

Quarter 3 Volunteers

Jose Garay, Nick Yaw, Renee Branson, Irene Milam, Buddy Dishman, Jennifer Dishman, Todd Staton,

Denise Chuick, Lindsay Smith, Matt McElvogue, Amber James, Debbie Hillis, Joe Hillis, Abby Lipman