



15 Ways UCC Disaster Ministries Supports Recovery

1. **Congregational Preparedness** -Conference Disaster Coordinators [December-2022-UCC-CDC-ESCT-Directory-Pics.docx \(live.com\)](#) are ready to assist your church in developing a plan. Join the national effort to be a Willing to Respond Congregation, identify a Point of Contact as the Congregation's Disaster Coordinator and identify the ways your congregation can serve in times of disaster. Resources include [A Disaster Preparedness Manual for Churches. About | Willing To Respond | Disaster Response](#)
2. **Conference Disaster Coordinator and/or Team Member - Support and Guidance** – Join your Conference Disaster Team- Interested in supporting disaster response and recovery- serve as a volunteer team member for your UCC Conference and provide coordination among the churches and disaster-impacted communities.
3. **Willing to Respond-Register** here-[About | Willing To Respond | Disaster Response](#) to let Disaster Ministries and your Conference you are a Congregation Willing To Respond in times of disaster. Co-founded by UCC and Disciple of Christ, this is a joint venture between partner organizations to help congregations work better together and connect with their local disaster response infrastructure
4. **Volunteer Team Coordination** - Working with partners, Conference Disaster Coordinators, Global H.O.P.E.'s Disaster Ministries, and Volunteer Ministries-help to offer mission trip worksite options for volunteers. [Volunteer Ministries - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](#)
5. **PNS - Partner in Service Deployment** - Request a PNS longer-term skilled volunteer to support volunteer management, construction management, LTRG staff roles and/or Emotional & Spiritual Care. [Partners in Service - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](#)
6. **Participation in LTRG Meetings** - Assisting a local UCC leader through training and mentoring, to serve on the Long-Term Recovery Group as UCC Conference Disaster Ministries' representative and provide a link to Disaster Ministries Resources. Contact your Conference Disaster Coordinator [June-2022-UCC-Disaster-Coordinators-Directory-Pics-.pdf](#)
7. **Matching Grants for Clean-up Buckets and Kits** - [CWS Buckets and Kits | Help Communities in Need Around the World \(cwskits.org\)](#) UCC Disaster Ministries offers [\\$250 matching grants to UCCs](#) that are assembling Kits and Clean-up Buckets for disaster-affected areas in partnership with Church World Service and helps to deploy those resources.
8. **Tool Trailers** - As needed for the rebuilding effort. There are eight Tool Trailers across the East Coast that can be requested directly from the Conference Disaster Coordinators in the Heartland, Pennsylvania, Florida and New York and Vermont Conferences and some equipment in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. [June-2022-UCC-Disaster-Coordinators-Directory-Pics-.pdf](#)
9. **Emotional and Spiritual Care Team Mentoring and Training** -Emotional and Spiritual Care Team (ESCT) members offer support to Long Term Recovery Groups who are seeking to gather Faith Leaders, Mental Health, Counselors, Chaplains, and Social Workers together locally to address the needs of individuals and groups after disasters to provide care for survivors and those who serve them. ESC Team members coordinate with the local community.

10. **Trauma Retreats for Pastors and Leaders for Emotional and Spiritual Care After Disasters** -ESCT members offers a two day in person gathering of leaders in a workshop/retreat setting - *“Come Away and Rest Awhile”* provides a deeper self-reflective time to get away and process the impacts of disaster, to prepare clergy for disasters/traumas with tools to build resiliency. Retreat leaders, location and venue costs are coordinated with the hosting group.
11. **Self-Care Resiliency Webinar-Workshop** – ESCT members offer a practical 2- 2.5 hour session dealing with stress and self-care. Focusing on current stress impacts, implementing self-care resources in multiple arenas, strengthening resiliency, and caring for those around you. Workshop leaders and webinar are coordinated with the hosting group.
12. **Recovering HOPE Resources** -Website with Emotional and Spiritual Care resources in times of disasters for those who are serving and supporting disaster recovery. <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/recovering-hope/> .
13. **Solidarity Grant-** <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/65504-United-Church-Of-Christ>
Solidarity Grant Purpose: Following a disaster, within a UCC Conference or in a community near a UCC congregation, there is an opportunity for ministry to disaster survivors and the local UCC congregation. The UCC provides Solidarity Grants. They are intended to support emergency relief work in the early stages of a disaster. We encourage applicants to be in contact with their UCC Conference Staff prior to submitting this application. Grants will be awarded up to \$3,000 maximum-recipient-disaster and may be used to assist or expand the disaster ministry of local churches or a Conference in early response efforts immediately after a disaster, such as providing food, shelter or other emergency resources to those impacted, or for repairs not covered by insurance.
14. **Long Term Recovery Seed Grant-** <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/48220-United-Church-Of-Christ>
Long Term Recovery Seed Grant Purpose: Following a disaster, there is an opportunity to assist disaster survivors through the collaborative efforts of the Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG). Grants from Global H.O.P.E. Disaster Ministries are intended to support the implementation and programming of Long-Term Recovery Groups. Funds should be directed toward areas of greatest need as determined by the LTRG. Open to the newly forming or reforming startup group to help with administrative costs to begin their work, grants available up to \$5000.00- simple application.
15. **Recovery-Repair Grant:** <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/65473-United-Church-Of-Christ> -
Recovery-Repair Grant Purpose: Following a disaster within a UCC Conference or in a community near a UCC congregation, there is an opportunity for ministry to disaster survivors. Grants from Global H.O.P.E. Disaster Ministries may be provided to assist or expand the disaster ministry of local communities, churches or a Conference working with recovery organizations. These grants are intended to support the implementation and programming of a disaster impacted community, with the support of the conference responding throughout the disaster cycle. Communities that have received a Long Term Recovery Seed Grant are also eligible to apply for a Recovery-Repair Grant, after reporting is completed. Conferences that received a Solidarity Grant are also eligible to apply for a Recovery-Repair Grant, after reporting is completed, to continue or expand their early recovery and/or long-term recovery work in the Conference and through other partner organizations. Recovery-Repair Grant amounts and availability will vary depending upon existing resources. Applicants are expected to complete all information on the Recovery-Repair Grants Request Form. Recipients can apply for an additional Recovery-Repair Grant upon successfully meeting the implementation and reporting requirements. Grants are available beginning at \$7,000 up to \$20,000.