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**Indiana Knights of Columbus Council Disaster Response Program Plan:**

**Part One**: Grand Knight, break your area up into 4 workable sections. If you have a vast area to cover then break your area into 6 sections. Select 4-6 Council Members, they do not have to be officers, we recommend retired members who can be around the area all day to be able to make phone calls or drive out in his selected area if necessary to check on Brother Knights in case of a disaster. We recommend the 4/6 members (refer to as **Section Coordinators**), select who will be the **Council DR Team Coordinator**.

The Financial Secretary will supply a list of all Knights in each of the 4/6 sections with the Name, Addresses, Phone numbers, Emails, and other contact information for every Knight in each area, to each Section Coordinators and Council DR Team Coordinator.

If a Disaster should hit, your community. These four/six Section Coordinators will start the process of contacting all members in their assigned section. (Please other Knights do not call them, they will call you. Do not tie up their phones.) Section Coordinators when you hear of one Knight with damage, please do not call your Council Coordinator until you have called or made contact with **everybody** in your section, and **everyone** is accounted for.

The four/six Section Coordinators will come together either physically or by phone/email and make a report to the Council DR Team Coordinator.

The Council DR Team Coordinator will make the call to the Indiana Knights of Columbus Disaster Response Coordinator Bill McDonald to request any needed assistance...

Bill McDonald, Knights of Columbus Indiana Disaster Response Coordinator
812-689-6699; 812-621-0049; [mcdonaldkofc@gmail.com](https://mcdonaldkofc@gmail.com).

Until the State Disaster Response Team or other service organizations units arrive, the Council Disaster Response Team can call upon other brother Knights who are home and able (who might have a truck or van), go pick up tarps, food or clothing and other supplies needed in his area. The Red Cross, Catholics Charities and all others disaster service organizations will know about the disaster that hit your area and they will also, be on the move. (IN-VOAD)

Councils are requested to set up a Council Disaster Fund to help their Brother Knights until the other charitable units get to the scene. This fund can be a Credit Card or Bank Debit Card with a set amount set aside for this purpose ONLY. Keep the location for this account where the Council Disaster Team Coordinator can access it without any delay. (Councils Officers and Trustees should develop a set of SOP-protocols for its usage.)

**Part Two**: The Council should now prepare a **Council Disaster Response Plan** to determine how and where your council will continue to operate during a disaster and how you can serve your community once you have met the immediate needs of your members. If you are a parish-based Council your plan should include, how do you help support the parish and schools if required. If your council serves multiple parishes all should be included in your planning. Remember when developing your Council DR Plan normal means of communication may not be readily available for weeks. Power, phones, both landlines and cell could be out for weeks.

Plans should include the Council DR Coordinator and the Grand Knight, review all possible facilities that can be used for shelters or distribution points.

The Council DR Coordinator should work with the local emergency agencies, fire and police departments, etc. to see where the Knights can be of assistance. (Local COAD)

**Part Three**: Prepare a “Plan of Action” on how you may be able to assist your neighboring Knights of Columbus Councils should they be hit by a disaster. (the council affected by a disaster may be busy digging themselves out and will need your help.) Secure the contact information of the Grand Knight and FS from all adjoining Councils. (or District)

You may also maintain the Council DR Coordinators and Section Coordinators for additional contacts. **In all disasters, communications are essential, and phone and cell service can be affected. Be prepared to travel and make personal contact as necessary**.

Always keep your State Disaster Response Coordinator appraised of all ongoing operations, as he may be able to secure additional assistance.

Bill McDonald
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Vivat Jesus