

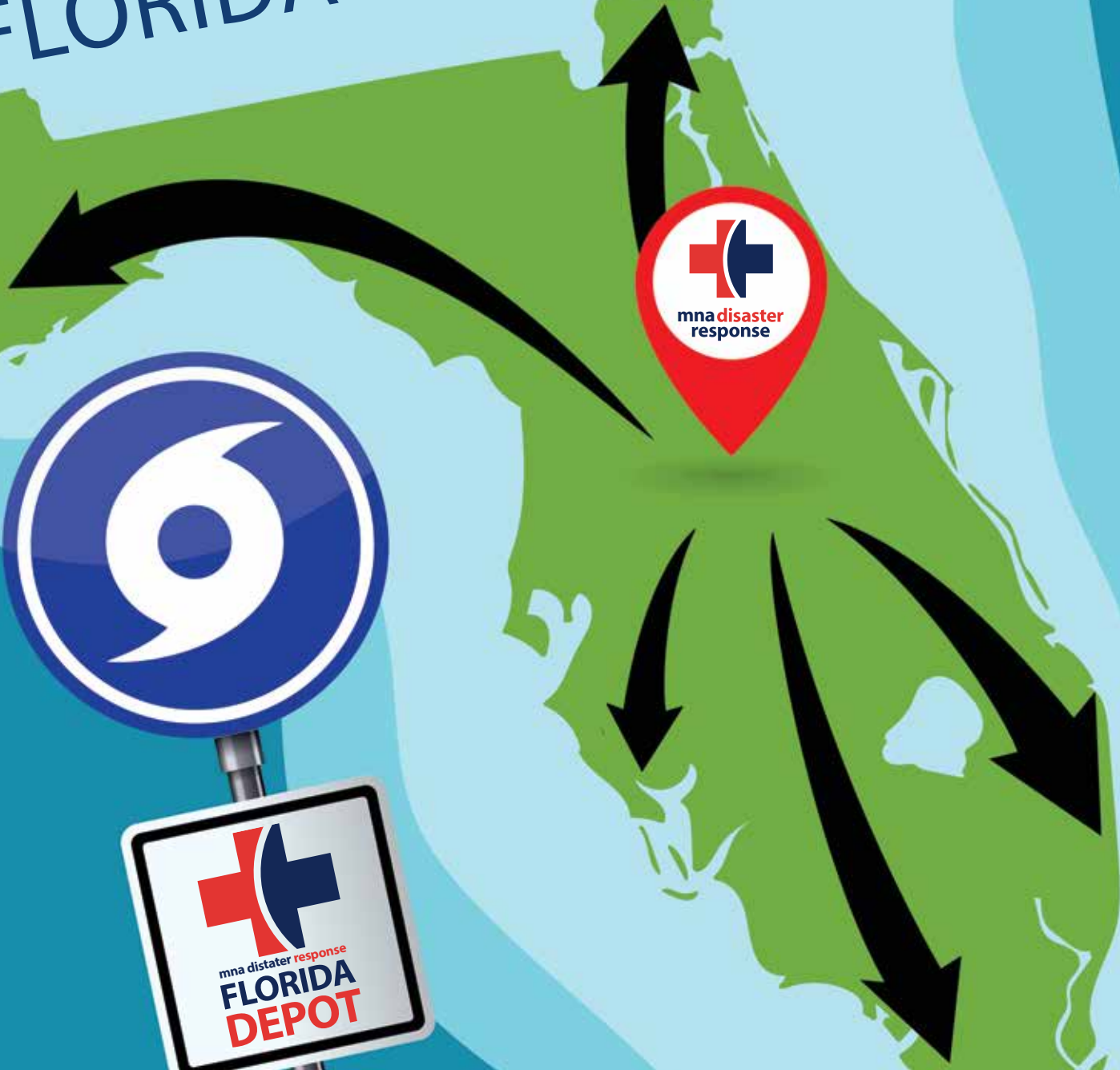


FLORIDA DEPOT

mna disaster response



MNA Disaster Response
FLORIDA DEPOT



From the Mission to North America Disaster Response Director

Dear Florida PCA Presbyteries, Congregations and Individuals,

I wanted you to know as soon as possible that Mission to North America (MNA) leadership has approved the launch of a capital-campaign to raise the funds necessary to purchase or build a disaster readiness campus along the Ocala/Lakeland I-75 corridor in central Florida. I am praying with deep desire for your partnership that is necessary to make this project successful. This is a bold new step for Mission to North America Disaster Response in our effort to provide a higher level of support to the congregations and presbyteries of Florida.

As you know firsthand, saying Florida is a unique place is an understatement. Not only is it susceptible to most every type of natural disaster except ice and snow storms, there are huge logistical challenges for disaster response agencies while responding here because of limited ways in and out of the state. Furthermore, major disaster events are imminent or already happening, Florida enacts contra traffic flow on the interstate system designating all lanes of traffic for travel northward. Having pre-positioned supplies and equipment ready to go in a strategic location will ensure that we can supply immediate help to communities served by the PCA.

The target location in Florida was chosen after much research and many conversations between MNA Disaster Response staff, key leaders, and seasoned volunteers. Please read along to better understand our reasoning and purpose in making this bold move, and for ways you can partner with us to make this resource a reality.



Arklie and Katherine Hooten

Compelled by Love,

Arklie

MNA Disaster Response Director

Mission to North America
Presbyterian Church in America
678-294-3011



Keith and Marianne Perry

**Local MNA Disaster Response
MNA DR Regional Specialist - FL**

Keith and his wife Marianne reside in Melbourne FL where they attend Covenant PCA. Keith began serving with MNA Disaster Response as a volunteer in 2004 before joining the staff in 2008. He has responded to events in seven states and has regularly served at the MNA Disaster Response warehouse in Rome GA since 2015; he possesses a working knowledge of its operation and benefit. He is available to provide training for presbyteries, churches and other PCA ministries to help with preparation for the certain coming disasters. He is also the first point of contact for all FL PCA entities after a disaster event.

kperry@pcanet.org
321-431-7260

Preparing God's People for the Certain Coming Storms

Why are we doing this?

Although the Rome GA Warehouse is fully stocked and can support Florida relief efforts, we can accelerate our efforts in providing relief to PCA communities in Florida by having dedicated readily-deployable supplies and equipment strategically placed within the region.



Mission to North America (MNA) is charged by the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) General Assembly with coordinating PCA response to disasters in the US and Canada. We take this responsibility and privilege seriously. We have responded to every major disaster in the US since 2003, encompassing more than 64 major responses in 23 states, including several major responses in Florida. We assist and coach churches to respond to smaller events when large denomination-wide responses aren't warranted. MNA Disaster Response (MNADR) has mobilized in excess of 165,000 PCA missionary volunteers during this time, likely a record in the orthodox reformed world. MNADR has assisted more than 40 PCA congregations in the repair of their church physical plants including at least eight in Florida in the last few years.

As we continue to strengthen our coordination with churches and presbyteries we are seeking regional capacity to preposition critically-needed supplies and equipment in advance of disaster events in strategic areas to expedite their delivery to disaster impacted zones. This enhances our ability to equip and serve the PCA grassroots network of relief providers. This network of relief providers is greatly multiplying; however, a constant refrain is the demonstrative lag time in response immediately after a new event occurs before robust relief efforts begin. The cause of this lag time is that commonly needed equipment and supplies are not prepositioned in the region, and/or transport is delayed or impossible because of bottlenecks.

In the past, after each new disaster, MNADR had to begin a fresh appeal process to gather equipment and supplies necessary to conduct the response and then tackle the logistics of transporting these critically-needed resources to new worksites. Equipment and/or supplies were not ready to go, and we didn't have capacity to store them even if we had them in our possession. The time expended grappling with this when staff and key leaders should be responding with boots on the ground resulted in a delay of help to those in desperate need. Although the Rome Georgia Warehouse is fully stocked and can support Florida relief efforts, we can accelerate our efforts in providing relief to PCA communities in Florida by having dedicated readily-deployable supplies and equipment strategically placed within the region. This will be especially helpful when we are responding to multiple events occurring in several states at the same time.

Taking bold steps for an Enhanced PCA Response

MNADR is working to remedy this critical lag time as we accelerate our future efforts in the movement of supplies and equipment to recovery sites within Florida. The development of regionally placed depots is a major step in reducing this lag time. The depots provide a place to store critically-needed supplies and equipment in advance of disasters. A major benefit of having resources prepositioned is that more presbyteries, churches, and individuals can schedule contributions using their own timetables, budget cycles, culture, etc., outside of actual response times rather than attempting to contribute to a new urgent appeal when resources may already be committed to other worthy causes.



Furthermore, MNADR has been blessed by a significant mobilization of students through RUF and other college ministries as well as young adults who enthusiastically respond to our call to serve at worksites. While most younger volunteers have the energy and desire to serve, most do not have the necessary tools or financial resources necessary to join in relief efforts. Responding well to disasters is expensive, especially when trying to gather resources at the last minute if those resources can even be found at that time. However, when equipped with a minimal amount of denominationally-supplied prepositioned supplies and equipment these teams can be a great blessing as they accomplish debris cleanup, engage in muck outs and gut outs, assist blue-roofing teams, build Sheds of Hope, and undertake other Spirit-led deeds of mercy. The PCA greatly benefits in many ways when this happens.

Typically, when storms arrive in cities, supplies are quickly depleted, leaving our PCA families without and limiting the amount of help PCA churches can provide while reaching out in storm-affected communities. Denominational brothers and sisters, ambassadors for the local church, arriving fully equipped and supplied makes a huge impact while serving in storm damaged neighborhoods, elevating the importance of the local church in the affected community.

Often volunteers are willing but need tools and supplies to get the work done. Pre-positioned tools, supplies and materials will help expedite the response of volunteer teams.

Recognizing the Blessing of the Lord

History of Rome Warehouse Operations



In 2015, MNADR purchased a 15,000 sq. ft. warehouse and property in Rome GA and renovation began immediately to create a training center and warehouse campus.

During 2010, MNADR was authorized to begin fundraising to establish a major campus in the strategic triangle between Atlanta, Birmingham, and Chattanooga. In 2015, MNADR purchased a 15,000 sq. ft. warehouse and property in Rome GA and renovation began immediately to create a training center and warehouse campus. In 2018 after thousands of hours of volunteer work, the campus became fully operational and was dedicated to the glory of God. Since becoming operational the Rome warehouse has supported all major PCA disaster responses and continues to provide a platform for regular training events. This warehouse also serves to support strategically located depots to help equip them with critically needed items during a response and then help with the transition of the depot into a central collection point to gather and redistribute items necessary to stand-up longer-term operations.

History of Dallas Depot & Mid-Atlantic Depot

In August 2017 Houston TX was crushed by Hurricane Harvey; major portions of the metroplex were flooded and many communities served by the PCA were affected. MNADR began operations on multiple fronts and as of March 2021, is still coordinating recovery operations in the city. Large quantities of supplies, equipment and specialty trailers were transported from the Rome warehouse to support the PCA response. This required many days of arduous travel since Rome GA is approximately 800 miles from Houston TX and a two-day trip each way is required to safely transport supplies, equipment and specialty trailers.

An early focus of our work in Houston was constructing Sheds of Hope (SOH) for displaced homeowners. SOH are 8'x8' high quality yard-barns that provide dry secure space for homeowners to store recovered personal property as well as rebuilding supplies. MNADR has furnished in excess of 1,600 SOH (approximately \$2,000,000 in cost) since we began this project in 2006; competent, dedicated staff are coordinating this important mercy ministry. The PCA is the only denomination that is engaged in the large-scale provision of storage capacity for homeowners in disaster affected

Recognizing the Blessing of the Lord



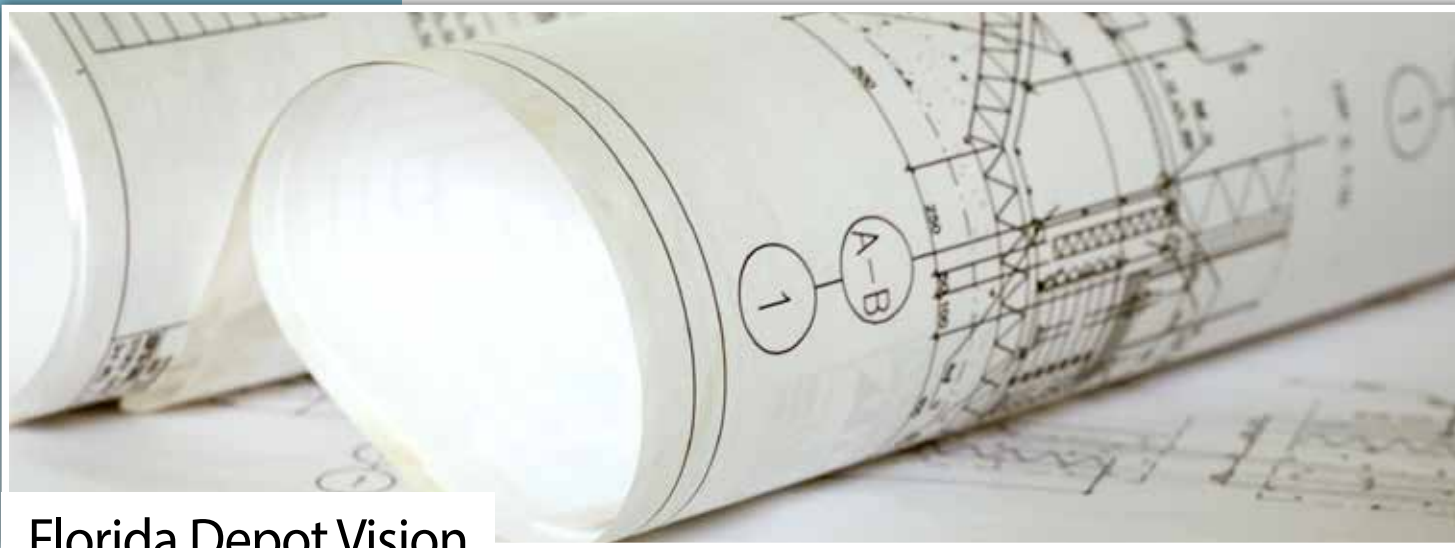
communities. During the Houston response, North TX Presbytery sought to assist at a high level, although the majority of the impacted churches were more than three and a half hours away. Church leaders approached MNADR with the possibility of establishing a regional depot in the Dallas / Fort Worth area where local volunteers could pre-build SOH, which would then be marshaled to Houston for installation. The partnership worked so well that that MNADR was asked to not shutter the depot when the response concluded, but instead to further develop the depot to include prepositioned supplies, equipment and large specialized mission-critical trailers. The Dallas Depot consists of 10,000 sq ft of warehouse capacity in addition to ample outside secure parking for large specialized trailers and large equipment. The Dallas Depot is equipped with new mobile bunkhouses, mobile showers, enclosed delivery trailers, skid-steer loaders and attachments, forklifts, etc. The inventory of supplies and equipment is growing. The Dallas Depot provides coverage for a 300-mile radius of Dallas TX. This area comprises 31,000,000 people, includes a large swath of TX, LA, OK, KS, MO and AR.

MNADR began working to develop the same type of operation in Smithfield VA after being petitioned to do so by churches in the Tidewater area. Although early in the process we have begun acquiring specialized trailers, equipment and supplies. We expect the depot to become fully operational in late in 2021.

The Dallas Depot (pictured left) consists of 10,000 sq ft of warehouse capacity in addition to ample outside secure parking for large specialized trailers and large equipment.

Progress continues on the establishment of the Smithfield Depot (pictured right).

Equipping God's People for Robust Mobilization



Florida Depot Vision

The Florida Depot will facilitate an expedited response to any disaster event in the Florida region. Supplies, materials and equipment will be at the ready to be in the hands of the volunteers on the ground immediately after a disaster event.

The Florida Depot will be used to pre-position large quantities of the following three major groups of items and to provide maintenance space:

Portable Equipment - including all kinds of hand tools and large tools such as water pumps, generators, wheelbarrows, blowers & fans, air compressors, pressure washers, and more.

Supplies - including building materials to stabilize and secure PCA owned properties (i.e., church buildings, educational facilities, etc.). FEMA tarps, five types of 'Relief Kits', ready to send; Flood/Cleaning Buckets, Hygiene Kits, Back-to-School Kits, Bedding Kits, and Sheds of Hope Kits and more.

Large Equipment Storage and Maintenance - including skid-steer loaders with grapples, dump trailers, large diesel-powered generators, mobile shower trailers, mobile bunkhouses, flatbed trailers, dump trailers, enclosed relief-kit delivery trailers, chainsaw-team trailers, muck-out team trailers, long-term recovery/rebuilding carpentry trailers, gutting and blue tarping team trailers, and more.

Working Together To Advance the Gospel

Your Help is Requested

We are praying with deep desire for your partnership in establishing the Florida Depot. Once adequate funding is in hand we will be seeking a location along the I-75 Ocala / Lakeland Corridor to establish the Florida Depot. Do you know of a location we should be looking at and a partnership we should be pursuing? Our desire is to purchase either an existing property with a warehouse-type securable building, 5,000 sq ft in size with room for future expansion or to purchase a vacant lot and construct a depot. The campus must have adequate parking capacity and easy access to I-75.

The depot will be operated by MNADR Staff, called to this work as missionaries in the same manner as our entire MNA Disaster Response team. We will depend on volunteers regularly serving at the depot, especially in the early days of new responses. Opportunities will exist for church mission teams, including second career folks and youth teams, to volunteer regularly and assist with depot operations, flood-bucket & health-kit assembly, grounds maintenance and with delivery of supplies and equipment to established worksites. This a perfect opportunity for Florida churches to work together to seek the welfare of their cities. You can help make this project a reality.

Having pre-positioned supplies such as trailer-mounted generators help keep PCA worship services going in disaster affected communities. Power can be quickly restored even before the power companies have time to make repairs, keeping worship central to the healing process.



The Acquisition Goal for the Florida Depot

We Invite Your Partnership in the Following Ways:

Mission to North America is prayerfully seeking financial support from individuals, churches and presbyteries that will enter into a partnership with us to establish this much needed depot. Will you please join us in praying that many people will find hope in Christ through our disaster response volunteers equipped through this depot, responding to Florida communities in desperate need?

We ask that you prayerfully consider partnering through your financial support now and volunteer efforts once the Florida Depot is established. You can make a tax-deductible contribution to this vital need at <https://give.pcamna.org/to/1877>

You can also mail contributions, payable to Mission to North America, to:
Mission to North America PO Box 890233. Charlotte, NC 28289-0233
Designate: Disaster Response Florida Depot Project

Purchase	\$350,000
Renovation	\$100,000
Initial Equipping	\$150,000
Total Project Investment	\$600,000

1 Partnership @ \$150,000	\$150,000
2 Partnership @ \$75,000	\$150,000
3 Partnerships @ \$50,000	\$150,000
15 Partnerships @ \$10,000	\$150,000
Total Partnerships	\$600,000



Yes, I want to PARTNER with MNA DISASTER RESPONSE!

There are three ways to PARTNER:

1. PRAY

I want to join you in asking our Father to advance His Kingdom through MNA Disaster Response.

- Through consistent PRAYER:** I (we) will pray for the advancement of this ministry and for the hearts of people to be touched by the Gospel. Daily Weekly

2. GIVE

I want to invest in the ministry of MNA Disaster Response Florida Depot

- Through a TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT** Please designate this gift for:
 Disaster Response Ministry Florida Depot Fund

One-Time Gift of \$ _____ or \$ _____ Monthly Quarterly Annually
(For information about electronic funds transfer for your gifts, please visit www.pcamna.org.)

3. GO

I want to participate in the work of MNA Disaster Response Florida Depot

- VOLUNTEER:** I would like to participate in MNA Disaster Response as a volunteer.
To register as a MNA Disaster Response Volunteer, **please visit www.pcamna.org/disaster-response/**
- NEWSLETTER:** I would like to receive a free quarterly newsletter. (Subscriptions may be discontinued upon request at any time.) By email By postal service

NAME _____
(Title, Mr., Mrs., Ms.) (First Name) (Last Name)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please make checks payable to:

MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA and designate **MNA Disaster Response Ministries** on the memo line.

Mail to: Mission to North America
P. O. Box 890233
Charlotte NC 28289-02333

To contribute online:
www.pcamna.org/disaster-response

This contribution will be made with the understanding that Mission to North America has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds, to assure their use for the intended exempt purposes. This statement may be revisited or cancelled at any time should circumstances necessitate.

LAWRENCEVILLE GA 30043-8143
1700 N BROWN RD STE 101
MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



PLEASE NOTE: Remove this page at the perforation to the right, fold on the dotted line, place three pieces of tape, bottom, left and right, place a first class stamp and drop in the mail.

Mission to North America

1700 N. Brown Rd., Suite 101
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
www.pcamna.org

