



DOVES

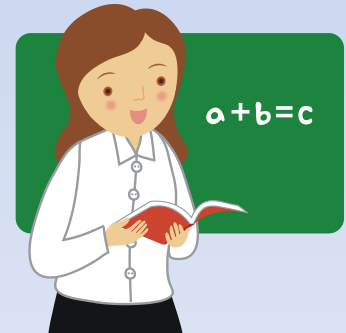
Disaster Operations Volunteer Escapes

Your Presenters



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DOVES

Who are the DOVES?

“DOVES” are

1. American Red Cross volunteers trained and ready to assist during and between disaster responses, locally and nationally
2. Members of the DOVES BOF in the Escapees RV Club



**American
Red Cross**



ESCAPEESRVClub

A total support network for RVers

The **Escapees RV Club** is one of the largest RV clubs in the industry

Within it are special interest groups called Birds of a Feather (BOF)

The **DOVES** is a certified BOF of the Escapees RV Club

<http://www.escapees.com>



DOVES

Who are the DOVES?

“DOVES” are Red Cross volunteers who

- Are willing to respond to disasters in our RVs, if appropriate, or as traditional responders, otherwise
- Are willing to volunteer with the Red Cross wherever we find ourselves as we travel around the country
- Are willing to assist the Red Cross between disasters where possible, including in areas that are not disaster related



DOVES

History of the DOVES

- 2001 Response to 9/11 in New York
 - Responding Red Cross volunteers included some who deployed in their RVs
- 2002 First MOU
- 2005 Response to Hurricane Katrina
 - 45 DOVES were recruited and trained at the Escapade (the national rally for Escapees) & joined either Elkhart, Indiana, or Houston, Texas, chapters
 - Most were deployed to relief efforts extending into 2006
- 2015 Current MOU
- Recent changes to Red Cross have changed some of what DOVES offers
 - Disaster responses are being handled more locally
 - More emphasis is being placed on disaster preparedness
 - More DOVES are assisting in non-disaster services related activities



DOVES

What do DOVES do for the Red Cross?

- DOVES are Red Cross volunteers (current or retired) and their spouses
- 175 DOVES are currently in Volunteer Connection as active volunteers
- Historically DOVES are disaster responders
 - Across many, perhaps all, GAPs (Group/Activity/Positions)
 - Including Service Associates, Supervisors, Managers, and Chiefs
- Typical DOVES are locally active participating in such activities as
 - Disaster Action Team members
 - Client casework
 - Support services including IT, office assistance
 - Special projects such as Pillow Case Project & smoke alarm installations
 - Administrative and leadership positions



DOVES

What do DOVES do for the Red Cross (cont)?

- With recent changes to encourage remote assistance, DOVES also assist with
 - Client casework follow up & auditing
 - Remote Call Centers
 - DOVES participated in the call centers in California, South Carolina, & Texas
 - DOVES are a part of the new call center group willing to respond as needed
- Teaching
 - There are 35 fully trained Red Cross certified instructors
 - Disaster classes
 - CPR/First Aid/AED
 - Classes taught regularly
 - At the DOVE instructor's home chapters
 - At Quartzsite and Yuma, Arizona, where several DOVES gather each January
 - At the Escapade annually (time and location vary)
 - Classes can and have been taught when a DOVE travels near a different chapter



DOVES

What do DOVES do for the Red Cross (cont)?

- Blood Services
 - In addition to providing assistance at their local chapters, DOVES host a blood drive at the Escapade
- Diversity's Ability Network Resource Group
 - DOVES actively participate in leadership and other roles to develop strategies to better serve team members with disabilities, and access and functional needs
- Assisting in just about anything that Red Cross does as the DOVE travels around the country or is near their home chapter



DOVES

The DOVE Deployment Process

- The DOVE Deployment Coordinator monitors the DOOR system for deployment requests
 - All requests can be displayed even if the request is 'Out of Proximity'
 - Deployment Coordinator sends out a list of the requests to DOVES
 - Request includes relevant information such as proximity
 - Request goes to DOVE Global GroupShare members
- If a DOVE is within the proximity AND their home chapter is within the proximity then the home chapter has to handle the deployment
- If the DOVE is within the proximity BUT their home chapter is not within the proximity then the DOVE can inform the DOVE Coordinator who will pass the request on to Resource Mobilization and Support (RMS)



DOVES

The DOVE Deployment Process (cont)

- RMS determines if the DOVE should go
- The decision is communicated to the DOVE and relevant parties
- Part of the process includes whether the DOVE will go in their RV
- More details are in the MOU



DOVES

Challenges DOVES Face

- Low visibility in the Red Cross organization makes it difficult to engage outside of our home chapters
- Chapters outside of our home regions are not able to easily access our Volunteer Connection profiles
- Most recent national DRs call for Supervisors/Managers/Chiefs, and mobile lifestyle makes it difficult to advance in our Red Cross 'careers'
- Difficulty in transferring capabilities & accesses
 - Client Assistance System
 - Volunteer Connection
- High turnover rate among Red Cross personnel



DOVES

Getting more information on DOVES

- Visit the DOVE website www.dovebof.org
- Email Don Klein at VicePresident@DOVEBOF.org or call at 210-268-3931
- Visit the DOVE Facebook page (DOVEBOF).
This is a closed Facebook group
Contact a DOVE officer to become part of the group