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Chaplain Training 101.1

September 17, 2021

Bill Brammer

INTRODUCTION:

I suppose that the first question that we need to answer is, “*What is a chaplain?*”

A **chaplain** is, traditionally, a cleric (such as a minister, priest, pastor, rabbi, prophet, or imam), or a lay representative of a religious tradition, attached to a secular institution (such as a hospital, prison, military unit, intelligence agency, embassy, school, labor union, business, police department, fire department, university, sports club), or a private chapel.

Though originally the word *chaplain* referred to representatives of the Christian faith, it is now also applied to people of other religions or philosophical traditions, as in the case of chaplains serving with military forces and an increasing number of chaplains at U.S. universities.

In recent times, many lay people have received professional training in chaplaincy and are now appointed as chaplains in schools, hospitals, companies, universities, prisons and elsewhere to work alongside, or instead of, official members of the clergy. The concepts of a *multi-faith team*, *secular*, *generic* or *humanist* chaplaincy are also gaining increasing use, particularly within healthcare and educational settings.

What must a chaplain possess to be successful?

First is “*is having the right _____ attitude.*”

In Christianity there can be found many motivations. People can be motivated out of fear, anxieties, satisfaction, or power. When we talk about chaplaincy there can be many motivations as well. To some they just like the title of being, “*The Chaplain.*” Some feel that being a chaplain gives them a license to be a “_____.” But being a chaplain simply means that you are an _____ of God's love for people and Jesus' gift of grace from the cross. Galatians 2:20 says it this way, “***I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.***” And now I am extending myself in His name on your behalf.

Second, of course, is to be _____ and _____ by the Holy Spirit.

To succeed in this vocation, one must be called and led by the Holy Spirit of God. I have met people that have disagreed with me, but experience has taught me that this is a must. Waking up one morning and deciding that you are going to do chaplain work one day sounds good, but the truth is that being an effective chaplain is not about doing something you choose to do. Being an effective chaplain is

responding to a situation that you know nothing about until that moment. Things happen to people, and you are asked to respond to the situation without knowing any of the details.

Let me give you a situation. I am preparing this document today while I am on deployment to respond to a city that was devastated by a hurricane. My first task is to respond to an address of someone who needs some assistance. The work request will tell me the name and address of the person that I am to talk to and whether this is going to need a chainsaw crew or a restoration crew, and that is all. What or how you will be met when you get there is completely unknown and there is no manual or SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) that you can open and prepare yourself for what this person's situation or need may be. All you can do is _____ to the Lord that you will have His guidance when you get there. You must rely on God's Word, Jesus' _____, _____, and _____ and the Holy Spirit strength to guide you through this moment.

I am convinced that the preparation for chaplaincy initially comes to a person after they have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. 1 Peter 4:7-11 gives us great incite on how God prepares us, "⁷ *The end of all things is at hand; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.* ⁸ *Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.* ⁹ *Be hospitable to one another without complaint.* ¹⁰ *As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.* ¹¹ *Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever.* People are gifted by God to minister to His people.

What does a chaplain do? To explain this, we must first look at some of the specific functions of chaplaincy.

First, is "_____."

Ministry can be defined as the work or vocation of a minister of religious organizations or activities.

In terms of Disaster Relief, the ministry of a chaplain is divided into two categories.

_____ Care:

Emotional care involves the nurturing, processing, and healing of our feelings.

It is important to recognize that the affective state, or mood state, has an enormous effect on our quality of life.

It is the responsibility of the chaplain to assist an individual to maintain a positive, healthy attitude during some of the most trying times.

Care:

Spiritual care involves those needs and concerns usually related to what we call the "*big*" questions of life.

These questions can include:

Why is this happening and why is it happening to me?

What does it all mean?

How do I make sense of everything?

How do I feel about changes in my life?

What gives me comfort and hope?

What do I call "*good*" in my life? What do I call "*bad*"?

What was I created for?

What or who can I trust?

Who is my "*community*" -- who loves me and is loved by me, no matter what?

What or who -- beyond myself -- do I believe is important in my life?

All these questions are related to spiritual needs, concerns, and resources.

All people ask these questions during their lives, especially when they or someone they love are sick or in crisis.

Some people find meaning, comfort, hope, goodness and community through their religious practice, beliefs and/or community of faith while some people do not.

Regardless of whether religious faith is a part of a person's life, their spiritual concerns, resources, and needs can still be very important, especially during a time of crisis.

Second, is “

.”

Far too often our ability to observe becomes clouded by our intentions, motivations, and eagerness for results or conclusions, and because of this we do not really see the person as we should.

The Bible tells us that Jesus not only sees us as we look, but He is able to see our very hearts, thoughts, and emotions. He sees us totally and completely.

The only way you and I can really get to know someone is to begin to see people as they truly are. For me this is accomplished by me observing you as you are each day, learning your habits, gestures, and idioms.

When I truly see you for who you are then and only then can I recognize when your demeanor changes, alerting me that there is something wrong.

Pay attention and learn.

Third, is “_____.”

Everything someone says or does has a definite meaning to them and their lives.

Once you have noticed something through your observation you must evaluate it and determine if it will have a positive or a negative response to your emotional or spiritual care.

One could create a never-ending list of things that could affect one’s life situations, but sometimes this evaluation process can be made easier by simply asking a couple of probing questions and then evaluating the answers.

What is going on in one’s life?

Fourth, is “_____.”

Mitigation is the lessening the force of intensity of something unpleasant such as wrath, pain, or extreme circumstances.

In most cases you cannot fix the problems or eliminate the extreme circumstances, however, it may be within your means to defuse the circumstances or one’s attitude toward what they are dealing with.

The skills needed to make these disturbing things easier to handle will be developed over time and through additional training. I have found that there is no one set problem fixing tool that one could use. Each circumstance is completely different from another as is one person from another.

Often, however, there are several agencies or individuals available to assist someone in need, our task is to connect them to each other so a solution can be obtained as quickly as possible.

Fifth, _____ :

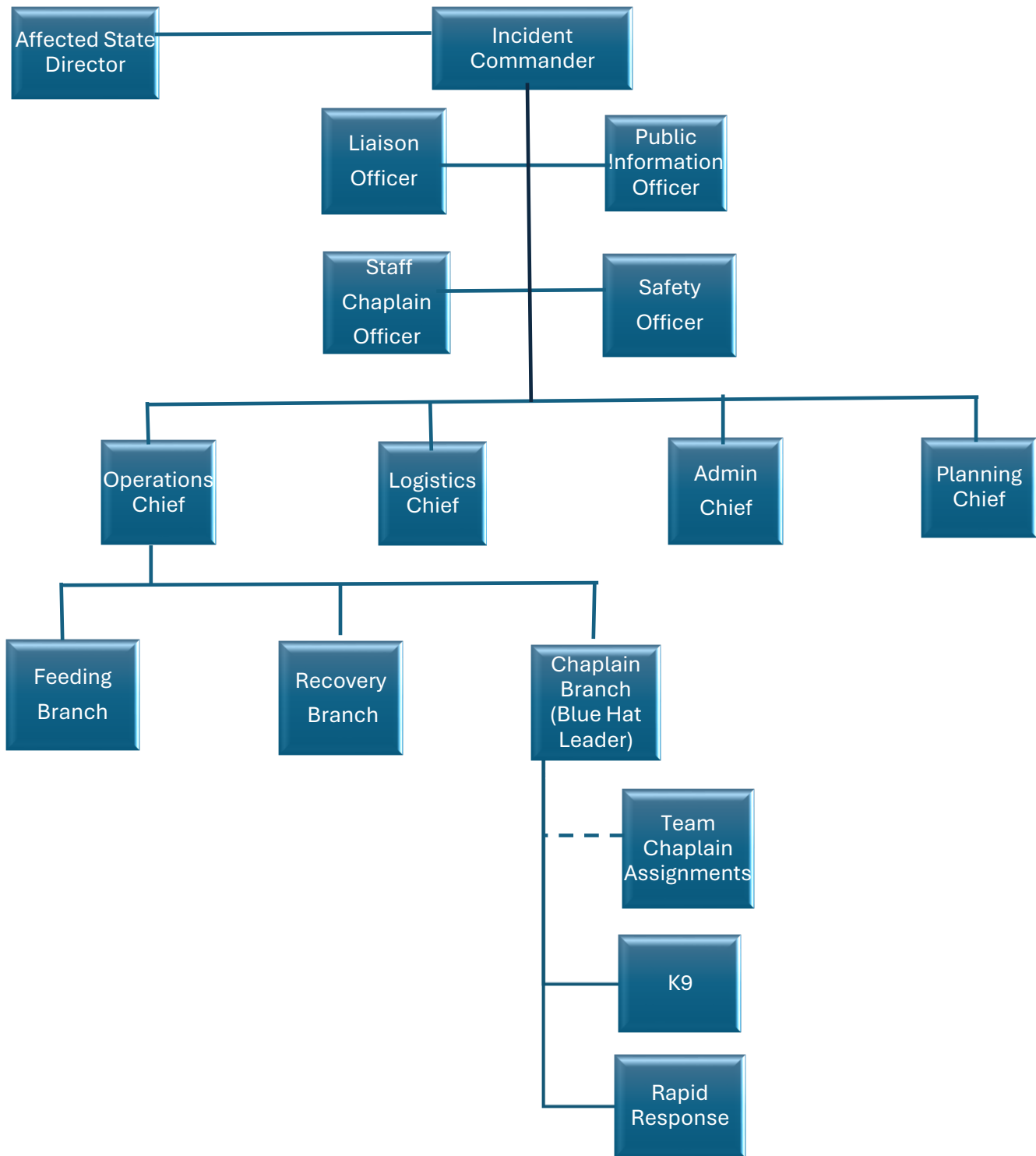
This is a vital tool for any chaplain, but a caring heart, words and touch can often work wonders.

Find your gifts and talents and then use them effectively and wisely.

MISCONCEPTIONS:

1. One of the greatest misconceptions many people have is that it is the chaplain's primary function to deliver the Gospel message to everyone they encounter. The truth is that this is the primary responsibility of all born again believers not just chaplains or pastors.
2. Chaplains cannot fix all of one's problems. Chaplains are merely conduits through which one can meet someone who can mitigate one's difficulties.
3. Many people have the idea that they can learn to be a chaplain, some people even believe they can teach someone to become a chaplain. But becoming a chaplain requires you to be willing to go forth in the name of Jesus, to go out in the power of the Holy Spirit, and to show forth Jesus Christ's love and compassion with wisdom.

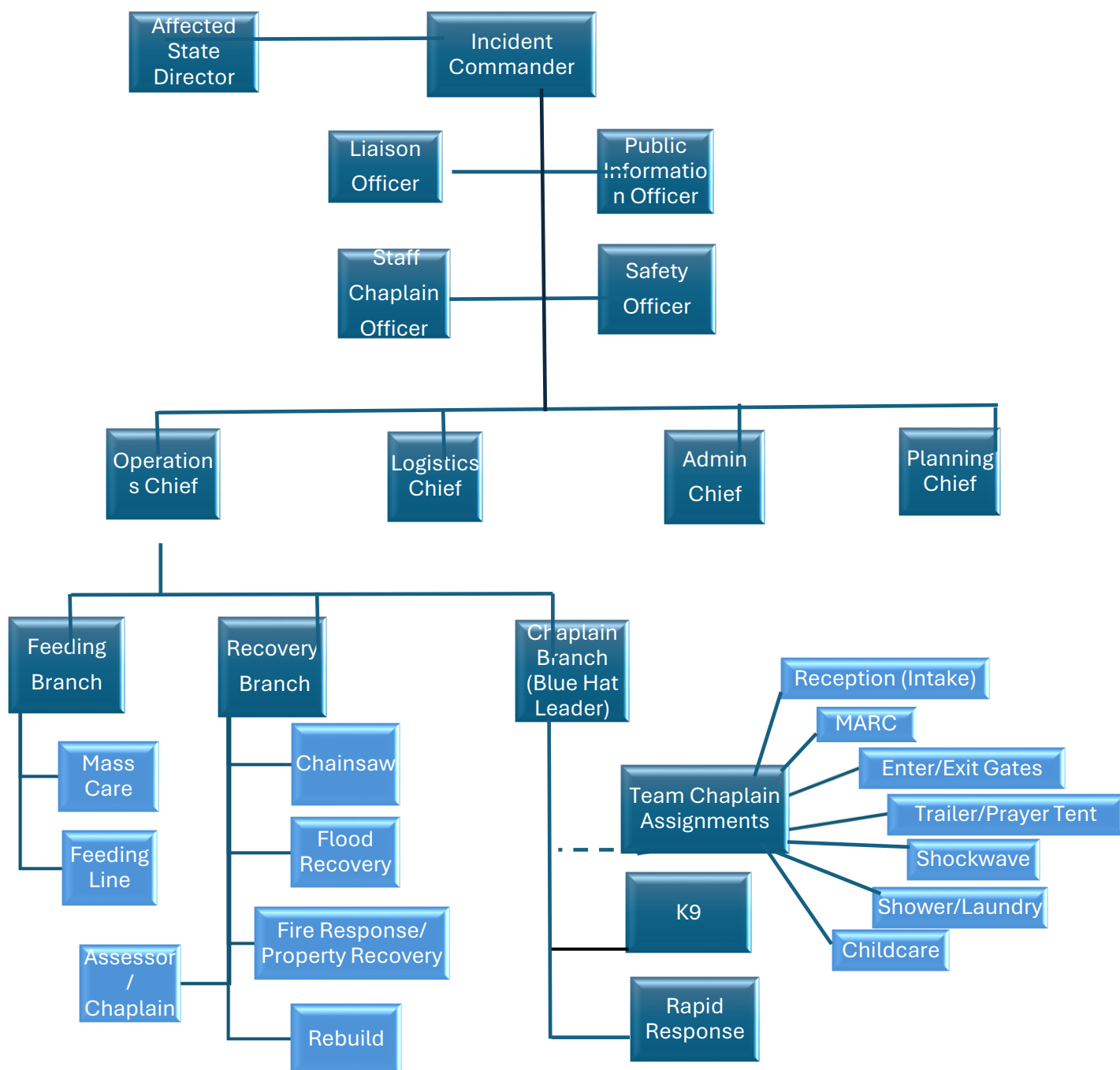
IMT Organizational Chart (Revised 12/8/2025)



Team Chaplain Assignments” is a catchall for all the ministry assignments (Feeding, Assessment, Recovery Teams, Intake, etc.).

It is delineated by a dotted line to communicate it is different than K9 and Rapid Response. All team Chaplains report directly to the assigned ministry Blue Hat not directly to the Chaplain Branch leader. However, it is also understood that the Chaplain Branch leader does have some responsibility.

IMT Organizational Chart (Revised 12/8/2025)



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Staff Chaplain Officer

Job Description

OVERVIEW

The Staff Chaplain Officer is responsible for managing spiritual and emotional support services on a disaster operation. This support includes external care for disaster survivors, rescue workers, the public as well as internal care for staff and volunteers.

It is the responsibility of the Staff Chaplain Officer to oversee all components of emotional and spiritual care and ensure that this care exists throughout the entire disaster operation.

Specifically, the Staff Chaplain Officer is responsible for the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of the IMT staff, walk-in survivors and their families as well as team and community DR Chaplains.

The Staff Chaplain Officer is available to assist the host church pastoral staff in serving host church families.

The Staff Chaplain Officer reports directly to the Incident Commander.

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES

The Staff Chaplain Officer should exhibit the following traits and characteristics:

- Have the capacity to coordinate the provision of spiritual and emotional care to all individuals through personalized care or by referral while respecting the diverse faiths and religious beliefs of those served.
- Be organized and give attention to details.
- Demonstrate maturity and the ability to remain calm and composed, and to provide clear thinking and leadership in times of crisis.
- Be well grounded spiritually and be able to minister to the spiritual needs of the Chaplain team.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude and instill a sense of mission within the Chaplain team.
- Be able to demonstrate and clearly convey the essential functions of emotional and spiritual care to the Chaplain team.
- Maintain the highest levels of confidentiality with the Chaplain team.¹

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Development, implementation and maintenance of a comprehensive emotional and spiritual care plan within the disaster relief operation.
- Coordinate the recruitment and selection of qualified individuals to serve on the Chaplain team.
- Provide supervision and consultation for the Chaplain team. This will include needs assessment, selection of team leaders, team formation, case consultation, debriefing, demobilization and debriefing services for team members.
- Provide on-site orientation and training (mentoring) as needed for Chaplain team members.
- Respect the limits and capabilities of Chaplain team members and be prepared to make immediate referrals to professional mental health providers for survivors who require a more substantive level of care.
- Work closely within the local community to assist survivors in connecting with appropriate faith communities and local support systems for emotional and spiritual care.
- Serve as liaison for Chaplain issues with IMT staff.
- When appropriate, provide support to coroner offices, morgues, and Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Teams (DMORT). Be prepared to assist government officials and families with issues of victim identification or death notification.
- Utilize a multi-faceted, multi-component, and phase-sensitive comprehensive range of support services to meet the emotional and spiritual needs of survivors and disaster relief workers.²

PHASE-SENSITIVE DUTIES

Pre-Response specific:

- Ascertain the geographical and cultural characteristics of service area. Useful tools are Google searches for demographics (cultural, religious, financial), community impact as reported by local news and Facebook groups (community, police, fire, governing bodies such as town, city, county, state).
- Make certain that adequate appropriate language Bibles are available and stored for transport.
- Make certain an adequate supply of door hangers and business cards are available and stored for transport.
- Prepare a list of Chaplains who have volunteered for deployment along with dates of availability.
- Enlist first response Chaplains.

Response specific:

- Check in at IMT.
- Complete check-in documentation (medical and liability forms).
- Establish working location as directed by Incident Commander.
- Establish daily devotional and debrief schedule in coordination with Incident Commander.
- Serve as point of contact for a Pastoral Liaison.
- Create a list of local faith community leaders active in the disaster.
- Locate and notate local churches willing to follow up on decisions made during deployment.
- Create and maintain a list of locally available resources useful to survivors including any available COAD information.
- Obtain a local resource list of mental health and behavioral professionals.

- Look for ministry opportunities.
- Set up Chaplain trailer and prayer tent if applicable.
- Begin Chaplain activity log on Dropbox of pertinent activities and contacts to provide a continuity of information between Staff chaplain Officers.
- See appendix for examples of documenting referenced information.

Ongoing Duties:

- Provide emotional and spiritual services and support for IMT staff, walk-in community members, other volunteers and first responders.
- Identify team chaplains. Notate their names and phone numbers.
- Make sure each team chaplain has your phone number.
- Strive to assign chaplains to all teams who do not already have one.
- Ensure all teams have a supply of blank decision cards.
- Maintain file of completed decision cards.
- Develop and implement a plan to provide pastors with decision information.
- Receive referrals from team chaplains or host church of those that need additional spiritual help.
- Provide emotional and spiritual services and support for IMT staff, walk-in community members, other volunteers and first responders.
- Monitor funeral services/morgue operations.
- Post a prayer request sheet for team members to request prayer. Pray for those during the day.
- Assist with spiritual care, compassion, and reporting for injured

volunteers requiring treatment.

- Participate in daily IMT briefings and planning meetings.
- Monitor spiritual and emotional condition of IMT.
- Conduct Chaplain debrief meetings. Stress importance of meeting with homeowners, spending time with them and praying with them.
- Encourage team chaplains to monitor team members for stress or fatigue.
- Remind team chaplains of the importance of giving signed bibles to homeowners.
- Receive reporting information from team chaplains such as number of gospel presentations, professions of faith, ministry contacts and number of Bibles given. Ensure this information was reported through formstack by their team Blue Hats or by the Chaplains themselves.
- Provide information as needed for the IMT Daily Report. (Do not double report.)
- Plan devotionals according to the schedule established with the Incident Commander either personally or arrange for another Chaplain to provide.
- Create roster of who is doing morning/evening devotions.
- Be available to moderate an evening debrief or assist the Incident Commander, or other, to moderate the debrief.
- Coordinate with Operations Chief regarding Chaplain presence at distribution points (Shockwave, food, etc.).
- Coordinate with Operations Chief regarding Chaplain/Assessor teams.
- Assist in staffing a Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) if one is available. Utilize the MODR business sized cards notating services

available through MODR to show how we **MAY** be able to help. Remind volunteers to NEVER make promises.

- Ensure we are maintaining ministry in all aspects of MODR response.
- Maintain Chaplain trailer and prayer tent if applicable.
- Monitor Bible inventory and alert Logistics Chief when more are needed.
- Other duties may be assigned by the Incident Commander.
- Maintain Chaplain activity log located on Dropbox of pertinent activities and contacts to provide a continuity of information between Staff Chaplain Officers.

Transition Specific:

- Transition to supporting long-term recovery working groups as needed.
- Act as a point of contact for local faith leaders and faith-based organizations.
- Ensure church staff are debriefed and included in exit strategy.
- Prepare to shut down operations and transport equipment back to home base(s) and normal operations.
- Ensure Chaplain trailer and contents are returned to readiness center.
- Assist with spiritual care, compassion, reporting for injured volunteers requiring treatment.
- Assist closing Incident Commander with a final debriefing and “lessons learned”.³

Original Draft 08/02/2020

Revised 03/02/2026

¹ Adapted from Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters, *International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc., Version 6.0, October 2008*

² Adapted ibid

³ Adapted from National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, *Disaster Spiritual Care Guidelines, Ratified 2014*

Chaplain Branch Leader (Blue Hat)

Job Description

OVERVIEW

The Chaplain Branch Leader is primarily responsible for assisting the Staff Chaplain Officer before, during and after a disaster deployment.

The Chaplain Branch Leader's Duties and Responsibilities are generally "operational" in nature.

The Chaplain Branch Leader assists in managing spiritual and emotional support services on a disaster operation. This support includes external care for disaster survivors, rescue workers and the public.

Specifically, the Chaplain Branch Leader is responsible for the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of DR Chaplains.

The Chaplain Branch Leader will assist the Staff Chaplain Officer in scheduling daily devotionals.

The Chaplain Branch Leader reports directly to the Operations Chief in coordination with assisting the Staff Chaplain Officer.

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES

The Chaplain Branch Leader should exhibit the following traits and characteristics:

- Have the capacity to assist the Staff Chaplain Officer in the provision of spiritual and emotional care to all individuals through personalized care or by referral while respecting the diverse faiths and religious beliefs of those served.
- Be organized and give attention to details.
- Demonstrate maturity and the ability to remain calm and composed, and to provide clear thinking and leadership in times of crisis.
- Be well grounded spiritually and be able to minister to the spiritual needs of the Chaplain teams.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude and instill a sense of mission within the Chaplain teams.
- Be able to demonstrate and clearly convey the essential functions of emotional and spiritual care to the Chaplain teams.
- Maintain the highest levels of confidentiality with the Chaplain teams.¹

RESPONSIBILITIES

TEAM BUILDING

- Recruits members to the Chaplain team.
- Encourages Chaplains to recruit members to the team.
- Develops individuals to become part of the team.
- Encourages team members to advance skills.
- Creates a team mindset in team members.
- Encourages spiritual growth in team members.
- Develops and delegates subtasks for team members.
- Creates a positive, can-do attitude in team members.
- Communicates between disasters.

TEAM DEPLOYMENT

- Communicates early and often with the team providing information for success.
- Plans, organizes, and leads the team to bring help, hope and healing.
- Cares for the needs of the team.
- Explains expectations to team members.
- Works cooperatively with leadership.
- Ensures the team completes the task(s) safely.
- Leads in accordance with MODR standards.
- Shows concern for the well-being of survivors, community and volunteers.
- Doesn't put the task before the mission.

TEAM REPORTING

- At the request of the Staff Chaplain Officer, will be responsible for (or assist with) all FormStack reporting for the Chaplain team (ensuring reporting is included as part of a team or as an individual).

Original Draft 03/28/2022

Revised 11/12/2025

¹ Adapted from Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters, *International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc., Version 6.0, October 2008*

Gold Hat Chaplain

Job Description

OVERVIEW

The Gold Hat Chaplain delivers spiritual and emotional support services on a disaster operation. This support includes external care for disaster survivors, rescue workers and the public.

All Team Gold Hat Chaplains report directly to the assigned ministry Blue Hat not directly to the Chaplain Branch Leader.

However, it is also understood that the Chaplain Branch leader does have some responsibility for them.

Gold Hat Chaplains serving in a capacity other than under a Team Blue Hat will report directly to the Chaplain Branch Leader.

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES

The Gold Hat Chaplain should exhibit the following traits and characteristics:

- Have the capacity to assist the Chaplain Branch Leader and the Staff Chaplain Officer in the provision of spiritual and emotional care to all individuals through personalized care or by referral while respecting the diverse faiths and religious beliefs of those served.
- Demonstrate maturity and the ability to remain calm and composed, and to provide clear thinking and leadership in times of crisis.
- Be well grounded spiritually and be able to minister to the spiritual needs of the survivors.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude and instill a sense of mission within the Chaplain team.
- Maintain the highest levels of confidentiality with the Chaplain teams.¹

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develops an awareness of the needs of the team.
- Works cooperatively with leadership and other members of the team.
- Helps the team complete the task(s) safely.
- Works in accordance with MODR standards.
- Shows concern for the well-being of survivors, community and volunteers.
- Doesn't put the task before the mission.
- Gold Hat Chaplains will be assigned work responsibilities that might include but are not limited to:
 - Mass Care
 - Feeding line
 - Intake desk
 - Chaplain Assessor Teams
 - Recovery Teams
 - Shockwave tent
 - Devotionals/Debriefs
 - Mentoring of new Chaplains
 - Other community needs

Original Draft 03/28/2022

Revised 12/08/2025

¹ Adapted from Emotional and Spiritual Care in Disasters, *International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc.*, Version 6.0, October 2008

Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief

Chaplaincy Ministry

Deployment Plan

Goal: This Chaplaincy Deployment Plan is designed to ensure that an adequate number of experienced Chaplains are deployed to disasters and that these Chaplains can staff the deployment from beginning to end.

Phase 1 Deployment: The following steps should be taken to ensure Chaplains are scheduled to cover the anticipated term of the deployment.

1. When the State Director places the Disaster Relief organization on standby status, the Chaplaincy Ministry Coordinator will contact selected Staff Chaplain Officers to start planning a schedule of Staff Chaplain Officer coverage.
2. Each member of the Staff Chaplain Officer group will then contact Chaplains with whom they are familiar, with the goal of developing a team of Chaplains which can deploy during a designated time period.
3. When a Chaplain “team” has been established, the Staff Chaplain Officer for that team will contact the Ministry Coordinator for final coordination of time and place of deployment.
4. It is not necessary for a team to travel together but the team’s Staff Chaplain Officer (or Chaplain Branch Leader) will be responsible for maintaining FormStack reporting and tracking for the team before, during and after the deployment until all team members have safely returned home.

Phase 2 Continuity of Deployment: The following steps should be taken to ensure that Chaplains perform their assigned duties and responsibilities during the term of the team's deployment.

1. The Staff Chaplain Officer will assign responsibility for the daily devotional (and debrief if requested).
2. The Chaplain Branch Leader should act as the eyes and ears of the Staff Chaplain Officer, especially with recovery teams and off campus.
3. The Staff Chaplain Officer, or the Chaplain Branch Leader, will be responsible for daily FormStack reporting for the Chaplain team. (Embedded team Chaplains, e.g., chainsaw, can report their activities either through their recovery team leader, or may choose to report through the Chaplain team.)
4. The Staff Chaplain Officer should meet daily with the Chaplain Branch Leader to coordinate their daily activities, concerns and needs.
5. To provide a coherent stream of communication between incoming and outgoing Staff Chaplain Officers, a daily log or journal should be started and maintained then shared during the transition period.
6. Attend daily IMT briefings and meetings.

Phase 3 Demobilization

1. The closing Staff Chaplain Officer should assist the Incident Commander and IMT Staff in closing down operations. A final debriefing should include "lessons learned" and ways to improve the operations of MODR.

Additional Notes:

1. An ideal Chaplain team will consist of a Staff Chaplain Officer, a Chaplain Branch Leader (who will assist the Staff Chaplain Officer in team coordination), and experienced Chaplains.

If there are non-experienced Chaplains on the team, the Staff Chaplain Officer, with the assistance of the Chaplain Branch Leader, will assign an experienced Chaplain to the non-experienced Chaplain to act as a mentor during the duration of the team's deployment.

2. Some Incident Commanders prefer that the devotional be done in the morning before the recovery teams leave the campus. Other Incident Commanders prefer that the devotional be done in the evening following the evening meal.

The Staff Chaplain Officer will comply with the Incident Commander's requests to the best of their ability.

3. The Incident Commander may or may not request that a Chaplain lead a "Debrief" following the evening meal.
4. The use of Phase 1,2,3 terminology is in keeping with the use of these descriptors in IMT documents.
5. Members of the Chaplain team can be assigned to a multitude of duties to include but are not limited to:
6. For more detail in Staff Chaplain Officer duties, see the "Staff Chaplain Officer" job description attached.
 - Mass Care
 - Feeding line
 - Intake desk
 - Chaplain Assessor Teams
 - Recovery Teams
 - Shockwave tent
 - Devotionals/Debriefs
 - Mentoring of new Chaplains
 - Other community needs

Revised 12/08/2025

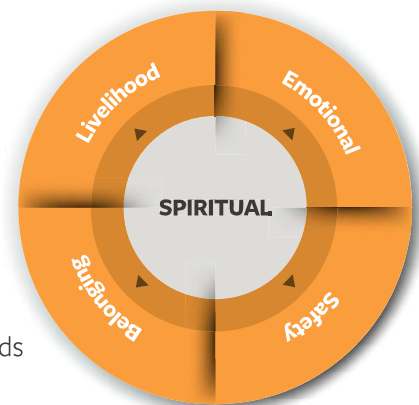
Provide Practical Presence: Start by “Being There”

As you set out to help others, remember that practical presence often speaks more deeply to people’s unmet core needs than any words you could say or advice you could give. This is not to say that you shouldn’t share your thoughts, but remember that “being there” (even remotely) for another person is what often helps the most. Though the practical presence skills we will introduce throughout the manual will likely seem familiar, do not overlook them.

The Five Core Needs

Our research shows that helping people address unmet needs in the wake of a public health crisis can help them gain a sense of meaning, feel connected, and improve resilience. Specifically, our team’s research has identified what we have come to call the five core needs most likely to be affected by disasters like COVID-19:

- Belonging Needs
- Livelihood Needs
- Emotional Needs
- Safety Needs
- Spiritual Needs



Similarly, our research suggests that it is important to recognize that these needs are interconnected. Although only one of these needs is listed as spiritual, all of these needs have a spiritual component. This visual depiction of the five core needs in the time of crisis shows how belonging, livelihood, emotional, spiritual, and safety needs are interconnected and how they can be understood from a spiritual perspective.

Spiritual Care Continuum

We view all the interventions taught in this manual as spiritually oriented. Faith infuses the practice of Spiritual First Aid; it informs who you are (e.g., your worldview, beliefs, identity), gives you motivation to help (e.g., inspires you), and guides how you view and relate with others. However, different people need different things, and your spiritual and emotional care may subtly or obviously address religion or spirituality. That is why for each core need, we suggest a range of spiritually oriented interventions, from what we refer to as subtle spiritual care to obvious spiritual care approaches.



Formstack Reporting

- For the sake of the IMT and planning purposes
- Volunteer insurance
- Gives accurate statistics to continue telling the story of MODR
- Gives credibility
- Accurate account of the volunteer hours/days that have been spent for local authorities.
- Helps communities with cost share portion of FEMA funding
- You are responsible for ensuring your information is reported accurately whether you are reporting it yourself as an individual or a team leader is reporting it for you.
- Daily Reporting is best. Setting a time to report every day and sticking to that schedule is most beneficial.
- Report for all MODR callouts whether they are large scale or a small local event.



SBDR Forms App

NAMB Staff App SBC 23

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App support



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Central hub for all onsite form needs for teams serving in disaster response

Communication

500+

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Everyone ⓘ

- Report Forms: Team Roster, Team Deployment, Team Arrival, Daily Report, Incident Report, Evangelistic Response



Professions of Faith*

Gospel Presentations*

of individuals your team shared the plan of salvation with that ended with an invitation to pray to receive Jesus as their personal Savior?

Ministry Contacts*

Ministry Contacts include "prayer", "spiritual discussions", "encouragement conversations", "spiritual tracts given to individuals" by any team member

Chaplaincy Contacts*

This includes "prayer", "spiritual discussions", "encouragement conversations", "spiritual tracts given to individuals" by a chaplain

Other Decisions*

Bibles Distributed*

Tracts Distributed*

Needs Followup*

- Yes
- No

If you have names to submit for Emotional/Spiritual Care followup check

Missouri Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Chaplain Statement

Understanding that serving as a Missouri Baptist Convention chaplain requires the most Christian lifestyle and behavior. I commit to be Christ like in all my actions, words and deeds, including abstinence from illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Further, I have not committed nor been charged or convicted of sexual assault.

NAME (print) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Return Form to: Disaster Relief Office
Missouri Baptist Convention, 400 East High Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101-3253



CHAPLAIN AVAILABILITY WORKSHEET

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

BEST FORM OF CONTACT: Phone Call Text Message Email Other _____

MY RESPONSE CIRCUMSTANCES: REGION _____

- I work full time, and I am only available to respond as my schedule will allow.
- I work full time, however, my employer will give me time off to respond to a disaster. I need _____ notice to respond.
- I am retired and can respond most of the time with very little notice.
- I am retired but need _____ notice to respond.
- I am willing to be gone for a 7-10 day deployment.

I AM WILLING TO DEPLOY IN (check all areas that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Chaplain Officer (Blue Hat) | <input type="checkbox"/> Embedded Chaplains |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chaplain Branch Leader (Blue Hat) | <input type="checkbox"/> Childcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Hat Chaplain | <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assessor/Chaplain team | <input type="checkbox"/> Shower/Laundry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work Request Intake | <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Recovery Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entrance/Exit Gate | <input type="checkbox"/> Chainsaw Recovery Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MARC | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Response/Property Recovery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shockwave | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebuild |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trailer/Prayer Tent | |

I AM INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A RAPID RESPONSE TEAM: Yes No

I HAVE A TRUCK AND CAN PULL THE CHAPLAIN TRAILER (2 - 5/16" Ball)

I CAN DRIVE OR CARPOOL WITH OTHERS

Appendix

- Baptist Faith and Message (Must Read and Agree With): <https://bfm.sbc.net>
- SBDR Chaplaincy Manual: <https://modr.org/training/> Chaplaincy
- FEMA ICS Courses (Highly recommended) : <https://www.fema.gov/> click “Sign up for Trainings”. Take ICS 100, ICS 200, ICS 368, ICS 505, ICS 700 and ICS 800
- FEMA Daily Operations Briefing: <https://disastercenter.com/>
Scroll down and click on **FEMA Daily Situation Report -- Current** for a current report
- National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD) resources: <https://www.nvoad.org/resources-center/>
- National VOAD Light Our Way: [nvoad.org/wp-content/uploads/light_our_way_2018_final-published-copy.pdf](https://www.nvoad.org/wp-content/uploads/light_our_way_2018_final-published-copy.pdf)
- OSFA (Operational Stress First Aid) (Recommended by NAMB):
(Power Point from Oklahoma training)
<https://www.okdisasterhelp.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/osfa-manual-master-final.pdf>
- CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) Training (Recommended by NAMB):
<https://crisistrainingcenter.org/> and <https://crisisresponse.org/>
(Links used by Ohio State Director John Heading for their Chaplains)
- Tip Sheets On Engaging Faith Communities in Disasters:
<https://crcc.usc.edu/report/disaster-tips-sheets-on-engaging-faith-communities/>
and
<https://n-din.org/> (National Disaster Interfaith Network)
- Smartphone App Disasters and Religions: Resources for Disaster Readiness, Response and Recovery
- National Center for PTSD Disaster Events:
https://www.ptsd.va.gov/PTSD/disaster_events

- Humanitarian Disaster Institute (HDI):
<https://www.wheaton.edu/academics/academic-centers/humanitarian-disaster-institute/>
- Becoming a NAMB (North American Mission Board) Endorsed Chaplain:
<https://www.namb.net/chaplaincy/endorsement/>

SBDR Chaplaincy Sub-Committee recommendations

6/28/23

Basic Requirements for SBDR Chaplain

- Basic SBDR Training (ISBDR)
- Demonstrate the call, competency, and character as listed below:
 1. Seasoned, experienced follower of Christ
 2. Read and agree with their state convention's Code of Conduct
 3. Successfully passed a background check
 4. Active SBC or a like-minded church membership
 5. Provide a recommendation from their pastor
 6. Read and agree with BFM
 7. Agree to abide by the NVOAD Disaster Spiritual Care Points of Consensus 2009

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

We highly recommend the following:

- Supervised DR Chaplaincy field training
- Pursue SBC DR Chaplain endorsement after training

Required Training Materials and Curriculum

- Training with the SBDR Chaplain Manual (minimum 9 hours)
And either:
 - OSFA: 7 hours
 - or
 - CISM: specifically, Assisting Individuals (13 Hours) or Group Crisis Intervention (14 hours)

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommend developing a National DR Chaplaincy Training Network to support state conventions by providing basic or specialized DR Chaplaincy training.

Identified Minimal Competencies in the Field as DR Chaplains

Who is a Chaplain? A person who has:

1. A tested, authentic faith
2. An active prayer life
3. Compassion
4. Self-awareness
5. A practice of self-care

What skills should the Chaplain demonstrate?

1. DO NO HARM
2. Attending skills that include:
 - Ministry of presence
 - Situational and cultural awareness
 - Knowing when to refer
3. Understanding of trauma
4. Trauma-sensitive evangelism

5. Assessment

- Crisis intervention
- Knowing available resources
- Age appropriate care
- Mandatory reporting
- Confidentiality

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommend updating the SBDR Chaplain Training Manual to ensure that the competencies listed above are properly developed for training purposes.

Respectfully submitted by the SBDR Chaplaincy Sub-Committee meeting at the North American Mission Board on January 5, 2023,

Gay Williams, Chairperson of Chaplaincy Sub-Committee and Steering Committee Member

Joe Arnold, Region 4A

Kristen Curtis, Region 4B

Fred Edwards, Region 4C

Jim Ellsworth, Region 2

Mario Gambaro, Region 1

Bill Hoops, Region 3

Naomi Paget, Field Expert

Coy Webb, *ex-officio* Send Relief

Brent Bond, *ex-officio* SBC Chaplaincy



SBC Chaplaincy

The SBC Chaplaincy Code of Conduct and Pledge of Support

The Chaplains Commission of the North American Mission (NAMB) endorses Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Chaplains. NAMB is an agency of the SBC whose messengers over the years have adopted resolutions on a variety of subjects. These range from broad concepts of freedom of religion and the separation of church and state to matters of morality and personal conduct. The Chaplains Commission expects that endorsed chaplains will have as a focus in the midst of their ministry an awareness of and responsiveness to opportunities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. One outcome of the ministry of Southern Baptist chaplains is seeing persons make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, then follow that profession of faith in believer's baptism and affiliation with a local church. Chaplains are expected to live their personal and professional lives with the highest practice of integrity. You will be expected to abide by guidance given to individuals/churches by the SBC, NAMB and/or SBC Chaplaincy Team leaders. If your personal lifestyle impacts your ministry effectiveness or could bring about embarrassment to the cause of Christ, the SBC or SBC Chaplaincy, you may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including withdrawal of endorsement.

By seeking and receiving a SBC Chaplaincy endorsement, you indicate your willingness to abide by the following "Code of Conduct".

CODE OF CONDUCT PLEDGE

- I will conduct myself in a way that reflects positively on Christ and the Southern Baptist Convention.
- If married, other than my spouse or family member, I will not be at a residence alone, have a meal alone, or be in a car alone with anyone of the opposite sex.
- I will be a member in good standing of a Southern Baptist Church.
- I will practice tithing.
- I execute sound judgment in counseling, visiting, communicating and traveling with anyone of the opposite sex in order to guard against any perception of inappropriateness.
- I will not show affection that could be questioned as inappropriate.
- I will abstain from consumption of any alcoholic beverage or illegal drugs.
- I will not view pornography.
- I will maintain financial integrity.
- I will submit the required Quarterly Chaplaincy Report to the SBC Chaplaincy Team.
- I will covenant to pray for the integrity and spiritual health of my fellow chaplains.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____