

News & Updates

St. Croix Long Term Recovery Group



The St. Croix Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) is a cooperative body that is made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business and other organizations working within St. Croix to assist individuals and families as they recover from Hurricane Maria. The goal of the LTRG is to match recovery resources with community needs in order to ensure that even the most vulnerable in the community recover from the disaster.

To reach the office, please call (340) 713-4440 or email Christina Joseph, Executive Assistant, at cjoseph@stxltrg.org

Next LTRG Meeting is TOMORROW at 6:00pm

We will meet at the St. Croix Christian Church

Please plan to join us today at 6:00 for our next full meeting. We will hear updates from committees, learn about exciting new projects, and ways that we can support each other in this recovery effort.

The submitted minutes for approval are available [here](#). Please look over and bring your corrections to the meeting.

Construction/Rebuild Committee

Thanks to the grant monies from GlobalGiving, our Construction/Rebuild Committee is funding the next set of roof repairs for residents on St. Croix through an initial use of \$75,0000 for building materials.

This committee has been hard at work since the first volunteer team arrived on June 2, 2018. Since that time, they have hosted 30 volunteer groups. The groups have ranged in size from 7 to 40 members! In total, 369 volunteers have served and completed 20,213 hours of volunteer labor. That equates to a cost benefit (value of labor) of \$1,076,949.92. The work is not slowing down anytime soon. There are currently an additional 50 homes that have been referred to the committee and are now in queue.

The LTRG intends to continue recruiting skilled construction teams and rebuilding the roofs of low- and fixed-income homeowners, primarily the elderly. We continue to seek funds to subsidize building material costs. But perhaps, most importantly, we hope to be able to expand the program by finishing renovations on St. Dunstan's School, which will allow us to house three times the volunteers than we can at the current location..

The GlobalGiving grant monies were also leveraged to purchase a used 2018 Dodge Ram truck. The truck, which holds up to 6 people, is used for transporting volunteers and supplies to job sites. As we continue to increase the number of volunteer teams, this additional means of transportation is crucial.

Disaster Case Management (DCM)

Disaster Case Management (DCM) is the key for LTRGs to provide this much needed assistance to individuals and

households across the island. Each manager works with up to 30 cases at a time to ensure that every beneficiary is not inadvertently receiving duplicate benefits from FEMA, has connections to available resources on island, and refers to the LTRG's Unmet Needs Committee when resources are not available. Unlike other programs, Disaster Case Managers do not close a case until the client is completely recovered and has a sustainable action plan for thriving post-recovery.

With limited Disaster Case Managers, this committee of the LTRG has managed to get through 80 cases—the majority of which are elderly with medical issues. The work is difficult and exhausting—but they are working to ensure that residents get connected to the resources they need. An additional \$50,000k of the GlobalGiving grant monies are being used to support the hiring of an additional Case Manager.

Disaster recovery encompasses interventions at the community level as well as with individuals and households. While there is inter-dependence between the recovery of the community's infrastructure and the recovery of individuals and families within that community, the mechanisms for their recovery are distinctly different. Disaster casework and disaster case management are functions in support of empowering and of addressing the basic needs and recovery needs of individuals and families.

Unmet Needs Committee

The Unmet Needs Committee fills a critical role in disaster recovery. When a DCM has exhausted all resources available to a beneficiary, and needs are still not met, then the Unmet Needs Committee steps in to fill the gap. There are currently 6 cases that have been referred to this committee. \$50,000 of GlobalGiving monies will be granted to this committee to begin working through these cases.

We are also happy to report that our online portal system for Unmet Needs is almost ready to launch! This committee is working with the DCM committee to finalize the system and hopes to roll it out in the next week.

Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee has announced several upcoming workshops:

2019 1st Quarter Faith Leaders' Breakfast:

An Event to Share Information, Strengthen Collaboration, and Focus on Preparedness.

Monday, April 1, 2019

Tentatively 8:00 am-11:00 am

Venue TBD

RSVP to Lori Edwards: wellness@stxltrg.org, 340-277-3601, 340-718-6822

Psychological First Aid (PFA)

(Required for Red Cross Chaplaincy)

April 1 or April 2

(1-day training. Attend Faith Leaders' Breakfast on the 1st, PFA on the 2nd!)

8:00 am-5:00 pm

St. Croix Christian Church

Register Now! by Contacting Island Therapy Solutions at 340-719-7007 or kmedina@islandtherapysolutions.com

Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR)

(Emergency Responders: VIPD, Fire Dept., EMT, Faith Community, Rescuers, Military)

Group 1: April 4-5 or Group 2: April 8-9

(2-day training, choose which group)

8:00 am-5:00 pm

St. Croix Christian Church

Register Now! by Contacting Island Therapy Solutions at 340-719-7007 or kmedina@islandtherapysolutions.com

Save the Date!

Compassion Fatigue Workshop

with Dr. Santos from Puerto Rico

Friday, May 24

Tentatively 9:00-3:00 pm

Venue TBD

RSVP to Lori Edwards: wellness@stxltrg.org, 340-277-3601, 340-718-6822

Youth Committee

The St. Croix Long Term Recovery Group Youth Committee is proud to present its third **Youth Opportunity Fair** on Sunday May 5, 2019 from 1pm to 4 pm. It will be held at the Sunny Isles Amphitheater and will include a reboot of the Sunny Isles Summer Camp Fair. Please come out and see all the youth serving organizations we have here on St. Croix and find out about the awesome summer camp opportunities that they provide.

Get ready to be informed and entertained! We will have performers from the various organizations showcase their talents as well as fantastic giveaways! Come out and sign your children up for one of any number of after school and summer activities!

For more information, contact Xawntoia Franklin at youth@stxltrg.org.

Promote the Hotline!

The LTRG has a dedicated HOTLINE for beneficiaries to use to get connected with Disaster Case Managers. Please share this flyer (in English and Spanish) broadly within our community. We don't want ANYONE to fall through the cracks!

[ENGLISH FLYER](#)

[SPANISH FLYER](#)



HOTLINE

DISASTER CAUSED UNMET NEED

IF YOU ARE A HURRICANE IRMA/MARIA DISASTER SURVIVOR STILL IN NEED OF **INFORMATION, ASSISTANCE** OR A **DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN** PLEASE CONTACT THE DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP AT THE NUMBER BELOW:

(340) 473 - 5305

"The mission of the STX LTRG is to help our members independently provide community services on a daily basis, as well as to provide effective relief and recovery services to people affected by disaster on the island of St. Croix, USVI."

