

DISASTER PREPARATION PROJECT GRANTS

The Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee (DPRC) of the Presbytery of Arkansas has grants available to assist a local church or other Presbyterian-related entity desiring to create a new, or to re-institute an old disaster preparation project. These grants are available from the Presbytery of Arkansas and administered through the DPRC, ordinarily for use within the presbytery. These grants may help a congregation to renovate or enhance an existing shelter facility or start a new facility, including such items as supplies, flashlights, radios, generators, cots, non-perishable food, or computer back-up media, all in order to enhance or supplement a disaster plan. The disaster plan may include such items as a phone tree, an evacuation plan, on-premises church 'sitters', or family check-lists. These are not exhaustive lists. The maximum grant is \$500 for the first grant (without match) and a second grant of up to \$500 matched 1:1 by the applicant. Initial and matching grants are intended for start-up assistance or to re-institute a defunct project, not for ongoing support or maintenance. The 1:1 local match is to encourage the matching grant applicant to find more local and sustainable resources. The applicant needs to submit a progress report, normally before each regular, quarterly DPRC meeting.

There is no formal application process or form to complete, but an applicant needs to include the following information in a written request:

- ✓ The name, address, and phone of the applying church or other entity.
- ✓ Contact information for a person appropriate to the church or entity and a brief description of that person's status.
- ✓ A demonstration of the need being addressed.
- ✓ A description of the new or re-instituted disaster preparation project and how it would work.
- ✓ The approval of the session or other entity's governing body and, if required for a second grant, a pledge or proof of 1:1 matching funds.
- ✓ A reasonably detailed and comprehensive budget.
- ✓ A plan to achieve financial sustainability or, if deemed not possible, a description of why not.
- ✓ A demonstration of an adequate disaster preparedness and response plan for the church, as appropriate, and a commitment: 1) to report the plan to the DPRC, upon request, 2) to share the plan with the Presbytery, upon request, and 3) to engage in the level of self-evaluation necessary to keep the plan current.

An application can be submitted at anytime and will be reviewed in the order received, as long as funding is available. The DPRC will review and act upon the application.

A prospective applicant is encouraged to contact the DPRC before applying in order to discuss ideas and plans and to check on the availability of funds. An inquiry or application should go to: DPRC Chair, c/o Presbytery of Arkansas, 9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227, (501) 663-2424, info@presbyteryofarkansas.org.