

EDS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Disaster Food Service & Canteen Operations

During a disaster, the first gesture of comfort The Salvation Army offers is often a cold drink and a hot meal from one of its mobile feeding units. The Disaster Food Service & Canteen Operations course is designed as the starting point for any disaster worker who wishes to be a part of disaster food service operations. Participants who complete the course will learn about the different types of Salvation Army food service equipment, the essentials of building a food service team, canteen operations and maintenance, and the basics of menu planning.

Disaster Social Services

This course is designed for supervisors working within the disaster social services function. The course will examine the role of disaster social services within a disaster operation, including its position within the Incident Command System (ICS) and connections with other disaster relief providers in the larger sequence of service delivery. Participants will learn five essential steps to setting up a disaster social services program and apply that knowledge in a table-top exercise that simulates setting up a Salvation Army Disaster Assistance Centre (DAC). The course will conclude with an introduction to long-term recovery and an exercise that simulates participation in a long-term recovery/unmet needs committee.

Emergency Assistance in Disaster Operations

This introductory disaster social services course is designed to train participants to serve as casework specialists on a Salvation Army disaster relief operation. The course will cover the basics of casework, covering practical skills such as interviewing clients, completing registration forms, and determining eligibility for assistance.

Foundations of Emotional & Spiritual Care

This course provides an introduction to Emotional & Spiritual Care (ESC). It provides a basic overview for all active volunteers who need to understand what ESC is all about and as an entrée to the Advanced Emotional & Spiritual Care course, especially for those who are not sure if ESC is really what they are interested in doing.

Group Crisis Intervention

Designed to present the core elements of a comprehensive, systematic and multi-component crisis intervention curriculum, this course will prepare participants to understand a wide range of crisis intervention services. Fundamentals of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) will be outlined and participants will leave with the knowledge and tools to provide several group crisis interventions.

Introduction to The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services

The gateway course to The Salvation Army's disaster training program, Introduction to The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services, is required for all disaster workers. The course offers an overview of The Salvation Army's mission, the services it provides during a disaster, and prepares participants for their first disaster assignment, describing everything from packing to travel to self-care. This course is a prerequisite for all other Salvation Army disaster training courses.

Ministry of Presence

The Salvation Army disaster service is more than just physical care; it also emotional and spiritual support. This course will explore appropriate emotional and spiritual care from its most basic level of “just being there” to the deeper aspects of pastoral counseling and referral. This is a highly interactive course that will both challenge and help participants to care for both others and themselves during a disaster deployment.

Planning Section

This advanced course will cover all the essentials of the Planning function, including the role and responsibilities of the Planning Section Chief and other key functions of the Planning Section including Situation Unit, Documentation Unit, Resource Unit and Demobilization Unit.

Preparing Your Congregation for Disaster

Designed for Christian leaders, this course is designed for churches and other faith-based organizations looking to start a disaster preparedness and response program. The course reviews key concepts in emergency management. It also examines the responsibility of faith-based organizations in preparing their members and facilities for an emergency and how to effectively develop a disaster response plan to serve others.

Public Information 1: The First 24 Hours

This course is designed to introduce participants to the essentials of the public information function on local disaster events. This course will cover the basics of good public information practices and discuss strategies for developing positive media relationships.

The Role of Community & Government in Disaster

This course will cover basic information about the ways in which The Salvation Army interfaces with the Government, community, and other faith-based partners. It will also cover information and tools to improve communication and collaborative skills to better encourage and enhance working with these partners.