



## Contact Information

Holston Conference UMC  
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**Disaster Response Coordinator**  
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**Northern Early Response Team Coordinator**  
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**Southern Early Response Team Coordinator**  
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If you would like to support the Early Response Team, please make your contribution to:

**Holston Conference  
Disaster Response  
Advance Special #143**

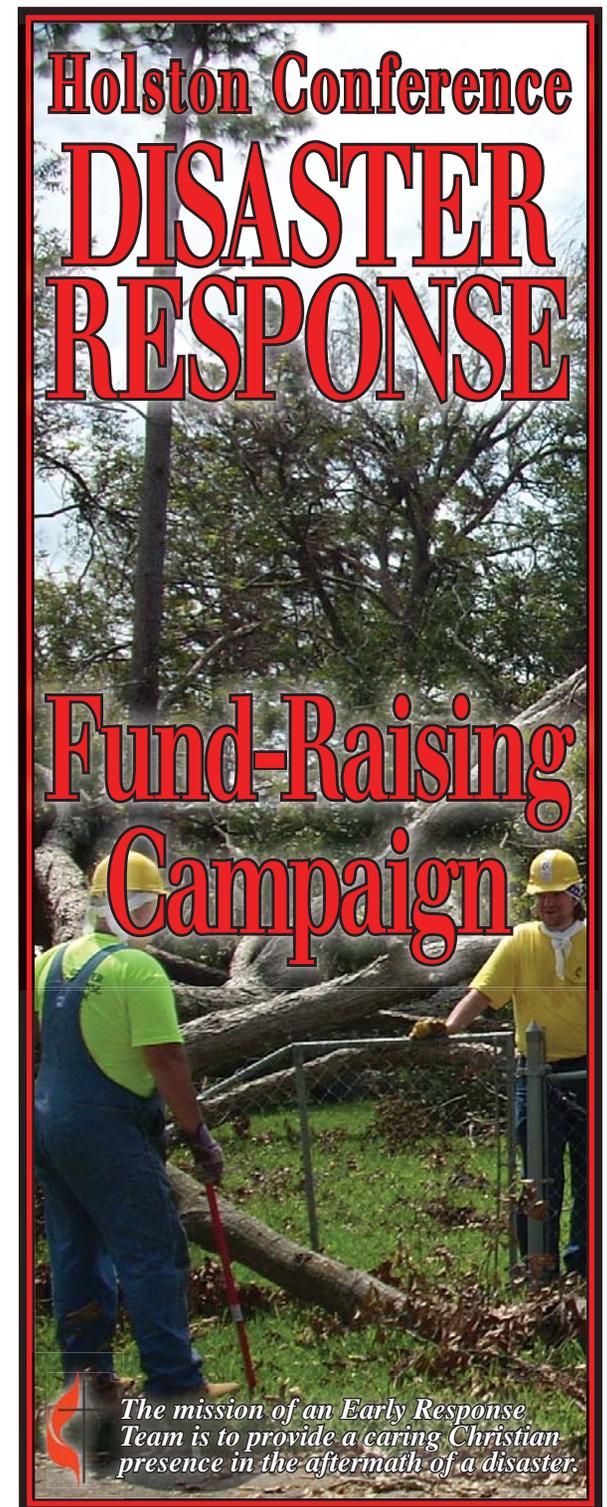
**Your contribution of any size to the Holston Conference Early Response Team provides:**

- Fuel for travel to the disaster site
- Insurance for team members
- Training for team members
- Safety classes and certifications
- Debris removal equipment
- Equipment repair and maintenance
- Equipment purchase



**Individuals, churches, or corporations wishing to make large donations can provide:**

- Upgrades in equipment
- Upgraded equipment trailers
- Heavy-duty truck
- Specialized training and safety courses



## Disaster Response

Early Response Teams fill a specific need in the early days after a disaster to establish the presence of the church. There are specific tasks assigned to a team, but their first priority is the people they serve.



## Why do we need Early Response Teams?

- Disaster victims are reassured that the church cares for them.
- Members of the United Methodist Church and the community are able to see the church in action.
- Immediate assistance is available to persons who are usually older or disabled without a family support system nearby.
- Teams provide immediate and quick response care for victims. (United Methodists can be “first in” and “last out.”)

## What is needed?

Each team must be self-sufficient and self-sustaining. The team makes preparations keeping in mind the need for basic necessities, such as food, fuel, water, sleeping gear, insurance, transportation and debris removal equipment.

As much as possible, food and shelter are provided by churches in the disaster area. Every effort is made to keep the cost of response low without being a burden on the affected area.

In addition, funds are needed for team member training and safety certification, as well as equipment repair and maintenance.



## How is the Early Response Team financially supported?

The Early Response Team is funded entirely through grants and private donations. Since no one can know when a disaster will strike, it is impractical to be part of the annual budget process.

## How can I help?

Individuals, mission committees, UMW/UMM groups and churches can help by giving donations of any size. It does not take much to be of tremendous help.



## We are asking for a gift of \$20 from each church in the Holston Conference.

If a minimum of \$20 were given by each church, those funds would be a tremendous help to the Early Response Team for those who are in need of a Christian presence during a time of disaster in their lives. Thank you!

Please make your gift to:

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