

To: Jill Olinger, Chair of IKC Board of Directors

Date: April 28, 2019

From: Greg Denk, Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry Team Director

Ref: 2019 Annual Report

Dear Jill,

This past year has been a transitional time for the Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry Team (DPRMT). After 18 years of dedicated service to the IKC disaster ministries, Ms. Mary Anna Speller resigned as the Indiana Kentucky Conference Disaster Coordinator and Director of the DPRMT. Rev. Greg Denk was appointed her replacement on October 1, 2018. Mary Anna's 18 years of service within the IKC, as well as, in Indiana, Kentucky and National Disaster organizations was recognized at the April 26, 2019 DPRMT meeting at the conference office. She continues to be a valued member of the DPRMT. However, a longtime member has resigned from the team, while three new members have been added bringing additional skill sets in the areas of law enforcement and safety, disaster recovery expertise and construction supervision. The team now consists of ten volunteers who reside throughout Indiana and Kentucky.

Over the past 12 months, the DPRMT met eight times to discuss disaster related topics. Three meetings were held at the conference office while the other five meetings were via. conference calls. The main focus of these meetings was to compile preparedness materials for the IKC churches since there has not been any major disaster events in Indiana and Kentucky the two past year. Eight preparedness resources have been uploaded to the IKC Disaster Ministries webpage for easy access to our churches. Individuals from the DPRMT have also made presentations to local churches, as well as to the Fall and Spring Association meetings. An updated Facebook Page has been launched to keep our churches informed of up-to-date disaster preparedness, recovery and volunteer opportunities.

The DPRMT has made it a priority for its team members to become involved in the meetings of the Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD) in Indiana and local Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) in Kentucky in the counties where they reside. This allows the DPRMT to become informed of disaster recovery work expectations from the onset of any disaster. Several members of this team attended meetings with the local COADs with regard to the 2018 spring floods in southeastern counties of Indiana. Assistance was also offered to the northern counties of Indiana that experienced spring flooding. Our team members have attended the bi-monthly and quarterly meetings of the Indiana VOAD and Kentucky VOAD respectively.

A table at the 2019 IKC Annual Gathering will display the five facets of the DPRMT work with an emphasis on church and individual disaster preparedness before a disaster strikes. Active Shooter Pocket Cards downloaded from FEMA will also be available to those in attendance.

One goal of the DPRMT this coming year is to have every church in the IKC provide the name of at least one person from each church who will act as their Volunteer Disaster Coordinator so we can contact them directly and expeditiously in the event of a disaster in their church or community.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Gregory J. Denk
IKC Disaster Coordinator
IKC DPRMT Director