

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Animal care
- Case management
- Debris removal
- Financial assistance for victims
- Food for victims or responders
- Clothing
- Household goods
- Furniture
- Spiritual, emotional, and mental health support for victims or responders
- Emergency rest centers
- Overnight shelters
- Long-term housing
- Insurance claim assistance
- Legal assistance
- Home repair/reconstruction
- Translation or interpretation services
- Transportation of goods or people
- Volunteers and volunteer management
- Donations management

sponsored by:

WRHSAC
Western Region Homeland
Security Advisory Council



coordinated by:

frcog Franklin Regional
Council of Governments



Berkshire County
and Pioneer Valley



**COMMUNITY
ORGANIZATIONS
ACTIVE IN
DISASTERS**

COADS

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COAD 101

A Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD) is an umbrella organization that brings together agencies or groups that want to assist during an emergency, but aren't part of the formal emergency response system.

The COAD itself does not provide direct services, but its member organizations do. The COAD provides a network based on coordination, communication, collaboration, and cooperation through which each organization can more effectively and efficiently assist in a disaster response.

COAD brings together organizations from many sectors of the community: primarily nonprofit agencies, businesses, and faith-based organizations.

During or after a disaster, local public safety officials can call on COAD members to provide support in response or recovery efforts.

BENEFITS OF THE COAD

When a COAD is organized effectively, both member organizations and the community at large reap the benefits. These benefits include:

- Empowered communities
- Expedited local response
- Improved management of volunteers and donations
- Promotion of emergency education and preparedness resources for facilitating long term recovery
- Reduction in duplication of services
- Linkage with MA VOAD and National VOAD
- Organized resources for emergency managers



ACTIVE IN ALL PHASES OF DISASTER

PREPAREDNESS

- Writing and exercising plans involving volunteer and donation management
- Organizing and training volunteers
- Resource inventory of private, nonprofit, and faith organizations

RESPONSE

- Volunteer and donations management
- Shelter workers and emergency rest centers
- Needs identification
- Muck out/clean up crews
- Comprehensive situational awareness
- Individual assistance services

RECOVERY

- Long term recovery committee
- Case management
- Rebuilding
- Financial support

MITIGATION

- Community education and preparedness campaigns

