

National Mass Care Council

CHARTER

Purpose

This Charter establishes the mission, structure, and duties for the National Mass Care Council.

Mission

The National Mass Care Council will coordinate the implementation of the National Mass Care Strategy. The National Mass Care Strategy provides a framework to enhance coordination among State, tribal, local, and other national mass care stakeholders in order to create a more extensive mass care response capability throughout the Nation. The strategy highlights courses of action that may be taken to improve delivery of mass care services to the Nation, provides for five strategic goals to increase the capabilities and capacities of the Whole Community to respond to a vast range of emergencies and disasters, and supports the National Response Framework and Emergency Support Function #6,

Structure

The National Mass Care Council will be composed of designated representatives from nine (9) Organizations. The composition of the Council will be as follows:

- The American Red Cross (ARC), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (National VOAD) will be permanent members of the Council. Leadership within those organizations will designate their Representative to the Council Seat and as a Member of the Council's Permanent Committee.
- The organizations representing the five (5) additional Council seats will be selected by the ARC, NEMA, and National VOAD and will be renewed on a bi-annual basis.
- The Council will meet twice a year (at a minimum).
- No one organization or agency shall singularly control the membership, meeting schedule, or agenda of the Council.
- The Council may take into consideration input received from individual subject matter experts and can form task forces, work groups, or subcommittees as necessary to assist State, tribal, and local officials with implementation of the National Mass Care Strategy.
- Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), FEMA is prohibited from receiving group or consensus advice or recommendations on any Federal law, regulation, or policy from the Council, including any task force, work group, or subcommittee.

Council Seats

Organization

1. FEMA
2. American Red Cross
3. National Voluntary Organizations

Individual

Response & Recovery Directorate
Leadership
Disaster Services Leadership
Executive Leadership

- Active in Disaster (National VOAD)
- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 4. National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) | Designated Representative |
| 5. Department of Health & Human Services | Designated Representative |
| 6. The Salvation Army | Designated Representative |
| 7. North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention | Designated Representative |
| 8. Feeding America | Designated Representative |
| 9. Big City Emergency Managers | Designated Representative |

Scope of Activities & Duties

The Council enables coordination between relevant stakeholders to address national mass care related issues. The Council facilitates mass care planning efforts at the State, tribal, and local levels, coordinates involvement of Whole Community mass care partners, and shares information regarding mass care needs and capabilities nationwide. In accordance with the National Mass Care Strategy, the Council shares information on mass care needs for all populations (including children, individuals with disabilities, functional, or access needs, and household pets and service animals).

Specifically, the Council will provide coordination of efforts and core capabilities that foster Whole Community involvement in identifying resource needs to build national mass care capacity, including as envisioned under the National Response Framework, and that focus on:

1. Individual or congregate temporary shelters (including household pets)
2. Fixed or mobile feeding operations
3. Distribution of relief supplies
4. Family re-unification
5. Health and/or mental health services
6. Information on recovery assistance

The Council is not to advise or make policy recommendations to any of the agencies or organizations that are members of the Council. Rather, the Council will support and share emerging practices of local implementation of the National Mass Care Strategy.

Maintenance

This National Mass Care Council Charter will be reviewed biennially, and updated if necessary, to ensure that it remains relevant to the mission of the Council.