



For Immediate Release
March 27, 2017

Shelby Cares Recruiting

When citizens must flee their homes due to flooding or other disasters, Shelby Cares, the county's sheltering mission program steps up. A faith-based 501(c) (3), Shelby Cares is part of Shelby County's Emergency Support Function 18: Faith-Based Partnerships. If Dale Lane, Director Shelby County Office of Preparedness (SCOP), activates the Emergency Operations Center during a disaster, Shelby Cares is ready to quickly provide shelter for our citizens.



Housing citizens after local flooding in 2010 and 2011, Shelby Cares set up shelters in churches, community centers, and gymnasiums in partnership with the American Red Cross, the Tennessee Department of Human Services, and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency. Not only has Shelby Cares welcomed local citizens into shelters, but hundreds of flood victims from the Gulf Coast following Hurricanes Gustav and Katrina made a temporary home in Shelby Care shelters until it was safe to return home.



Terry Donald, Shelby Cares Coordinator / SCOP Preparedness Officer, said, "We are actively recruiting faith-based organizations to join us in 2017! Our motto is **T.E.A.M.** - **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore. We will be glad to survey your facility to see if it meets regulations for a shelter. If your group does not have a facility for sheltering, you can still help. We welcome team partners to assist in set up, check-in, feeding, and other sheltering responsibilities." Year around, SCOP Director Dale Lane and Terry Donald stay in close contact with the National Weather Service for local flood predictions and potential hurricanes brewing in the Atlantic, especially June 1 - November 30, the Atlantic Hurricane Season.



If your faith-based organization is interested in becoming a **Shelby Cares Partner**, to assist in sheltering citizens following a disaster, please contact terry.donald@shelbycountyttn.gov or call 901.222.6700.

Captions:

Top: 2010 flood victims during a water rescue in North Memphis

Middle: Outside a Shelby Cares shelter at Hope Church in Cordova.

Bottom: Setting up cots for a Shelby Cares shelter in Millington 2010.

End of Release