



EFCA

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**Crisis Response**

Ike Disaster Response Team  
**Member Information**

Galveston Bible Church and EFCA Crisis Response

Galveston, TX

“Our mission is to work in partnership with the local church to share  
the Gospel and show the love and compassion of Christ to the community  
through crisis relief and recovery.”

Mark Lewis  
EFCA Disaster Relief Director

# TEXAS: GROUNDS FOR A REVIVAL

## **Thank You...**

Thank you for choosing to lead a team to help with disaster relief in the wake of Hurricane Ike. Ike has been the third costliest storm in US history. Ike flooded over 100,000 homes and businesses and displaced hundreds of thousands in the Gulf Coast Region. Ike has also damaged and directly impacted seven Evangelical Free churches. Lives have been devastated and you have chosen to help.

## **Our Mission...**

EFCA Crisis Response's mission is to work in partnership with Galveston Bible, Trinity Fellowship, Bridge Community, Faith Bible, Oak Creek Bible and Gulfbay EFC's in disaster recovery and reconstruction to the church family, and in related outreach and evangelism to the community, to show God's love and compassion and to share the gospel.

## **Hands and Feet...**

Please plan to serve as God leads and be open to ministering to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of those affected. If you emphasize to your group the importance of Jesus in all of the details and plans, they will have a much more enjoyable time. Waiting in line becomes a chance to share Jesus. Sitting through traffic becomes a quiet time. Living every moment as a conduit for Christ can become life changing in this fertile environment!

## **All the People of the World...**

We serve all God's people: rich, poor, all colors, shapes, and sizes. Though sent to do work tasks, we are ultimately in a position to be Christ-like servants. We have a unique chance to be Jesus in the flesh to someone who perhaps has never met Him....someone who never gave thought to the need for a Savior in their life. *We are about the people, not the work.*

## **"That's Just the Way I Like It!"**

If there was one word that is crucial for all short term missions it would be *flexibility*. No one knows what God will bring your way or ask your team to do. Be ready for the unexpected by eliminating preconceived expectations. In this ministry, when things don't go according to schedule or in the way that we think things should go, our adopted slogan is, "That's just the way I like it!" It reminds us that God is in control and our plan is quite sub par to His. Your *success* in this ministry is truly measured by your *obedience* to God. A willing spirit and open mind will enable wonderful engagements between team members. Please consider using the "Release of Rights" contract (included in this packet) with your team to prepare them for a week of short term missions!

## **Join the Revival**

Our prayer is that after you leave the Gulf, you will keep this experience in the forefront of your mind, bringing the idea that serving God's people can happen right in your own back yard! While here, we hope that God will ignite new ideas and passions in your heart and members of your team to return home with a desire to serve the Lord in new and meaningful ways!

Serving Him in constant awe,  
*EFCA Crisis Response Staff*

## TRIP DETAILS

### Galveston Bible Church - Galveston, Texas

#### POSSIBLE WORK TEAM ASSIGNMENTS:

- Home reconstruction and repair
- Tree and debris removal
- Cleaning out flood damaged homes
- Dry wall demolition
- Serving in the Free Store ministry
- Helping with meal preparation or clean-up
- Assisting with work assessments
- Ministry follow-up
- Maintenance of the church facilities
- Other needs as determined

**SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS:** Dormitory style housing is provided at Galveston Bible Church. Men sleep in a sanctuary a block away from GBC on bunk beds and women sleep in bunk beds in Galveston Bible Church's Sunday School rooms. Each individual will need bedding and an air mattress. There is storage available for personal belongings during those times. ***PLEASE DO NOT BRING QUEEN OR DOUBLE SIZE AIR MATTRESSES SINCE THERE IS LIMITED SPACE FOR SLEEPING!***

**MEALS:** The team fee covers all breakfasts and dinners (except for dinner on Sunday). Each work team should come prepared to bring their own stocked cooler to the worksite each day for lunch and water breaks. Be sure to bring a 5 gallon igloo and ice. We do not have space to refrigerate your personal food and drinks. The supermarkets here are open and stocked.

**SHOWERS:** We have showering facilities on site: 4 showers total. They are in the same building with individual changing areas in each stall. We have electricity and hot water in the shower building! We allot specific times for each gender to shower. Each team will be responsible to clean the showers and bathrooms at least once per week.

#### **MAIL:**

Any mail received for volunteer team members after their departure from Galveston Bible Church will not be forwarded.

# WEEKLY SCHEDULES

## TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE (subject to change)

7am	Breakfast
7:15am	Devotions (additional Ministry Training on morning after arrival )
7:30am	Hand out work assignments, load up, and leave for work
6:30pm	Dinner
7:00-8:30pm	Free time or programmed time (see below)
10:00pm	Lights out/Quiet time

## SCHEDULE (subject to change) for Teams staying for a Week

SUN - Arrival day 4-6pm; Work Training 7:30pm

MON - Breakfast, Training, work day, dinner

TUES - Breakfast, Normal work day, dinner

WED - Breakfast, Normal work day, dinner

THURS - Breakfast, Normal work day, dinner

FRI - Breakfast, Normal work day, dinner

SAT - Breakfast, cleaning, departure

## SCHEDULE (subject to change) for Teams staying for an Extended Weekend

FRI - Normal Work Day, dinner

SAT - Normal Work Day, dinner

SUN - Church at 11am (optional), work day, cleaning, departure

## HOW YOU CAN HELP GALVESTON BIBLE CHURCH DAILY

Team Members can help the church staff, EFCA Crisis Response staff  
and other volunteers by helping to:

- Clean showers daily. Instructions are in the shower buildings
- Clean and re-supply the bathrooms/toilets if you see something that needs to be done
- Empty the trash cans and remove empty boxes from the entry, kitchen, bathrooms, and halls
- Wipe down tables and counters after breakfast and dinner
- Volunteer to help with dinner and cleanup
- Sweep and mop the foyer and kitchen, if needed

**Thank you for your help!**  
**It's a joy lifting up the family of Christ**  
**By working together!**

## SOME OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER...

### **\*Rest!**

An overly tired worker may not be able to minister effectively when opportunities arise. It is important that everyone pace themselves throughout the day.

### **\*Humidity**

Be aware that during the late spring, summer, and fall months it is extremely humid in Texas. Be prepared to pre-hydrate by consuming *a lot* of water and limiting caffeine intake. Wearing light colored loose clothing is also helpful.

### **\*Risk:**

The work sites to be visited will by nature have risks associated with the intended work effort. Your safety is not guaranteed. We ask that each team member read and sign the EFCA Waiver and Indemnity Agreement. The waiver sheets must be completed before you can be admitted to the work site. Also, while at the work sights, wear long pants and closed, heavy-soled shoes or boots. Safety goggles are also recommended. **A Tetanus immunization is required.**

### **Local area information:**

Galveston is a city on a seaport island located southeast of Houston, approximately 45 minutes. Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Grocery stores, Pharmacies, Circuit City, Office Max, Gas stations, etc are in very close proximity to the church.

### **Traffic!**

It may be frustrating at times, but this is a chance for us, as representatives of Trinity Church and more importantly, Christ, to be a shining light in the community. We ask that you exercise patience and understanding while you are waiting in traffic.

### **Other potential costs:**

If coming from the east, the belt loop, Sam Houston Tollway State road-8 is a toll road. There are two toll plazas however one is not charging right now and the other one is charging \$1.50 unless pulling a trailer, then it's \$4.00. Also, remember to count the costs of providing lunch for your team.

**"Word On the Ground"** - Stories from Galveston can be found at

<http://www.efcacrisesresponse.blogspot.com> . It's highly recommended that you read over the first couple of posts prior to your visit and share them with your team. They are a great way to be in touch with us on the ground and give you a chance to get your toes in the sand, or mud rather!

**Wi-Fi** - We DO NOT have wireless internet at Galveston Bible Church. We DO NOT have computers available for your use.

# PACKING LIST FOR INDIVIDUALS

## Guidelines:

1. Please pack lightly. There is a Wal-Mart if you forget anything!
2. Although the weather is increasingly warm and humid here in Texas, how you dress is a part of **your Christian witness**. Neat and *modest clothes* should be worn.

## BASICS/MISC:

- Bible
- A flexible and servant-like heart and attitude!
- Sleeping bag/linens
- Pillow
- Air mattress/cot/foam pads
- Flashlight
- Alarm clock
- Camera

## TOILETRIES, ETC:

- Soap
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Hand sanitizer
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Towels
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen

## CLOTHES: (Limited laundry facilities on site, only a washer.)

- We provide one "EFCA Crisis Response" Shirt (Shirt to be worn daily to work site.)
- Long pants suggested (modest shorts may be worn for certain aspects of work) Gutting requires long pants.
- Casual clothes for evening times and traveling
- Sweater, sweatshirt, or light jacket
- Sleeping clothes
- Raingear
- Hat
- Versatile walking shoes
- Work shoes (steel toes are best)
- Flip flops for showers

## Optional:

- Earplugs for quiet sleeping!

# RELEASE OF RIGHTS

We live in a world that is full of rights. Our particular culture is one where we take pride in our rights. Although the rights of individuals are protected by the Constitution, as we see the demand for individual rights increase, we see much of the moral fiber of our society decrease. Our Lord Jesus Christ laid down his rights and all His glory in the heavens to become a man and to serve, not to be served. (Phil 2:5-11 and Mark 10:45)

We ask you to consider laying down your rights on this mission trip. Not to lay them down for better or for worse, but to entrust them to the Lord or transfer the responsibility for them to a place of safe keeping. These rights may seem reasonable but on a short term mission trip they could cause dissension. **Would you take time to search your heart and willingness to surrender your rights to the Lord?**

## Romans 12:1

### I GIVE UP MY RIGHT TO:

A comfortable bed  
Having three meals a day  
Having familiar food  
Dressing fashionably  
Seeing results.  
Control of myself  
Control of others  
Control of circumstances  
  
Having pleasant circumstances  
Making decisions  
Taking up offense  
Being successful  
  
Being understood  
Being heard  
Being right

### I ENTRUST TO GOD:

My strength and endurance  
My health and strength  
My likes and dislikes of food  
My security in Him  
His purposes and fruit in His timing  
My need for His Spirit control  
His workmanship in others  
My circumstances to His purposes in making me Christ-like  
  
The privilege of suffering for His sake  
His sovereign hand on my life  
My deepest needs  
My security in His love  
  
My reputation  
My need for recognition  
My need for His righteousness  
My strength and endurance

*I give God permission to do anything He wishes to me, with me, in me, or through me that would glorify Him.*

\_\_\_\_\_ (signed)

\_\_\_\_\_ (date)

# EFCA WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT



I hereby agree to the following provisions waiving all liability as against the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA), its officers and directors, and all employees, volunteers, agents, and departments of the EFCA including but not limited to EFCA - Office of the President, EFCA - International Mission (EFCA-IM), EFCA National Ministries (EFCA-NM), EFCA - Urban Intercultural Mission (EFCA-UIM), EFCA - Pastoral Ministries, EFCA Accounting & Finance, EFCA Ministry Advancement, EFCA Foundation, NextStep Resources, EFCA Ministry Campaign Services, etc., and agreeing to indemnify and hold the EFCA (including its officers, directors, employees, volunteers and agents), absolutely harmless under the circumstances described below:

1. I have applied for and been accepted to participate in this venture in partnership with the TouchGlobal Crisis Response Ministry of the EFCA to participate in a Christian missionary and humanitarian Venture involving the following:

2. I represent to the EFCA that I have undertaken all necessary preparations in order to participate in the Venture, including any physical examination by a physician that I deem necessary and obtaining all immunizations that are required or that I desire. I further represent to the EFCA that I am healthy, in good physical condition, and able to undertake this Venture safely.

3. I acknowledge that this Venture involves many substantial risks to my health and safety as well as the safety of my property and personal belongings. These risks include, but are not limited to, risks inherent to international travel such as accident, delay, diversion, lost or stolen luggage and personal belongings. These risks also include such things as illness, injury, animal attack, severe weather, civil or political unrest, war, criminal activity and terrorism.

4. I hereby agree to waive and hold the EFCA absolutely harmless from any liability or legal responsibility of any kind whatsoever under the laws of the United States of America, the laws of the State of Illinois or any other State, or the laws of any other country that may be alleged to apply, for any and all injury or loss that I sustain by way of bodily injury, illness, death, or loss of my property that occurs during or in connection with this Venture from all risks that arise there from, including those risks specifically mentioned herein. I understand that by signing this agreement that I will not be able to recover any monetary compensation whatsoever from the EFCA by way of suit or settlement for injuries or losses that are described herein. I also agree that if I or my estate were to bring suit against the EFCA seeking to recover damages for any such injuries that I will indemnify and hold the EFCA absolutely harmless for all costs and expenses incurred by the EFCA in defense of such a suit.

5. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold the EFCA absolutely harmless from any liability or loss whatsoever that may result to EFCA, arising out of my participation in this Venture, including any actions on my part which are alleged to create a liability to any third person, including other participants in the Venture.

6. To the extent any portion of this Agreement is deemed invalid or in violation of public policy or law, the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

**Volunteer Name Printed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Signature (Parent Signature if under 18)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Church Name, City, & State** \_\_\_\_\_