

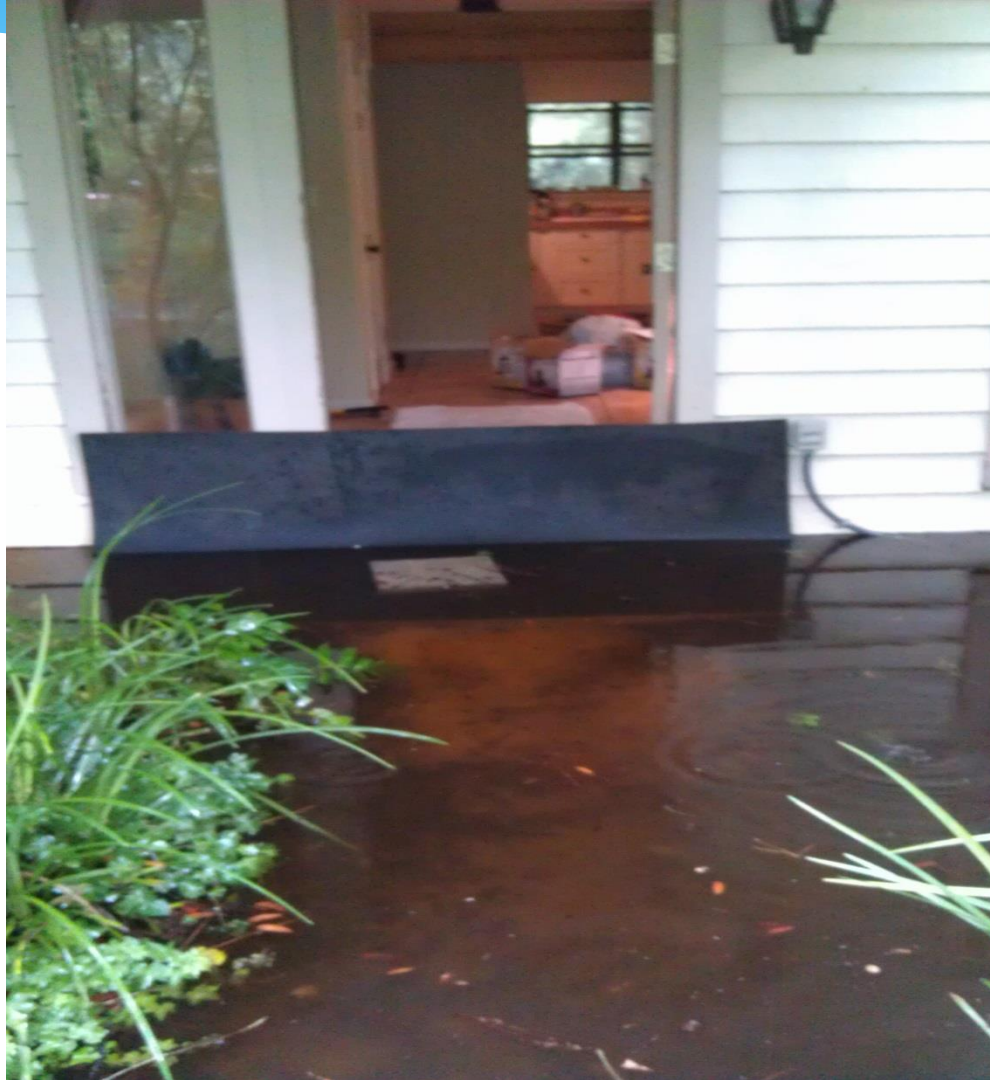
Walton County July and August Flooding – The Invisible Disaster


The role of Faith Based Organizations in
Disaster Recovery

This summer, Walton County received over 44 inches of rain in six weeks. At least 36 homes were damaged, as well as dozens of roads and other infrastructure .



Emergency Management received numerous requests for home repairs





Catholic Charities of Florida
Emergency Services reached out
to Walton County Emergency
Management and other
non-profits to form the Walton
County Long Term Recovery
Organization, or LTRO.

Organizations currently active with the LTRO

- * *Walton County Emergency Management*
- * *United Methodist Conference of Alabama and West Florida (faith based)*
- * *Catholic Charities of Florida (faith based)*
- * *Catholic Charities of Northwest Florida (faith based)*
- * *United Way of Okaloosa-Walton Counties*
- * *Hammers and Hearts (faith based)*
- * *American Red Cross*
- * *TCO Inc.*
- * *Walton County 211*

LTRO- A Potluck Dinner

- * Walton County EM: provides meeting place, administrative help and anything else we ask them to do.
- * CC of Fla: helping organize disaster recovery
- * CCNWFL: Provides case management services
- * Hammers and Hearts: Coordinating Volunteer Mission Teams and Construction/Repairs
- * UMC of AI and W FL: providing volunteer mission teams for damaged home construction/repair
- * United Way of Okaloosa-Walton : Fiscal Agent, donor and resource
- * American Red Cross: support to mission teams
- * 211 – information clearinghouse
- * TCO Inc. – website support

Why do we need a Long Term Recovery Organization

(LTRO) in Walton County?

There is no one else to help!

FEMA is only helping to pay for road and bridge repairs. There will be no FEMA assistance to individuals!

Who do we help: The disabled, the elderly, families with small children the very poor.

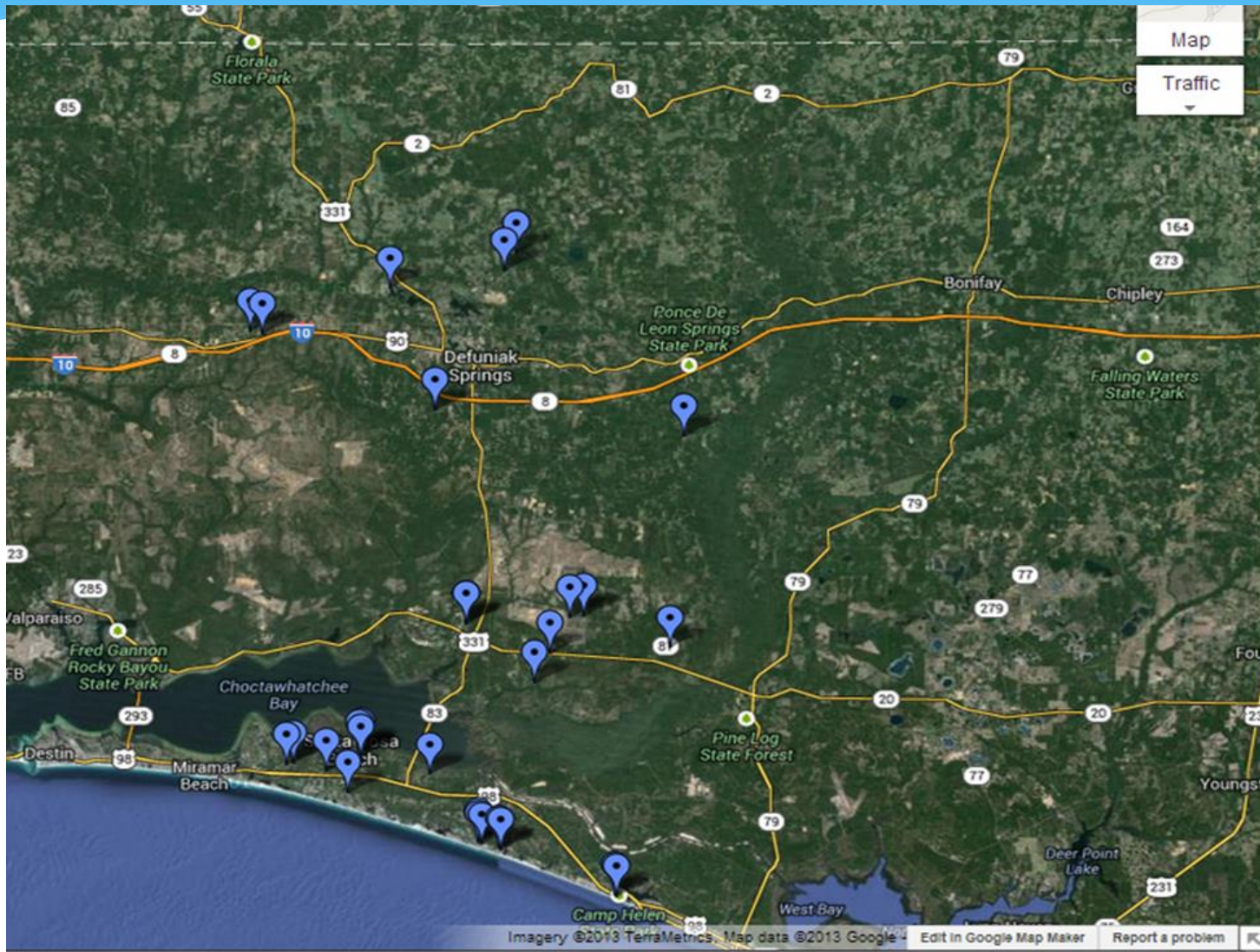
How do we help: Catholic Charities provides case management services to people who have been affected by the flooding and winds. The members of the LTRO bring their own special resources to assist those in need.

Case managers ensure that only people who can NOT afford to pay for repairs are helped.

LTRO Accomplishments

- * Organized, cooperative yet coordinated disaster recovery
- * Organized faiths of all kinds and non-profits for a local disaster response.
- * Executive Committee Established
- * Fiscal Agent Established
- * Case Management is set to start.
- * Mapping and data base of damaged homes completed

Map of Damaged Homes



Churches - the unsung heroes of disaster recovery

- * Our focus is the most vulnerable: disabled, elderly and the very poor. It is our mission to help.
- * Churches and faith-based organizations are the only ones who help people with long-term disaster recovery; not the government, not FEMA, not the Red Cross.
- * Government relies on churches and faith-based organizations to help people after a disaster.
- * It is Mission in Action: we show the love of Christ through our actions.

LTRO next steps

- * CC will begin to clear clients for home repairs
- * Hammers and Hearts and Catholic Charities of Florida is scheduling volunteer Mission Teams; most will not arrive for another 30 days.
- * LTRO is actively looking for additional funding, donated building material, skilled and un skilled volunteers and local contractors willing to help.
- * Continue to raise awareness in and out side of the community

How you can Help

Financially:

- * Donations are needed (extra collections at church etc.)

Directly:

- * Organize volunteer mission teams from your church, club or workplace.
- * Feeding and housing incoming volunteer mission teams.
- * Show God's love for all people through Mission in Action

Contact Information

* Home owners needing assistance may contact:

* 211 or 850.892.4357

To Volunteer contact:


* Hammers and Hearts Founder Ben Tarpley. 478-258-7585

To Donate:

* United Way of Okaloosa-Walton Counties – Account opened at Regions Bank.

* Make checks payable to the United Way of Okaloosa-Walton, (Walton LTRO)

P.O. Box 1622, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549



Thank you!