

# Why Get Trained

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Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief offers several training opportunities every year for volunteers to become trained in disaster response and get connected with this Christ-centered ministry.

Why get trained? Let me give you several reasons, why it is important to be trained if you want to respond in a positive and effective way in times of disaster:

- **People that are *not* connected with trained and self-sustaining organizations often rob resources from those suffering in the midst of a disaster.**
- **Untrained people are much more likely to get injured, hurt, or expose themselves to health hazards, as they are typically unfamiliar with potential risks in a disaster zone.**
- **Untrained volunteers are often unprepared to provide appropriate assistance and correct information to those affected.**
- **Untrained volunteers lack expertise to genuinely help those who have suffered loss, and are unprepared to handle the emotional trauma of victims.**
- **Untrained volunteers are unprepared to work long, stressful days in austere and rugged living conditions.**
- **Spontaneous volunteers typically lack familiarity with situation assessments and incident management. Because of this, they usually end up being in the way, rather than providing meaningful help.**
- **Untrained volunteers create atmospheres where scam artists, who seek to prey on hurting and vulnerable people, can get access into disaster settings under the guise of being a volunteer.**
- **The greatest reason to train is that God deserves our very best in all that we do. In order to achieve this, discipline, effort, and knowledge are required. Trainings are an opportunity to grow as believers, so that we are ready when God calls.**

*Disasters will come. Therefore, let me encourage you, be prepared to serve by being trained. Victims deserve that. Other disaster relief workers deserve that. But most of all, our God deserves that! A little training goes a long way in making us more effective and prepared to serve with excellence for the glory of our Lord.*