

# **Disaster Warehouse Newsletter**

3220 Highway 31 South, Building F, Decatur, AL 35603 256-341-9961 www.umdisasterwarehouse.com April 15, 2020

# January- Mid April 2020

This is our 1st newsletter in 2020. In January tarps, tornado buckets and wheel barrows were shipped to the communities of Lexington and Green Hill AL after a storm struck these areas. In February building supply donations collected by the warehouse were distributed to the Pay it Forward project, this project provides supplies and funds to rebuild homes destroyed in the Bahamas by Hurricane Dorian. A devastating tornado outbreak struck middle Tennessee in early March. We made multiple shipments of tornado buckets, cleaning buckets, tarps, wood strips, nails, wheel barrows and other supplies to locations in Nashville and Cookeville. The shower trailer just returned from PCB was immediately re-deployed to Nashville. In March we made a shipment of birthing kits, medical supplies and infant clothing to Hearts for Haiti in Cadiz KY. This shipment will go on a container bound for Haiti. These supplies will be used in the mid wife class sponsored by Eglise Methodiste d' Haiti planned for July 2020. Volunteers worked hard to get the Ahmen spring container staged, loaded and shipped by the end of March. The warehouse donated wheel chairs, linens, 4 gallon buckets and medical supplies. The container made it to Cruzadas in Honduras April 8th! Wide spread storms in April devastated communities across the Southeastern US. We shipped tornado buckets, cleaning buckets, tarps, wood strips, rakes, shovels and other relief supplies to Laurel MS and to Walker and Etowah counties in AL.



**Donated Supplies for Pay It Forward Bahamas** 

Supplies going to Cookeville TN



Supplies shipped to Laurel MS



Ahmen Container shipping to Honduras

Wheel chairs donated by the warehouse for Honduras

The Decatur warehouse received donations of Tornado Buckets, Cleaning Buckets, Health Kits, School Supplies and Birthing Kits during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020. A Big Thank You to churches, volunteer groups, individuals and conferences that support our warehouse!



**Cleaning Buckets from the UMC South Georgia Conference** 

### **COVID 19 Pandemic**

In March and April the COVID 19 global pandemic changed our lives. How this pandemic will shape the future is currently not known. The disaster warehouse is considered essential and is operating on a limited basis. We've continued to provide relief supplies to those in need using a few key volunteers under social distancing and PPE guidelines. We will not resume scheduling/hosting volunteer groups until the UMC, state and local authorities revise the safer at home mandate. New social distancing, PPE and cleaning requirements are in place and will be the new normal.

### **Warehouse Needs**

Items needed for the upcoming hurricane season: Tarps, medium to heavy weight ranging from 15'-17' X 20'-30' Tooth paste (to go with hygiene kits) Clear Contractor Bags 40-55 gallon (Tornado buckets) Insect Repellant 6-14oz pump spray (tornado and cleaning buckets) Box fans 2 GL sprayers Any items for the cleaning or tornado bucket kits.

### **Warehouse Needs Continued**

The Decatur Warehouse distributed over \$90,000 in relief supplies from February 5 to April 24, 2020. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Please send your donation to

UM Decatur Disaster Warehouse PO Box 1133 Decatur, AL 35602

A donation of \$10/month from each church goes a very long way supporting disaster relief. That contribution along with our volunteers enable the warehouse to help those whose lives that have been impacted by natural disasters. Please see that your church has us listed in the budget for at least \$10/month.

## **Volunteers**

Our volunteers logged more than 9600 hours in 2019. Our volunteers range in age from youth to retirees and we have tasks for everyone! Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic we will not be able to host volunteer groups until after May 18. Please check the calendar and complete a request form at <u>www.umdistasterwarehouse.com</u> to schee a work day after May 18<sup>th</sup>.



# **Volunteers Continued**





# **Christmas Shoe Box Ministry**

We plan to continue the Christmas Shoe Box ministry in 2020. We have flat bundled shoe boxes ready for distribution at the warehouse. The 2020 HUB church list and the revised dates for when shoe boxes will be due will be provided once we receive the new guidelines in May for resuming activities in our new normal.

Please contact us if you have any questions. Phone 256-341-9961 or email christmasshoeboxes@gmail.com your continued support of this much needed ministry is appreciated!



# God Bless You for all your help!

#### Cindy Sandlin Warehouse Manager

God opens doors for each of us to step through....

#### **OUR PRAYER:**

"Here I am Lord. Right where you placed me at this time and place.Show me what needs to be done in your favor.Help me start on this project and bring Honor to You.With the life and time I still have on this earth,Help me be faithful and step through all your doors,In Jesus name I pray. Amen."