



## **NVOAD: National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster**

*Cooperation, Communication, Coordination,  
Collaboration in Disaster Response*

National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) is a partnership in disaster response. The organization was founded in the simple belief that the time to prepare for the next disaster is now. The primary purpose of NVOAD is to [1] respond to the information needs of its members and [2] to inform the public of the cooperative efforts of disaster response organizations in the U.S.

### **Purpose of NVOAD -**

NVOAD coordinates planning efforts by many voluntary organizations responding to disaster. Member organizations provide more effective and less duplication in service by getting together before disasters strike. Once disasters occur, NVOAD or an affiliated state VOAD encourages members and other voluntary agencies to convene on site. This cooperative effort has proven to be the most effective way for a wide variety of volunteers and organizations to work together in a crisis.

### **History of NVOAD -**

After Hurricane Camille in 1969, organizations that had been involved in providing resources and services to victims and communities affected by disaster shared their mutual concern about the frequent duplication of services. Beginning in 1970, representatives from these voluntary organizations began to meet together on a regular basis. The purpose of those early meetings was for participants to share their respective activities, concerns and frustrations in order to minimize duplication of effort and manage disaster activities more efficiently.

REACT is proud to be one of the 31 national member organizations supporting NVOAD in its efforts.