

Household Recovery Containers: A Pilot Project

October 10, 2020



This post-disaster recovery initiative is based on an approach recommended by Paul McLendon who has served with Volunteers of America as well as the Volunteer Disaster Response Coordinator for CBF Alabama.

Per protocol, after being invited to engage in recovery efforts by affected CBF congregations (or partner agencies) and their state/regional CBF organizations, CBF Disaster response seeks involvement from its network of churches to pray, volunteer, and give. Unless otherwise specified, donations of food, water, clothing, and other materials are not accepted.

However, where CBF Disaster Response and its state/regional partners are involved in disaster recovery and Household Recovery Containers are invited, we are evaluating the involvement of churches and CBF state/regional organizations to prepare these kits for delivery to specific recovery sites in coordination with the assigned Local Response Contractor.

As CBF Disaster Response and most state/regional CBF organizations lack adequate storage facilities, the recovery containers will only be accepted for timely distribution in recovery sites where the current needs exist. We are also asking that churches and other organizations assume the cost of assembling and delivering the kits.

Based on recommendations from Paul McLendon and CBF Alabama, the following is the procedure for preparing and delivering Household Recovery Containers, of which there are two types:

- **Plastic tote kits** – Combining the cost of a 13-gallon tote container and recommended items, the cost is approximately \$25 to \$50 each.
- **Plastic trash can kits** (32-gallon cans with wheels recommended) – The combined cost of a trash can and items is estimated to be around \$200 each.

Paul McLendon recommends that churches purchase the totes and/or trash cans and that church members organize and purchase the recommended items listed below to be included in each kit.

Notice: No food, water or clothes will be accepted.

Items for inclusion in the kits

- Gift cards (\$50 to \$100)
- Hygiene items
 - Soap/body wash
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Toothpaste/toothbrushes
 - Deodorant
 - Disposable razors/shaving cream
 - Shampoo or conditioner
 - Lotion
 - Sanitary pads/tampons
 - Adult diapers
 - Wash cloths
 - Wet wipes
 - Lip conditioner
 - Comb/brush

- **Baby/Child Items**
 - Diapers
 - Baby wipes/Baby wash
 - Baby lotion
 - Baby shampoo
 - Ointments
- **Safety**
 - First aid kits
 - Flashlight/batteries
 - Disposable gloves
- **Cleaning Supplies**
 - Buckets
 - Brooms (to be bundled when delivered)
 - Mops (to be bundled when delivered)
 - Rakes (bundle)
 - Shovels (bundle)
 - Washing powder/dish liquid/towels/sponges
 - Disinfectants/deodorizers
 - Heavy-duty trash bags (33-45-gallon sizes)
- **Paper/Plastic Products**
 - Plates/napkins/cups
 - Plastic utensils
 - Paper towels
 - Toilet tissue
 - Trash bags
- **Health aids**
 - Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen
 - Adhesive bandages (Band-Aids)
 - Eye drops/contact lens cleaner
 - Insect repellent

Important Notes

- All items must be new.
- Do not include any personal notes, money, or additional material in the kits.
- Containers should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols.

Instructions for preparing and delivering the cleanup bucket kits

- Contact the CBF Disaster Response Manager (rburnette@cbf.net) to confirm locations where household recovery containers are needed.
- If containers are being accepted, the Response Manager will provide contact information for the Local Response Contractor who will arrange to receive and distribute the donations where needed.
- In coordination with the Local Response Contractor, churches organizing containers may deliver the containers themselves or coordinate with their state/regional CBF organization to possibly collect and deliver the containers from multiple congregations.
- CBF Disaster Response will not organize, receive, or deliver containers.
- Household recovery containers will not be accepted without prior communication and confirmation of their need.