



## CAMA Guidelines for Responding to Requests for Assistance with Disaster Response in the United States<sup>1</sup>

**Introduction** - Each year there are natural and manmade disasters in the United States which impact communities where the Alliance has or desires to plant churches. Often these churches, or the District, seek to participate in the wider response to the disaster. On occasion, they contact CAMA to ask for financial assistance and advice on how to proceed. When would CAMA say “yes” to either providing funding or sending someone to assist with assessment and project development?

**Guidelines** - The following will serve as guidelines for the CAMA President to follow:

1. Large scale disasters in the USA:
  - a. As a general rule, CAMA will focus its activities and resources on overseas needs, but may consider responding to significant, large scale disasters in the USA.
  - b. Large scale disasters would be defined as situations that affect multiple states, multiple C&MA districts, or areas of dense population such as a large city. In these instances CAMA’s current Disaster Relief policy will serve as a guide.
  - c. CAMA will work with and through C&MA Districts and local churches.
  - d. CAMA will not take a lead role but rather serve as a support and resource to Districts and local churches.
  - e. CAMA will consider involvement when the following occur:
    - i. CAMA is asked for assistance by the District or local church where the disaster has occurred.
    - ii. There is “ownership” exhibited by the District and local churches.
    - iii. The disaster is considered a “large scale” disaster.<sup>2</sup>
2. Small scale local disasters in the USA:
  - a. The CAMA President will consider requests for assistance for small-scale local disasters on a case-by-case basis considering various factors such as:
    - i. The local situation, need, and scope of activities being undertaken.
    - ii. The role of the District or local C&MA church in the responses.
  - b. Assistance may be provided through smaller grants from the Disaster Relief account as fund balances allow.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by the CAMA Board of Directors 4/4/2014.

<sup>2</sup> By the media, local government, relief organizations, etc.