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**NYDIS LINKS**

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- ▶ **Sign up with NYDISnet**
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NYDIS EVENTS & NEWS**NVOAD Conference Covers Range of Topics**

- **Want a disaster responder to take a day off? It's not so easy!**
- **Anybody can be resilient during a disaster. But first they need to know what resources are there - and who can simply listen.**
- **Faith Communities, unlike relief agencies, are there for long term recovery and companion communities through each stage of a disaster—readiness, response, and recovery.**



These and other comments came out of the National Voluntary Organizations Assisting in Disaster (NVOAD) Conference that was held in Denver, June 20-24. Workshop and Plenary Sessions covered a range of topics from national policy to responder burn-out to faith-based disaster response. NYDIS staff Peter Gudaitis and Susan Lockwood presented at two workshops, one on mental health and spiritual care collaboration and the other on the obstacles and opportunities of building interfaith partnerships and the need for interfaith disaster ministry.

For more info, check out:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2680
www.nvoad.org

Roundtable Offers In-Service Training for Case Workers

Starting July 19, NYDIS will be holding Case Worker In-Service Trainings on a regular basis for the NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable. Attending an In-Service is required for case workers who have never presented a case at the Roundtable. NYDIS also encourages experienced case workers who have presented cases to sign-up



Dear Friends of NYDIS:

Welcome to NYDISnet, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives that impacts the faith communities, our agencies and our partners.

Please feel free to copy and share any information from NYDISnet you find helpful, simply credit us as the source when appropriate.

Faithfully, Peter

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div.
Executive Director & CEO

To share news or information, or to distribute NYDISnet to your agency, clergy or congregational list, contact:

The Rev. Susan Lockwood
Director, Disaster Planning & Training
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slockwood@nydis.org

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for an in-service as a refresher. It's a great way for case workers to get the latest information, changes and practices in the case presentation process. In-Services will be held at NYDIS and are limited to 12 participants.

Case Worker In-Services are scheduled for:

- 9:30-11:30 am - **Tuesday, July 19**
- 9:30-11:30 am - **Tuesday, August 2**

To sign-up, contact Roundtable Moderator, Maggie Jarry
212-669-6105

mjarry@nydis.org

Roundtable Schedules Upcoming Sessions

The NYC 9/11 Roundtable, which brings together donors with agencies providing case management to 9/11 victims, will meet:

- 9:30 am - **Thursday, July 7, 21**

Case Workers who would like to present a case must sign-up at least two days prior to the Roundtable. You will receive an email confirming the availability of the date you request.

To sign up or for information, contact Roundtable Moderator, Maggie Jarry

(212) 669-6105

mjarry@nydis.org

Community News & Events

New Software Tool Tested By Faith Community Responders

A new software tool is poised to help long-term recovery committees across the nation better handle the post-disaster information flow. A joint effort between the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC), Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota could help smooth the information-gathering process. The Disaster Response Database (DRD) has been designed by people experienced in disaster response to prevent poorly tracked donations, missed needs and mishandling of money.

For more info, go to:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2682

NYC Debates Toxic Air

Air quality in Lower Manhattan remains a contentious issue as federal, state, and local agencies announce new programs and spar with residents over old ones. On Wednesday, the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center (LMCCC) announced that it will operate a new air quality monitoring program during the Lower Manhattan rebuilding process. Residents and workers are concerned about the lingering toxins in Sept. 11-damaged buildings that are slated for demolition.



The LMCCC was created by NYS Governor George Pataki and NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg to coordinate the Lower Manhattan rebuilding process. The air quality monitoring program will be operated in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

To read the full story, go to:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2656

JBFCS & Mt. Sinai Offer 9/11 Mental Health Initiative for Families

The Infant/Toddler/Preschool Post-9/11 Initiative is a collaborative effort between the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services and the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. They are offering free screenings for parents and children to help identify signs of continued difficulties in the post-9/11 environment and to identify families who are recovering well. Families who need additional support may receive services such as more in-depth assessments and counseling. The Infant/Toddler/Preschool Post-9/11 Initiative offers services to families with children who are between the ages of 2 and 8 years old, who currently live or go to school below Canal Street or who lived or attended school below Canal Street on 9/11/01. Services may include:

- Screening
- In-depth assessment
- Short-term counseling
- Referral to other services, as needed

To learn more, please call the confidential phone line at:
(212) 809-6252, ext. 203

or Deborah Carroll, Clinical Coordinator:
(212) 809-6252, ext. 207.

You can also view a promotional flyer for the program at:
www.where-to-turn.org/infant-toddler-preschool.php

9/11 Recovery Resources

- **Mt. Sinai Reopens WTC Screening Enrollment**

Mt. Sinai Hospital is accepting new patients into the World Trade Center Worker and Volunteer Medical Screening program. The program ended last year but was revived by a federal grant. Thousands of recovery workers have been diagnosed with physical and mental ailments, showing the demand for medical care.



If you think you might qualify, call 888-702-0630.

For more info or to download eligibility forms, go to:
www.wtcexams.org

- **WTC Permanency Project Offers Support Group**

The World Trade Center Permanency Project is offering a weekly psychotherapy support group on **Mondays, 6:30-8:00 pm**, at 589 Eighth Ave, 15th flr, Manhattan. The group is free of charge and open to adults 18 years or older who have been experiencing difficulties as a result of the Sept. 11 attacks.

For more info, contact:
James E. Bozinos
(212) 475-0222, x 216
jamesb@coac.org

From Our Members and Partners

- **The Sikh Coalition**



The Sikh Coalition is pleased to announce the opening of *Virsa: Our History* – an exhibit designed by Sikh American Youth on display at the Wing Luke Asian Museum in the heart of Seattle, Washington’s historic Chinatown/ International District. The primary purpose of the project is the creation of a traveling exhibition that represents the viewpoints and issues affecting young Sikh Americans. It is the first traveling art exhibit made by young Sikhs in the United States.

The exhibit will be available in August to tour different schools, universities, city halls, museums, religious or social institutions. If you are interested in hosting the exhibit, please contact the Sikh Coalition at education@sikhcoalition.org.

- **The Health Department**

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) announced the Faith-Based Physical Activity Challenge, a multi-week program that provides exercise equipment and physical fitness instructors to faith-based organizations in each of the five boroughs. Participants include such organizations as the African Islamic Center in the Bronx, the United Jewish Organization in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, First Baptist Church in Queens, the Greater Refuge Temple in Manhattan, and the Immaculate Conception Church in Staten Island. For more information on fitness programs call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/health



Preparedness Corner: Summer Preparedness Tips

Be aware of lightning danger

The National Weather Services marked its fourth annual National Lightning Safety Awareness Week last week. Summer is the peak season for one of the nation's deadliest weather phenomena— lightning. For more information, go to www.nws.noaa.gov



Download Ready New York

The NYC Office of Emergency Management has produced the following guides to assist New Yorkers in being prepared for disasters and emergency situations. You can view the guide [online](#), or [download](#) your copy today. You may also obtain a copy by calling 311.

- [Ready New York: Beat the Heat](#) (in [PDF](#))



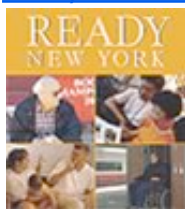
On warm summer days, NYC can be as much as 10 degrees warmer than surrounding areas. The guide provides tips on how to stay healthy and cool during the summer months, conserve water and energy, and identify and treat individuals with heat-related illnesses. It's available in six languages.

- [Ready New York: Hurricanes and New York City](#)

Contrary to popular belief among many New Yorkers, coastal storms, including hurricanes, can and do impact the city. The guide includes general tips on how to prepare for any emergency, instructions on how to develop a hurricane disaster plan and secure your home before a storm, and a map of NYC hurricane evacuation zones. It's available in five languages.



- [Ready New York for Seniors & People with Disabilities](#) (in [PDF](#))



Emergencies can pose added challenges for seniors and people with disabilities. The guide provides detailed instructions on developing a disaster plan, assembling an Emergency Supply Kit, and putting together a Go Bag, as well as guidance on creating a support network, preparing for evacuation, and sheltering in place. It also addresses the added challenges emergencies can present for seniors and people with disabilities living in NYC. It's available in four languages.

- [Ready New York: Emergency Planning for Small & Mid-Sized Companies](#) (in [PDF](#))

This new guide is designed to help businesses protect their employees, communities, and the environment and enhance a company's ability to recover from financial loss resulting from business interruption or damage to facilities and inventory. Available only in English.



- [Ready New York: Household Preparedness Guide](#)



The cornerstone of the Ready New York campaign, this comprehensive household preparedness guide offers tips and information about a wide range of potentially hazardous situations New Yorkers may face. It's available in nine languages.

View the guide [online](#), or [download](#) your copy today. You may also obtain a copy by calling **311**.

For more info, go to:

www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/home.html

OEM Offers Tips to help New Yorkers Beat The Heat!

With warm temperatures in the forecast, OEM reminds New Yorkers to take steps to stay cool:



- Stay out of the sun. When in the sun, wear sunscreen (SPF 15 or higher).
- Avoid strenuous activity.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.
- [More heat-beating tips...](#)
- Review OEM's Ready New York information about [heat and its related hazards](#).
- Read OEM's [Beat the Heat press release](#).

Job Opportunities in Disaster Services

- The NYC Office of Emergency Management has two part-time AmeriCorps Positions in Human Services open for 2005-2006. For information or to apply, contact:



Jeremiah Dameron
Director of Human Services
NYC OEM
11 Water Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
or email:
jobs@oemnyc.gov

We Recommend...

- Learn more about NYC OEM's bioterrorist preparedness at www.nyc.gov/html/oem/
- The Centers for Disease Control has tips on extreme heat at www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/index.asp
- The Humane Society has tips on what to do for pets in extreme heat at www.hsus.org/press_and_publications/press_releases
- For info on NYDIS, go to: www.nydis.org

Make a Gift to NYDIS



If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Flr, New York, NY 10007. Contributions are tax deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.

To donate on line, go to the NYDIS homepage and click on "Make a Donation":

www.nydis.org

