

Disaster Relief in Action

An earthquake and tsunami in Japan, wildfires in Texas, tornadoes through the South, particularly in Alabama, flooding in Northern States, the east coast, and finally along the Mississippi River – who would have ever thought that all of these events would happen in such a close proximity of time? Disasters



one at a time or in multiples is the exact reason that groups like **Disaster Relief of the Southern Baptist Convention** and **Texas Baptist Men** began encouraging states and associations to develop local disaster relief units that could respond locally and beyond when needed.

DBA Disaster Relief Team

In 2008, Denton Baptist Association formed a local disaster relief unit with volunteers from several local churches who were then trained by Texas Baptist Men. Today, the association has three specific units – *chainsaw*, *shower* and *laundry*, and *box*. In addition, many volunteers have been trained on the feeding units and help man those units of other associations.

Current Deployments

During the months of April and May of this year, the **Chainsaw Unit** was placed on alert as a backup unit for going to Alabama to assist with cleanup following the

tornadoes that ravaged the state. Several trained volunteers from the **Feeding Unit** in our association were deployed to staff the *Feeding Unit of Tarrant Baptist Association* serving meals to firefighters and homeowners who were displaced during the wildfires. Finally, the **Shower and Laundry Unit** was deployed to FBC Graham, Texas, to provide showers and laundry for the firefighters during the wildfires of that area.

A Word of Thanks

Richard Segars, Minister of Education and Administration at FBC, Graham, sent these words of appreciation for the work of the Shower and Laundry Unit:

Thank you for bringing your shower and laundry facility to Graham during

our recent fires. We were speechless with the outpouring of help for our community, not only from our local people but from people we did not know. As tragic as it was, we

soon saw reassurance coming from the many tired and hungry firefighters. It was because of your



Chainsaw Unit at work



Shower Unit in Graham, TX

help that we could offer a small bit of comfort to them just by offering hot showers and warm food. We sincerely hope that we never need your facility again, but what a blessing it was this time!

A special word of thanks goes to *Judge Camp, Russ Michaud, and Duane Chance* who serve as the coordinators for the Denton Baptist Association Disaster Relief Ministry.

Volunteers Needed

To find out more, or to volunteer to be trained as a Yellow Cap (which is required of all volunteers), contact:

dbacoordinators@hotmail.com

or visit their website at

www.dbadisasterrelief.com.



Feeding Unit at Mineral Wells