

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Preparedness Team Summary

The purpose of the PDA Preparedness Team is to provide training and materials to be used to support congregations and mid councils to create disaster preparedness plans. Since 2014 PDA has partnered with Presbyterian Women to train a team of Presbyterian Women to supplement the efforts of the National Response Team and National Volunteer Team to do this work. The materials can be found on the PW-PDA Quiet Page (<https://pda.pcusa.org/page/pdapw-training/>). NRT/NVT members are welcome to use and share the materials found there, but please do not share the URL for the Quiet Page.

The first block of materials is specifically for training the trainers and are generally used by NRT/NVT members or more experienced trainers to train members of Presbyterian Women who want to be trainers. The goal of the PW-PDA partnership is to have at least 2 trainers in every mid council. Train the trainer events are usually held when a significant number of Presbyterian Women in a region have applied for the program. Train the trainer events can be either in person or via Zoom. The training requires 8 hours of class and a plan for how the trainers will use what they have learned. The training requests a three-year commitment to do three trainings a year. Applications are available on the PW-PDA Quiet Page as well as the PDA website. They should be sent to Cameron Stevens (Cameron.Stevens@pcusa.org).

The remainder of the materials are resources to be used when working with congregations and mid councils that want to create their own preparedness plans and teams. In this section there are PowerPoint Presentations for a 1 hour session or a 3 hour session that summarize the work of PDA and the steps needed to create a plan. There are sample plans from PCUSA churches and mid councils and a template for creating a plan. There are checklists for family, church and mid councils and additional resources that the team has found to be helpful.

In addition, the Preparedness Team has a sub-team for Church Safety and Security. Ron Bottrell leads that team and had additional information on that topic.

Contact for Preparedness Team training or information is Carolyn Thalman. (cjthalman@comcast.net).