

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OPERATION BLESSING INTERNATIONAL'S DISASTER RELIEF TEAMS ARRIVE IN MANHATTAN AND COASTAL NEW JERSEY

-Assisting in cleanup efforts in NJ, Volunteers Needed starting Saturday

-Truckloads of food, water and hygiene products to arrive in Manhattan this evening

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (November 1, 2012) –The disaster relief team from Operation Blessing International (OBI), one of the largest charities in America, has deployed to New York City and coastal New Jersey to help with relief efforts after Hurricane Sandy devastated the region on Monday.

Following initial relief efforts in its Virginia Beach hometown on Tuesday, the team, under the direction of Jody Herrington-Gettys, director of U.S. disaster relief, deployed a caravan of construction equipment and supplies to New Jersey, which began arriving yesterday. These include a state of the art Mobile Command Center with satellite communication equipment, multiple construction trailers filled with tools and safety equipment, box trucks filled with cots, ready-to-eat meals and water, a shower trailer and an 80kw generator unit.

Currently, OBI's construction team is involved with cleanup efforts and helping residents salvage belongings in the hard-hit area of Bayville in Ocean County, New Jersey. Under the direction of Raymond McGregor, deployment manager for OBI, the construction team will set up a Cleanup Operations Center in Tuckerton, NJ, later today that will be used to coordinate large numbers of volunteers starting on Saturday at 8:30am. The charity is calling for local volunteers to help with major cleanup efforts including debris removal and gutting of homes (more info to follow). The Cleanup Operations Center is located at the Living Water Christian Center (1103 Radio Road, Tuckerton, NJ).

In Manhattan, OBI has partnered with seven local churches and will be setting up a point of distribution on the Lower East Side, at Public School 34/Franklin D. Roosevelt School (730 east 12 street). Three 53-foot semi-trailer trucks from OBI's Hunger Strike Force fleet will arrive from Virginia Beach this evening filled with food, water, 150 indoor kerosene heaters and hygiene supplies that will be provided to residents in need. OBI will set up its mobile kitchen that has the capacity to feed 2,000 hot meals per day at the school this evening (aiming for 6pm).

Bill Horan, president of Operation Blessing International, said, "Operation Blessing has responded to the biggest disasters in the United States and Hurricane Sandy rivals all of them. I can't recall ever seeing such widespread devastation as we're now seeing along the East Coast. This is truly an historic event. Hopefully the people in the United States that are not affected by this will be generous in their support of the victims."

For more info log on to www.ob.org

ABOUT OPERATION BLESSING INTERNATIONAL:

Operation Blessing International (OBI) is one of the largest charities in America, providing strategic disaster relief, medical aid, hunger relief, clean water and community development in 23 countries around the world on a daily basis. OBI was awarded Charity Navigator's coveted 4 star rating for sound fiscal management for the 7th year in a row (2011), a feat that only 2% of rated charities have ever achieved. In November 2010, Forbes named OBI as the 6th most

efficient charity in America. Additionally, the Chronicle of Philanthropy currently ranks OBI as the 23rd largest charity and the 6th largest international charity. Founded in 1978, Operation Blessing International has touched the lives of more than 264 million people in more than 105 countries and 50 states, providing goods and services valued at over \$3.3 billion to date.

OBI's domestic disaster relief team responds to dozens of major disasters each year in the United States.

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