

## **Volunteers Needed For LA Flood Cleanup Starting Wednesday, Aug 17**

-Operation Blessing International Coordinating Volunteers In Denham Springs Area-

-Residents Whose Homes Damaged Can Request Free Volunteer Help-

Baton Rouge, LA (August 16, 2016) – One of the largest humanitarian organizations in America, Operation Blessing International will begin coordinating volunteer efforts to help residents whose homes were flooded in the Denham Springs area starting Wednesday, August 17.

Operation Blessing deployed its U.S. Disaster Relief team to Louisiana yesterday and has set up a base of operations at the Denham Springs campus of Healing Place Church (569 Florida Ave SW). The charity has brought in a convoy of disaster relief equipment including a construction trailer loaded with tools, a box truck full of volunteer equipment and supplies, a mobile kitchen capable of serving 2,000 hot meals each day, and a shower trailer for volunteers.

Specializing in disaster relief and logistics, Operation Blessing will begin coordinating volunteer cleanup efforts and are calling for volunteers to assist residents with cleanup of homes and recovery of personal items. The organization is also asking residents whose homes have been damaged to fill out a request for free volunteer help.

### **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION: “WANT TO HELP”**

Operation Blessing will be accepting volunteers daily (Monday–Saturday) at 8:00 AM at the Denham Springs campus of Healing Place Church (569 Florida Ave SW). Orientation will begin at 8:30am. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, dress appropriately for work in the field, and also provide their own transportation to and from the work site. Operation Blessing will provide lunch, work assignments, management and tools. For more information on how to volunteer, please call the OB Volunteer Hotline: 757.374.0944.

**Volunteer Housing:** A limited amount of volunteer housing will be made available soon. Volunteers that need lodging must register 24-48 hours in advance. Please contact National Volunteer Manager, Kerry Dodson, to register for lodging at 757.226.3407 or via email at [volunteer@OB.org](mailto:volunteer@OB.org).

### **RESIDENT INFORMATION: “NEED HELP”**

Residents are invited come in person to fill out a work request for FREE volunteer help at the Denham Springs campus of Healing Place Church (569 Florida Ave SW), from 9:30 am – 4:30pm daily (except Sunday), or by calling 757.274.8650. All residents must sign a work order form and a release form in person allowing volunteer teams access to your property. Volunteers will not be able to do work without a form SIGNED BY THE

HOMEOWNER. Priority is given based on need (elderly, sick, disabled, etc) and is based on volunteer availability.

For more information please log on to [www.ob.org](http://www.ob.org).

**ABOUT OPERATION BLESSING INTERNATIONAL:**

Operation Blessing International (OBI) is one of the largest charities in America, providing humanitarian services such as strategic disaster relief, medical aid, hunger relief, clean water and community development in 37 countries in the last year. Forbes currently ranks OBI as one of its "100 Largest Charities" with an efficiency rating of 99%. Founded in 1978, Operation Blessing International has touched the lives of more than 292 million people in more than 105 countries and 50 states, providing goods and services valued at over \$4.2 billion.

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