

Project (Re)Start

Project (Re)Start is a program of the Diocese of Northern California (of which we are a part).

Every year, Northern California is impacted by major wildfires, floods, earthquakes and other disasters, frequently impacting our churches and congregations. In the initial phases of a disaster, the bishop, clergy and congregations provide financial support (often in the form of gift cards), to help victims meet immediate needs such as food, gas, and medications. As disasters transition from rescue to recovery to rebuilding, victims need everyday goods to adapt to temporary housing while homes and lives are being rebuilt.

This is where Project (Re)Start comes in. Standardized bins are filled containing essential household and personal goods to help victims after the initial days of a disaster. These bins are distributed free of charge to victims of disasters.

Here's how it works. There are 4 types of bins (bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and cleaning). Congregations are invited to assemble and store ten complete bins of one type. All Saints' Redding has been asked to assemble and store ten "cleaning" bins. In Alta Deanery (our deanery), St. Johns (Chico) fills kitchen bins. St. Peters (Red Bluff) fills bedroom bins. St. Barnabas (Mt. Shasta) fills bathroom bins. When our completed bins are distributed in times of disaster, we are then asked to fill and store 10 additional bins for use in the future.

How is all this paid for? NO monies will come from All Saints' general fund. Parishioners will be asked to assist the project by donating items or making financial donations, so that we can purchase what we need. Groups that use our facilities will also be given the opportunity to participate. The best news is that All Saints' has requested, and has been awarded, a multi-year grant from Episcopal Community Services of Northern California. We will receive \$2,000 for the first year, and \$1,000/year for the next four years. This money will be used to supplement any gaps that we do not receive in donations.

So, what will be in these bins that we will be filling for victims of disasters in Northern California? The "cleaning bins" contain:

Liquid dish soap	A dish towel	Spray cleaner	Sponges
Utility rags	13-gal. trash bags	Laundry detergent	Toilet brush
Toilet cleaner	Paper towels	Hand brush and dust pan	

NOTE: Aerosol containers are forbidden, as they can do damage to the contents of the bins during transportation. Also, please provide "medium" sizes of all these items. Do not provide "the large, economy size", as temporary housing following a disaster is often very small and cramped.

The Program requests that you purchase these items locally; not online. The reason for this is that local regions suffer from disasters in many ways. By buying locally, you will be supporting the region. Even if you purchase from Walmart, Costco, or other large chains, the employees working in these stores are local.

So, what do you look for next? Soon there will be a sign-up board in the Narthex containing sticky notes listing individual items. Much like the concept of an “Angel Tree” during the holidays, members of the congregation and visitors will be invited to take one or more (hopefully more) sticky notes and list what they have taken and the numbers of the item they will donate. Then go out and purchase the items and return them to the container provided In the Narthex. If you wish to donate funds to purchase items, monies or checks (made out to All Saints’) can be given to the following committee members:

Betty Harrison-Smith, Chair

Frances Cole-Boyd, Vice-Chair

Lorraine Blalock

Linda Matias

Questions may directed to any committee member! Let's have some fun with this worthwhile project!