



# Laundry



# LAUNDRY RESPONSE TEAM

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**People displaced from their homes during a disaster may require assistance with cleaning their clothing.**

**Consider who might need assistance:**

Shelter Clients

Homebound congregation members

Congregation members who are in their homes, but have no electricity or transportation



# WAYS CONGREGATIONS CAN ASSIST

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**Volunteers take laundry home to wash, dry and fold.**

**Coordinate with a nearby laundromat to allow Shelter Clients to wash their clothing.**

**Coordinate with a company that specializes in mobile laundry services.**



# VOLUNTEERS CLEAN CLOTHING AT HOME

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**Shelter Clients put clothing in a white, 13-gallon trash bag.**

write Shelter name, Client name and Date on the bag in permanent marker

**Volunteer picks up bag of laundry and clean trash bag from Shelter, signs out the laundry. Volunteer also picks up laundry detergent, if provided by the Congregation.**

**Volunteer washes, dries and folds clothing.**

**Volunteer puts clothing in a new trash bag.**

write Shelter name, Client name and Date on the bag in permanent marker

**Volunteer returns the cleaned clothing to the Shelter, signs in the laundry.**

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# LAUNDRY CONSIDERATIONS

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**If the laundry bag contains items other than clothing, close the bag and label that it cannot be washed until the Owner removes items that are not washable.**

**Wash and dry whites and colors separately to avoid bleeding of colors.**

**Clothing for multiple families should be washed separately – don't co-mingle.**

**Use dye-free, fragrance free detergents, Avoid the use of dryer sheets.**

Shelter Clients may have allergies to these substances





# LAUNDRY CONSIDERATIONS (CONT'D)

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**If laundry is wet, spin or rinse prior to washing**

**Add 2 cups of white vinegar to the drum with the clothes to cut any mildew or mold odor. Oxyclean also works and can be combined with vinegar.**

**Clothing that was wet may need to be washed TWICE.**

**Cleaned clothing should be returned to the Shelter within 24 hours.**

**Volunteers may wish to sanitize their washers after several loads. This can be done using the Clean Cycle of their washer, or by running a cycle using hot water and 1/2 cup of chlorine bleach. Running a second rinse cycle will ensure all bleach is removed from the tub.**



# **PARTNER WITH A LAUNDROMAT, SCHOOL OR GYM**

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**Arrange designated days and times during which Shelter Clients may use washers and dryers.**

**Congregation would arrange transportation of the Clients to and from the laundromat, school or gym, using the church bus.**

**Congregation would pay any cost associated with the use of the facility.**



# MOBILE LAUNDRY TRAILER

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**Mobile laundry trailers would provide several washers and dryers at the Congregation's location.**

**Trailers can be sourced through a mission non-profit, a laundry detergent company, or other source.**

## **Laundry Team Responsibilities:**

- Schedule time for each Client's access to the laundry trailer, or
- Schedule volunteer shifts to clean clothing
- Check supply levels
- Ensure the trailer is kept clean
- Report any machines that are broken

**Coordinate demobilization date with supplier.**





# RISK MANAGEMENT

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## Safety

If laundry services will be provided for homebound or other Congregation members, care should be taken to confirm the identity of the person requesting the services prior to sending a volunteer to pick up the laundry.

## Insurance

Confirm that insurance coverage is adequate for the chosen laundry services.

## COVID-19

Adhere to current CDC, local government, TXCDR, Red Cross and Congregational Guidelines.

In the case of conflicting guidelines, use the most stringent.

