

# Volunteers Needed

## Long-Term Disaster Relief Project in

### U. S. Virgin Islands

The Virgin Islands was ravaged by back-to-back Category 5 hurricanes Irma and Maria in September of 2017. In response to this disaster, a partnership has been formed between UMVIM, FEMA, and LTRG. UMVIM teams are needed to repair/rebuild homes of residents of the island. The focus of this effort is on homeowners who might otherwise fall between the cracks due to lack of insurance or inability to qualify for assistance.

**WHEN:** FEMA Travel was just approved for St Thomas through July 2019. The following teams are in critical need of volunteers with construction background

Team 1 25 May – 8 Jun

Team 2 8-22 Jun

Team 3 22 Jun – 6 Jul

Team 4 6-20 Jul

Team 5 20 Jul – 3 Aug

- St Croix - Teams will be needed now through December 2019
- This project consists of individual team members spending a minimum of 15 days on the island. We are also seeking team leaders able to recruit and organize team(s).

**WHO:** Each team will be comprised of:

- A team leader who will provide team support and will serve as a liaison with FEMA and LTRG.
- Skilled volunteers with construction experience are needed; roofing experience is *very* beneficial.
- General helpers willing and able to assist in any way necessary.
- Team members must be able to perform strenuous work while being in the sun an average of eight hours each day.

**PROVIDED BY FEMA:**

- FEMA will provide round-trip airfare and \$50 per diem for housing, food and miscellaneous expenses.

**PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEER:**

- St Thomas - Each volunteer must bring his/her own twin bed sheets, pillow/pillowcase, and towels. Kmart and Laundry facilities are available.
- St Croix – Bedding is not needed, suggest bringing a towel. Kmart and Laundry facilities are available.
- UMVIM insurance is available if needed. The cost varies, depending on the coverage option each team selects, but is very reasonable.
- Registration fee of \$85 covering the cost of a deposit, team money, and team t-shirt.
- Money for optional weekend activities.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE MISSISSIPPI UMVIM COORDINATOR/PROJECT DIRECTOR, WAYNE JONES IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING.** E-mail: [umvim@mississippi-umc.org](mailto:umvim@mississippi-umc.org) Phone: 228-596-5480 or Caroline Nyholm Email: [carolinejn66@gmail.com](mailto:carolinejn66@gmail.com) Phone: 228-326-0188