



BUILD FOR GOOD

Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resilience

May Meeting:

The Roundtable participated in a disaster exercise during which they identified other groups to work with to expedite disaster recovery. Communications emerged as a recurring subject that needs to be improved upon.

August Meeting:

Groups discuss previous disaster response and how things could have been improved via better communication and coordination between groups. The groups interacted with presentations made by each group, suggesting ways they can work together in the future to solve problems.

Houston Ready Roundtable Group Updates

Volunteer Houston

- The website and sign-up process have been updated to make it more seamless and accessible. The updated system will create a more user-friendly experience, allowing volunteers to quickly find opportunities that fit their schedules, locations, and interests.

3 Corners Apartment Fire

- Nearly 400 people impacted; 56 families lost everything, 52 family units suffered from smoke and water damage.
- Memorial Assistance Ministries reached out; they worked with various partners including United Way and the Red Cross.
- DRCUSA was able to offer assistance via one of their funders.
- Gov Abbott asked for assessments to see if the disaster met the threshold for disaster assistance. The fire does qualify and those affected can apply for low interest loans through SBA.

Food

- Started a process to divide the response into three phases — life-sustaining, replacement, and recovery — with designated triggers for organizations to provide support, starting with meals and MREs in the first 96 hours, followed by meals and grocery MREs, and then grocery replacement.
- The group emphasized the need for daily coordination calls with feeding organizations during a disaster.

Houston Ready Roundtable Group Goals

Handoff

- Developing handoff strategies for the disaster housing continuum, spanning from shelter to long-term housing and home repair, with a focus on case management.
- They have mapped the sequence of housing delivery, identified key actors, handoff points, and gaps, and outlined necessary data-sharing agreements.
- They have also proposed priority recommendations for advocacy, data improvements, and programmatic changes ahead of hurricane season.
- Next steps include finalizing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and conducting renter-focused journey mapping.

Readiness

- Expanded its team to include a balanced representation of government, corporate, and nonprofit members while refining its scope of work.
- Identified potential partners and areas of overlap to enhance collaboration.

Neighborhood Approach

- The team is focused on identifying and equipping community leaders who can step up in times of disaster, guiding their neighbors through response and recovery.
- They are seeking practical, hands-on training that empowers communities to take care of themselves in the critical days following a crisis.
- The group is exploring funding sources to ensure the right resources are in place.

What is Next?

Update Group Goals

- Groups will continue to meet monthly with a focus on updating their goals.
 - Work with other groups in the Roundtable, ensuring a continuum of recovery with limited duplicated efforts.
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Identify Additional Stakeholders

- Groups are working to identify additional stakeholders that are not a part of the Roundtable but are critical to the City's recovery.
 - The Neighborhood Approach group will bring in trusted community leaders that have been a part of disaster recovery in the past, engaging with them to find ways to engage their communities.
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**Next Meeting
November, 2025**

Kelly Hurn

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