



Tuesday, July 15, 2025

MINUTES

Call to Order..... President, Lanita Lloyd

DATE	18-Feb-25	18-Mar-25	15-Apr-25	13-May-25	17-Jun-25	15-Jul-25
Total Orgs	26	35	38	39	39	41
Present	16	25	21	16	22	22
Partners/NVOAD	5	5	6	6	6	6
Present	6	4	4	3	4	3
Guests Present	0	4	6	17	3	5
TOTAL	22	33	31	36	29	30

1. Minutes from last month’s meeting were posted. Adam Garner made the motion and Len Fatica seconded-no objections, Minutes approved.
2. Treasurer & Membership Report: Our current checking balance is ~\$14,500 (with \$6,000 allotted for Hurricane Helene recovery; \$1,500 has been spent) in our account currently. As of July, we have 41 members (29 statewide, 12 local), aiming for 50 members by EOY 2025.
3. GAVOAD Website: If you do not like the way your logo looks on the website, please email Luis Morales a good picture (JPEG or PNG) so he can update it: [vice\\_president@gavoad.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:vice_president@gavoad.onmicrosoft.com).
4. Any job openings from VOAD partners can be shared via the website. Please contact Matt Rollins ([matt.rollins@hopeww.org](mailto:matt.rollins@hopeww.org)) with all information.
5. GA VOAD Committee Updates:
  - a. Communications: Matt Rollins from HOPE *worldwide* has taken the lead on the Communications Committee. Email Matt if interested: [matt.rollins@hopeww.org](mailto:matt.rollins@hopeww.org).
  - b. Bylaws: No update; committee not meeting in 2025.
  - c. Emotional and Spiritual Care: **Nina Ghaffari ([ngaffari@etca-ses.org](mailto:ngaffari@etca-ses.org)) is replacing Pastor Gordy, who is retiring. Nina will contact interested participants to update committee membership list. Pastor Morgan Gordy and Myla Mitchel are the chairs, but Pastor Gordy has announced that she will be transitioning-. Myla will continue to Chair the Committee. Interested participants should reach out to Myla.**

**Commented [LL1]:** Nina is taking Pastor Gordy's place with their organization, but we did not determine that she would co-chair the committee nor did she accept doing that 😊

- d. Membership: Adam Garner and Travis Stone are continuing outreach to former and potential new members for GAVOAD. Registration fees will be waived for local VOADs and [Long Term Recovery Groups \(LTRGs\)](#). Interested parties should contact Travis for paperwork ([travissstone@fodac.org](mailto:travissstone@fodac.org)).
6. NVOAD Committee Updates:
- Long-Term Recovery: Greg Strader is creating a 2-page LTRG guide and a [National VOAD has created a 1-day intensive “Unmet Needs Recovery Tool Workshop”](#) train-the-trainer model workshop. Georgia is participating in the pilot.
  - Disaster Case Management: Call scheduled for July 16; no other updates.
  - Emotional and Spiritual Care: ESC Committee is aiming to better integrate emotional/spiritual care into VOAD programming.
7. GA VOAD Program Updates:
- Recovery Tool Workshops: 3 communities have completed training, with 2 more upcoming:
    - Chatham County: July 23-24
    - Jeff Davis County: July 28-29
    - Approx. 40 workshop facilitators have been trained; need more to volunteer. Contact [Lanita LloydGreg Strader](#) if interested: [gdstreader@gmail.com](mailto:gdstreader@gmail.com) [lanirta.lloyd@uss.salvationarmy.com](mailto:lanirta.lloyd@uss.salvationarmy.com).
    - We have ~\$6,000 in funds for these; ~\$1,500 has been spent so far on food/materials.
    - 11 workshops have been hosted from Feb-Apr across 18 counties. GA VOAD has [helped to develop 6 active LTRGs and 6 local VOADs](#) (up from 3 in Feb) with 12 additional counties exploring formation.
8. Disaster Response Updates
- 2023 Tornadoes: [The Salvation Army is scaling down operations](#); case management ends Dec. 31, 2025. [Inspiritus has partnered with The Salvation Army to provide Construction Analysts. Lutheran Disaster Services is allocating funds for a Construction/Volunteer Coordinator.](#)
  - Hurricane Debbie: Inspiritus, Lutheran Disaster Services, [Catholic Charities, and Family Promise](#) (case management) are all involved, [focusing more in Chatham and Bryan counties.](#)
  - Hurricane Helene:
    - DCM planning underway; no implementation dates confirmed. State leads are Naye Bullock (IA) and Zackary Saunders (mass care).
    - Active partners are: Team Rubicon (in Lowndes, Coffee, Richmond counties); Hope for Coffee (Coffee County); Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (Augusta); [The Salvation Army](#) (funding programs through [LTRGVOAD](#) partnerships); Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (providing [DME](#) and assistive tech for survivors with disabilities).
  - FEMA VALs are seeking partners to fund \$5,600 FEMA housing purchases for 6 households. [The Salvation Army agreed to review cases to consider funding.](#)

**Commented [LL2]:** Spell out the acronym or include FODAC without this.

9. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Presentation by David Rauer
  - a. \$5,000 LTRG startup grant available
  - b. Special projects grants (e.g., staffing) also available.
  - c. PDA offers volunteer housing support with vetted partners, and assesses potential volunteer sites for free.
  - d. PDA offers Resiliency Training Workshops: R&R (full day); Compassion Fatigue (6 hrs); Tools for Resilience (4 hrs). All trainings free with min. 15 participants.
  - e. POC for Augusta efforts: Holly Shoafokula.
10. Upcoming Conferences:
  - a. NVOAD Fall Meeting: October 28-30 in Lancaster, PA
  - b. IAEM Conference: November 14-20 in Louisville, KY
11. Next Meeting:
  - a. Thursday, August 14, 2025 @ 10:00 am (virtual).

Respectfully,  
Matthew Rollins  
Recorder/Secretary