

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

Emergency Chaplains

JUNE 2020



CHAPLAIN SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Rogers joined our Durham Crisis Response Team (CRT) in 2019. A native of Durham, Lisa worked for more than 30 years for the National Institute of Environmental Health Studies in Research Triangle Park. Since retiring, she now dedicates much of her time to serving with Emergency Chaplains. In addition to serving with our CRT, Lisa also leads our Grief Ministry Team (GMT).



The GMT follows up with the family members that our Chaplains meet in the field during crisis calls. They send cards and letters, follow up with phone calls as needed, and help those who are struggling find resources to assist them through their grief. They are also developing an annual memorial service for the families that our CRT Chaplains serve. The coronavirus has put that planning on hold for now, but they hope to move forward with the memorial service soon.

During her career with NIEHS, Lisa also earned a BS in Business Administration through North Carolina Wesleyan College. She is an active member of Bethel Christian Center in Durham.

Lisa's faith in Jesus and her life experiences have given her a passionate heart for serving folks who are hurting. If you have a similar passion for this type of ministry, contact us today. Lisa can use some help taking the comfort of Christ to so many who need to meet Him.

COVID-19 UNCERTAINTY CAUSES FUNDRAISING EVENTS TO CHANGE

BANQUET (Sunday, August 9th): Due to ongoing COVID restrictions, we are unable to make definite plans regarding attendance or food service. Because of this, we are moving the banquet to a virtual format. The banquet program will be presented as a live stream, probably on Facebook Live, but those details are still being worked out.

If you purchased tickets to attend the banquet, you will be receiving an email on how to either obtain a refund or transfer the purchase price into a tax-deductible donation.

The banquet is our major fundraising event for the year. Please prayerfully consider how you can help us continue to grow the ministry of Emergency Chaplains, in spite of difficult times, by sponsoring this event.

5K/10K RUN FOR THE CHAPLAINS (Saturday, November 14th) No changes in schedule but we will be adding an option for a Virtual Run. Additional details to come.

MOTORCYCLE RIDE (Saturday, July 25th): Postponed. New date will be announced when scheduled.

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CHAPLAIN FIELD REPORTS

Our Crisis Response Teams in Durham and Person Counties have been able to respond to every call that they have received for service. COVID-19 precautions are in place and our Chaplains are staying as safe as possible. They are finding out that crisis and grief ministry are very difficult when you can't hug and hold people.

Chaplains in Person County visited with nurses at Person Memorial Hospital and medics at Person EMS to offer a "Blessing of the Hands." The picture to the right shows Chaplain Merritt Buchanan anointing the hands of nurses as he prayed over them.



Ministry Partners Brian and Linda Hardbarger prepared COVID Response Kits. Each kit included gloves, masks, shoe covers, goggles, and a thank you gift. Every Crisis Response Chaplain and several First Responders have received the kits.

Bahama Fire and Rescue is partnering with us to provide additional PPE (personal protective equipment) to make sure that our Chaplains are protected and in compliance with Standard Operating Guidelines. In Durham, EMS is providing any equipment that we need on scene. In Person County, EMS and the Roxboro Police Department are both providing PPE for Chaplains.

FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLE OF SOME OF THE ALMOST 100 CALLS FOR SERVICE OUR CHAPLAINS HAVE RESPONDED TO OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS.

Chaplains responded to a home where an invalid couple lived. What was thought to be a natural death scene turned into a homicide investigation when a family member admitted to administering non-prescribed morphine to the deceased. Grief Team will follow up as able.

Chaplains were requested to respond to a suicide scene. Before their arrival, the Haz-Mat Team and the Bomb Squad were both dispatched to the scene and the area was closed off. The Chaplains were able to speak with First Responders but never given clearance to talk to the family.

Two Chaplains responded to a homicide scene where a man had been shot and killed in the street, near his mother's house. Family members heard the gunshots and expressed concern that the murderer will return for them.

A man was found dead of a suspected heroin overdose in his home. One of the two children in the home at the time found his body. Chaplains assisted by helping move the children to a neighbor's house to spend the night. Chaplains also delivered the death notification to the man's wife when she arrived on scene.