



NET

April 26, 2006

**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR
READINESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY**

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DEAR FRIENDS OF NYDIS:

Welcome to **NYDISnet**, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about the work of NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives here in New York City.

When an emergency situation arises in New York City - our office will send out a **NYDISnet ALERT** to all subscribers. The alert will include all official information available through the NYC Office of Emergency Management and news from our members and partners.

Please feel free to copy and distribute any information from **NYDISnet** that you find helpful. If you would like to distribute **NYDISnet** to your agency staff or faith community leaders please let us know - we're happy to provide that service free of charge.

Faithfully, Peter

PETER B. GUDAITIS, M.DIV.
Executive Director & CEO

If you have some news to share or an upcoming event to publicize please contact yperry@nydis.org

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NYDIS NEWS AND EVENTS

■ **NYDIS Opens Registration for Third Annual Clergy Summit**

Register now for NYDIS's Third Annual Clergy Summit, to be held on Thursday, June 1, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, at NYU Kimmel Center. The day-long event will focus on best practices for clergy and religious leaders to empower and protect their congregations and communities through disaster preparedness. The keynote address will be delivered by Bishop Charles Jenkins of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana. The agenda includes guest speakers and experiential learning through a "tabletop" exercise interspersed with training briefs provided by trainers with expertise in various aspects of disaster response and preparedness. The tabletop exercise has been developed with Disaster Chaplaincy Services and the NYC Office of Emergency Management. There will also be a resource room with disaster planning and response materials displayed.

The event is free – breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Registration deadline: Friday, May 26 - Space is limited to 250

To register, [click here](#).

For more information contact:

The Rev. Susan Lockwood, Director, Disaster Planning & Training
212.669.6100

slockwood@nydis.org

■ NYDIS's Open Letter on Immigration Reform

In an Open Letter to the New Yorkers and the public on NYDIS's website, Executive Director Peter Gudaitis urges religious leaders and congregations to advocate for humane and comprehensive reform of immigration laws. Undocumented workers from Ground Zero represent over 40% of our client base at the Unmet Needs Roundtable. "It is up to you and up to all of us to ensure the nation we love survives the politics of fear, blame and blind reaction. Communities of faith are well represented in the debate on comprehensive immigration reform, which directly affects so many of our friends, families and neighbors" as well as our NYDIS clients.

NYDIS encourages its members and partners to oppose legislation which criminalizes undocumented immigrants and those who assist them. That would include us all - the faith-based disaster providers, social workers, houses of worship and their religious leaders. Our elected leaders need to know how we feel about this issue in order to ensure the passage of a progressive and compassionate reform bill.

To read Gudaitis's entire letter:

www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/04-24-06a.php

To find out how to contact your congressman in the House of Representatives:

www.house.gov/writerep

■ NYDIS/Partners Furniture Drive for NYC Katrina Evacuees



NYDIS, New York Cares, OEM, Praxis Housing and World Vision have partnered to sponsor a furniture collection and distribution drive on Saturday, April 29 to assist 30+ Katrina evacuee families living in the five boroughs.

To find out how you can help, contact:

Gili Chupak, Director, Katrina Evacuee Recovery

212.669.6108

gchupak@nydis.org

www.nyc.gov/oem

www.praxishousing.org

www.nycares.org

www.worldvision.org

■ NYDIS Invited to Trinity's Post-Disaster Roundtable in DC

Executive Director Peter Gudaitis has been invited to speak at a roundtable discussion exploring the interaction between the public and private sectors, the challenges of disaster relief, and the relevant lessons that can be applied to future response efforts. "Reflecting on Katrina, Rita and 9/11" is presented by The Trinity National Leadership Roundtable on Tuesday, May 23 in Washington, D.C. The forum will delve into the role of churches, non-profits, governments and business in disaster relief. The forum has met regularly since the 1970s for Episcopal leaders to discuss issues pertaining to worldwide outreach.

The facilitators are Walter Isaacson, President and CEO of The Aspen Institute and Vice-Chair of the Louisiana Recovery Authority and Carl Weisbrod, President of the Real Estate Division of Trinity Church Wall Street and member of the LMDC and a trustee of the Ford Foundation.

■ NYDIS ED to Present at Disaster Recovery Symposium

Executive Director Peter Gudaitis has been invited to speak **FIND** about developing interfaith recovery initiatives and how NYC has responded to serve Katrina Evacuee families' needs at the Gulf States Disaster Recovery Symposium to be held at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, FL on from Monday, June 5 to Tuesday, June 6. Symposium topics will include recovery projects, affordable housing innovations, available services/resources and existing or emerging special needs.

For program schedule and to register:

www.findflorida.org

For more information, contact:

Jody Hill, Executive Director, FIND
352.796.8387

■ NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable Updates

- **Client Inquiry Form Now Available Online**

To access the form:

www.nydis.org/unmetneeds/7.php



- **In-Service Training for Case Workers**

In-Service Training is required for case workers who have never presented a case at the Roundtable, and is recommended as a refresher for experienced case workers who have previously presented cases. All training sessions take place at NYDIS ([map](#)).

- **Tuesday, May 16 – 3:00–5:00 pm**
- **Monday, May 29 – 1:00–3:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, June 13 – 3:00–5:00 pm**
- **Monday, June 26 – 1:00–3:30 pm**

- **Roundtable Schedule**

The NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable brings together donors with agencies providing case management to 9/11 victims. Case Workers who would like to present a case must sign-up by Friday prior to the meeting of the Roundtable.

- **Thursday, May 4 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, May 18 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, June 1 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**
- **Thursday, June 15 – 9:30 am-12:00 noon**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case, contact Maggie Jarry, Moderator:

212.669.6105

mjarry@nydis.org

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■ Katrina Recovery Resources

For NYDIS's complete list of resources:

www.nydis.org/katrina

• **Katrina Evacuee Study Finds Declining Health**

In the April 18th issue of the NY Times, Shaila Dewan reported that a study conducted by the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University and the Children's Health Fund, found that families displaced by Katrina are suffering from mental disorders and chronic conditions like asthma and from a lack of prescription medication and health insurance at very high rates.



Among the findings, 34% of displaced children suffer from conditions like asthma, anxiety and behavioral problems and 14% went without prescribed medication at some point; and 44% of their parents and guardians had no health insurance. The study recommends expanding Medicaid to provide universal disaster relief and emergency mental health services, and sending doctors and counselors from the federal Public Health Service to the region.



To read the entire article, [click here](#).

www.ncdp.mailman.columbia.edu

www.childrenshealthfund.org/op_assist.php

• **Katrina Evacuee Artists Open Studio Weekend**

The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) has 15 artists from the Gulf States enrolled in their Gulf Coast Artist Residency and they are having an Open Studio April 28-30 at two locations, 120 Broadway and 200 Hudson St. It is free and reservations are required.



For more information about the Open Studios:

www.lmcc.net/art/programs/2006.4.29openstudios/index.html

www.lmcc.net

• **Art for Relief**

Praxis Housing Initiatives is raising money through "Art for Relief" to support the recovery and resettlement of evacuees in NYC. New York's leading artists and galleries are contributing works of art in a Silent Auction and Reception on May 16, "A Night for Katrina Survivors", which will feature over 50 works from artists such as Christo, Chuck Close, William Kentridge, Red Grooms, Joe Brainard, James Sienna, Nancy Chunn and many others. In addition, some artists are contributing limited print editions and an "Art for Relief" poster which are available for purchase. Funds raised will be distributed to a Katrina Evacuee Unmet Needs Roundtable currently being established by NYDIS.



For information and to support the campaign:

www.nyc4katrina.com

For information on the Roundtable, contact:

Gili Chupak, Director, Katrina Evacuee Recovery
212.669.6108

gchupak@nydis.org

- **Congratulations to FEMA & NY/NJ Partners**

The New York Federal Executive Board has awarded the Katrina Evacuee Interagency Team, FEMA and Partners-NY and NJ, their Direct Customer Service Award, to be presented at a luncheon ceremony on Wednesday, May 17 from 11:30 am-2:00 pm on Ellis Island. This interagency team provided frontline, one-on-one services to over 7,000 Katrina and Rita evacuee families who sought refuge in NY and NJ.



For information on the event and to RSVP, contact:

Cynthia Gable

212.264.1890

cynthia.gable@gsa.gov

www.newyorkcity.feb.gov

- **New Orleans Election Results & Resources**

On Saturday April 22, New Orleans held its first mayoral election since Hurricane Katrina. Despite that less than half the residents have returned to New Orleans, 80% who voted in 2002 voted in Saturday's election with the gap largely made up of displaced black residents. Many displaced residents traveled from neighboring states to cast their ballots. Turn-out was 36% for this election compared to the 2002 mayoral election of 46%. White voter turn-out is usually higher than black, but according to analysts the gap was about double the normal for this election, with about 20,000 absentee ballots received. A run-off election is scheduled for May 20 between the incumbent C. Ray Nagin who received 38% of the vote, and Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu who captured 29%. Ron Forman, a nonprofit executive, came in 3rd with 17% of the vote.

New Yorkers for the Gulf Coast is running a media campaign designed to heighten absentee voter participation among displaced Louisiana residents currently in the NY area. For more information on voting in the run-off election by absentee ballot see the resources below:

- Election Protection Coalition:
1.866.OUR.VOTE (1.866.687.8683)
www.lawyerscommittee.org/2005website/home/home.html
- [Election Protection Guide \(pdf\)](#)
- The Louisiana Secretary of State:
elections@sos.louisiana.gov
1.800.883.2805
www.sec.state.la.us/elections/elections-index.htm
- NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund website:
www.katrinavote.org

- **Lawmakers Call for 9/11 Responders Benefits**

After an autopsy of retired NYPD Detective James Zagroda revealed that

his death was a direct result of his toiling at ground zero, NY's elected officials are calling for full pension benefits for the families of 9/11 responders who worked there. The NY Daily News reported last week that Senator Chuck Schumer recommends "...to change the pension rules to reflect this sad reality," and Rep. Carolyn Maloney is looking into securing federal aid, "...if they died because of 9/11, their families deserve to be fully compensated."

[Click here](#) to read the NY Daily News article.

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FROM OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

- **World Trade Center Resource Guide**

The World Trade Center Permanency Project has put together a directory of services available in NYC for agencies working with the 9/11 impacted population. The guide includes complete information (names, contact info and services rendered) about organizations providing social services, education, recreation, public benefits, legal resources, mental health and health care clinics in all 5 boroughs.



For a copy, contact:
Joann Buttaro, NY Council on Adoptable Children
212.475.0222 x212
jbuttaro@coac.org

www.adoptioninstitute.org/wtcpermanency.html

- **WCC "Power of Recovery" Workshops**

World Cares Center will host the Columbia University Resilience Enhancement (CURE) workshop program, developed and conducted by senior faculty from Columbia University. The CURE program has been specially designed for individuals who have been affected by the 9/11 attacks. Though this program is not a treatment for PTSD, depression, or other psychological conditions, staff can assist in treatment referral. The CURE program is offered at NO COST.



CURE workshops are conducted in five weekly meetings at September Space Lower Manhattan, 11 Broadway, 11th floor. The next workshops are:

Group B: Tuesdays, May 16 - June 13, 12:00-2:00 pm
Group C: Tuesdays, June 20 - July 25, 5:30-7:30 pm

For more information and to participate, contact:
Kathryn Moroney
646.289.3098
kmoroney@worldcares.org

www.columbiatrauma.org
www.worldcares.org

- **Faithful Response Launches Website**

Presenting a new website in time for its first anniversary, Faithful Response offers free counseling to those still affected by 9/11 on Long Island.



Contact Michael Arcari, Executive Director:
michael@faithfulresponse.org

www.faithfulresponse.org

- **CISM Training**

Thursday, June 15 - Sunday, June 18
The Interchurch Center
475 Riverside Drive, Manhattan



The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF) is holding its 4-day Regional Conference, co-sponsored by Council of Churches of the City of NY (CCCNy) and Disaster Chaplaincy Services (DCS), with classes geared to chaplains working in disaster and crisis situations.

For registration details:

www.icisf.org

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PREPAREDNESS CORNER

- **NYPD Urges: If You See Something, Say Something!**

NYPD SHIELD is a program that offers private sector security managers (including security directors of houses of worship) a way to obtain information and engage Police resources. It provides a wide range of training to assist public and private sector entities in defending against terrorism, keeps them informed of developing situations and special event preparations in the city, and new intelligence and threat information. It is notable in that this initiative advocates a two-way street - information flowing in both directions. During counterterrorism deployments especially, the knowledge held by the public of buildings, blocks and neighborhoods, knowing what belongs and what is out of place, is crucial.



The 24-hour hotline is:
1.888.NYC.SAFE or 311 (In an emergency, always call 911.)
703.352.1846

creiss@riskinstitute.org

For contacts in each borough and more information:

www.nypdshield.org

- **Hurricane Preparedness**

- **NYC Hurricane Flood Zone Maps Available**

For a NYC flood zone map (areas that have a 1% or greater chance of flooding) that outlines the hurricane evacuation zones, [click here](#) (pdf download).

- **Coastal Storms and Hurricanes in NYC Basics**

To download a copy of OEM's "Ready New York: Hurricanes and New York City", [click here](#).

- **Inland Flooding**

Hurricanes produce storm surges, tornadoes, and often the most deadly of all, inland flooding. The National Hurricane Center instructs that this can be a major threat to communities hundreds of miles from the coast as intense rain falls from these huge tropical air masses.



www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/inland_flood.shtml

- **ARC Urges Family Preparedness for Severe Weather**

The American Red Cross (ARC) urges families and communities to be prepared as the threat of severe weather looms nearer to the East Coast. They provide shelters, meals and other emergency assistance to storm victims and recommend the following precautions:



- Create and Practice a Family Disaster Plan
- Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit
- Heed Storm Warnings: Listen to local radio and TV
- Prepare Your Home for High Winds

For details, [click here](#).

Call ARC representatives:
202.303.5551

- **Pandemic Preparedness**

- **We All Can Help Deter the Spread of Flu**

Dr. Isaac Weisfuse, deputy commissioner of disease control in NYC's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, suggests people practice what he calls "respiratory etiquette." He advises, "...cover your cough, cover your sneezes, wash your hands. Although those sound like old-fashioned things, they are actually important in terms of interrupting transmission of a respiratory agent like flu."



Contact Dr. Weisfuse at:
iweisfus@health.nyc.gov

www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cd/cd-avianflu-fs.shtml

- **How to Protect & Prepare Your Organization**

XBRM offers pandemic preparedness on-site training programs for your community, school or business organization and can develop customized protocols or a full pandemic preparedness plan.



www.nvo.com/smca/pandemicpreparedness
www.xbrm.com

- **Psychological First Aid in Times of Crisis**

The response to a pandemic may require travel restrictions, social distancing, closure of schools and businesses, and bans on public gatherings. The best source of



psychological support may be friends, family and co-workers immediately available to assist those experiencing extreme emotional distress. XBRM provides practical training in basic psychological first aid skills for organizations worldwide.

www.psychologicalfirstaid.com

• **White House Plans For Flu Response**

In the Washington Post on Sunday, April 16, Ceci Connolly reports that President Bush is expected to approve a national pandemic influenza response plan that identifies more than 300 specific tasks for federal agencies. This proposal attempts to spell out in some detail how the government would detect and respond to an outbreak, and continue functioning through such a crisis.

The Washington Post

To read the whole article, [click here](#).

■ **Is Your House of Worship Prepared?**

Susan Lockwood, Director, Planning & Training, is available to train the leadership and congregation members of your house of worship in disaster preparedness. NYDIS teaches the OEM Ready New York course on personal and household preparedness, how to make a Go Bag, and how houses of worship should prepare for ministry continuity. This training also offers instruction on self-care, disaster spiritual care, disaster management and ministry, and compassion fatigue.



To schedule a training, contact Susan:
212.669.6104
slockwood@nydis.org

■ **RNY Preparedness Guides**

OEM's Ready New York preparedness campaign is designed to help New Yorkers better prepare for all types of emergencies. The following preparedness guides and brochures are available online:



- Household Preparedness Guide
- Hurricanes and New York City
- Beat the Heat
- Seniors & People with Disabilities
- Emergency Planning for Small & Mid-Sized Companies
- Pet Preparedness
- Ready New York: Pocket Guide

To download these guides, [click here](#).

www.nyc.gov/html/oem

■ **Trauma Studies Training Program**

The International Trauma Studies Program (ITSP), based at Columbia University's Mailman



School of Public Health, is offering its September 2006-May 2007 program in trauma studies and community response to catastrophes. In addition to trauma theory and intervention, the practice of trauma responses through practical skill building for everyday work and life are emphasized. Located at 155 Avenue of the Americas. Admission deadline is May 31.

For more information, contact:

Jack Saul, Director
212.691.6499

info@itspnyc.org

For details on the curriculum and how to apply:

www.itspnyc.org/programs_training1.htm

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SAVE THE DATE

- **NYDIS/OEM Ready New York Training**



*Helping Houses of Worship
Better Prepare in the Event
of a Disaster*



NYDIS has teamed with the NYC OEM to provide six exciting and informative Ready New York events throughout the year on emergency preparedness. These free events focus on an all-hazard approach to personal, congregational, and community preparedness and are open to everyone of all faiths in each community. Refreshments will be served.

Dates, Times, and House of Worship Locations

Wednesday, May 24, 6:30-8:30 pm

Central Synagogue, Manhattan: 123 E. 55th St.

Tuesday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Staten Island: 225 St. Paul's Ave.

Sunday, August 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

Islamic Society of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn: 6807 5th Ave.

Tuesday, September 12, 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Helena's Roman Catholic Church, Bronx: 1315 Olmstead Ave.

Tuesday, October 10, 6:30-8:30 pm

Salvation Army-Harlem Temple, Manhattan: 540 Lenox Ave.

To register to attend one of these events, go to:

www.nydis.org/oem2006

If you require any special accommodations, please contact NYDIS at least five days before the event.

For more information about the events, call NYDIS:
212.669.6100

For more information about the NYC Office of Emergency Management's Ready New York Program:

www.nyc.gov/readyny

- **Forum on Anti-Racist Organizing**

Wednesday, May 3, 5:30-9:00 pm
Hunter College School of Social Work
79th St. and Lexington Ave.



Upon witnessing the victimization of Louisiana's poorest inhabitants during Katrina's devastating effects, hear the Undoing Racism Project's findings on applying the tactics and principles of anti-racist organizing in a disaster and engage in strategic dialogues to build relationships. Presented by the Anti-Racist Alliance.

RSVP to:

undoingracism@gmail.com

For more information, contact Sandy Bernabei at:
914.723.3222 option #2

ssbernabei@aol.com

www.antiracistalliance.com

- **9/11 Clean-Up Workers Expo**

Saturday, May 6, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Elmhurst Hospital Center
79-01 Broadway, Elmhurst, Queens



NYCOSH offers up-to-date information on the services and benefits available from 9/11 service provider agencies for ground zero clean-up workers who are still suffering from the effects of the disaster.

Contact Luzdary Giraldo, NYCOSH 9/11 Immigrant Project:
212.227.6440 x18

lgiraldo@nycosh.org

www.nycosh.org

- **Disaster Mental Health Impact and Recovery Seminar**

Tuesday, May 9, 6:00-8:00 pm
The New School's Lang Student Center, Arnhold Hall
55 West 13th Street



National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI-NYC) presents the "Impact and Recovery" seminar, where speakers Anand Pandya, MD, and Craig Katz, MD, editors of "*Disaster Psychiatry: Intervening When Nightmares Come True*", will review normal and potentially abnormal responses to man-made and natural disasters; and how to help ourselves and others to cope emotionally after a disaster.

Call the NAMI-NYC Helpline to RSVP:
212.684.3264

www.nami-nyc-metro.org/event1.htm

- **14th Annual National VOAD Conference**

Tuesday, May 9 - Friday, May 12



Hilton North Raleigh
3415 Wake Forest Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609



"Lighting The Way Together" will be the theme for this National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Conference.

To register, [click here](#).

For more information:

www.nvoad.org/annualconf1.php

- **Stress Management Workshops on Long Island**

Saturday, May 13 or Monday, May 22, 9:00 am–4:00 pm
Freeport Firehouse, Freeport, Long Island

LDRNY, Faithful Response, and Nassau County OEM are offering a free workshop on Comprehensive Acute Traumatic Stress Management (CATSM), featuring Dr. Ray Shelton, director of Professional Development, American Academy of Experts in traumatic stress.



To register, contact Michael Arcari, Faithful Response:
516.679.0080

help@faithfulresponse.org

www.ldrny.org

- **Community and Economic Recovery Conference**

Tuesday, May 16 - Wednesday, May 17
Sheraton New Orleans
500 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA



"Restoration 2006" is designed to empower government officials, non-profit and community representatives with useful information, strategies and connections to aid in long-term and sustainable community and economic redevelopment after a disaster.

To learn more:

restoration2006@icma.org

www.restoration2006.org

- **LI/NYC Emergency Management Conference**

"Back to Basics"
Wednesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 1
Huntington Hilton
598 Broadhollow Rd
Melville, Long Island, NY



For details, go to:

www.linycemconference.com

- **NY State VOAD Human Services Conference**

Tuesday, June 27 - Wednesday, June 28
Long Island University
C.W. Post Campus
720 Northern Blvd.



Brookville, Long Island, NY

For details on the workshops and to register:
Rebecca Buzon, NYSVOAD Coordinator
585.328.3380 x127
rebecca@foodlinkny.org

www.nysvoad.com

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN DISASTER SERVICES

- **FEMA Job Openings**

[Program Specialist – Grade 9 \[Headquarters\]](#)

[Program Specialist – Grade 11 \[Headquarters\]](#)

[Program Specialist – Grade 12 \[Headquarters\]](#)



- **Safe Horizon Seeks Community Outreach Coordinator**

Reporting to the Director of Emergency Planning and Preparedness, the Community Outreach Coordinator will manage the development and maintenance of the New York City CAN disaster resource database, including outreach, data collection and entry; maintain contact with agencies that provide disaster human services; integrate the CAN technology initiatives with Safe Horizon's case management system and resource database project; and other activities.



To apply, mail or fax resume with cover letter to Jeremiah Dameron, Director, Safe Horizon, 2 Lafayette Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10007. Fax: 212.577.3039.

www.safehorizon.org

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WE RECOMMEND...

- **Plainviews: E-Newsletter for Spiritual Care Providers**

Offers views on Professional Practice, Advocacy, Education & Research, and Spiritual Development. Sponsored by the HealthCare Chaplaincy in NYC and edited by NYDIS Board Member, Rev. Martha Jacobs. To subscribe, send your email address to info@plainviews.org.



www.plainviews.org

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MAKE A GIFT TO NYDIS

- **SUPPORT NYDIS - DONATE ONLINE:**

If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Fl., New York, NY 10007. NYDIS is a 501(c)(3) corporation and contributions are 100% tax deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.



To donate online, go to the NYDIS homepage and click "Make a Donation":

www.nydis.org

Want to receive NYDISnet via email? [Click here](#) for a free subscription!