

EMERGENCY RESPONSE INITIATIVE

WHO WE ARE: For over twenty years, New York City Clothing Bank has been the only program in New York City to distribute new apparel, toys and other goods to help New Yorkers in need. These items are of particular importance in the event of an unexpected emergency or disaster. Whether it's a building fire, a community flooding, or a coastal storm affecting the entire city, New York City Clothing Bank is ready to spring into action and help people when they need it most.

WHAT WE DO: As a key partner in New York City Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), New York City Clothing Bank helps the City of New York set up and staff a Disaster Assistance Service Center (DASC). This pop-up recovery center in the affected community area is set up within hours of the incident and offers centralized "one-stop" services for victims of the disaster. By visiting their neighborhood DASC, New Yorkers can receive anything from food and hygiene kits to new clothing. National and citywide partners in this initiative include:



HOW WE WORK: In the event of a disaster, New York City Clothing Bank is contacted by City officials and immediately develops an action plan based on the scope of the incident. If the incident is citywide, resources are quickly reallocated to provide new clothing to the victims. New York City Clothing Bank is the only partnering agency in the New York City chapter of VOAD whose primary responsibility is to distribute new clothes throughout the five boroughs.

HOW WE PROVIDE NEW BEGINNINGS: *"On behalf of the New York City Office of Emergency Management, we would like to extend our gratitude for New York City Clothing Bank's assistance... The Disaster Recovery Center was a large undertaking, and your agency's ability to quickly provide staff and services contributed greatly to our shared success."*

– Joseph Bruno - Commissioner, New York City Office of Emergency Management

"In responding to local emergencies, big or small, New York City Clothing Bank is a crucial partner for World Vision. They are able to provide a wide variety of brand new clothing for all ages at a moment's notice, and their willingness and ability to work alongside other nonprofits makes them an indispensable asset to the city."

– Tim Bomgardner - Storehouse Director, World Vision New York



BY THE NUMBERS

- 1** person needed to staff a Disaster Service Center anywhere in the five boroughs
- 3** types of disaster relief — citywide, community, single site — that New York City Clothing Bank helps coordinate
- 9** average number of families that need help after a local site disaster, such as a fire
- 109** families helped by New York City Clothing Bank in the August 2007 flooding disaster in Brooklyn and Queens
- 50,000** number of people that New York City Clothing Bank can dress on any given day
- 100,000** number of people that could potentially require assistance during a citywide emergency



New York City Clothing Bank is a program of Peter Young Housing, Industries & Treatment.

For more information please contact Luis Jimenez, Executive Director of the New York City Clothing Bank, at 718.492.4015 or pysclothing@aol.com.