



Minnesota
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

Officers

President
Ryc Lyden,
ARRL/ARES
ryclyden@gmail.com
651-434-4399

Vice President
Dorothy Maples
Salvation Army

Secretary
Steve Hartman
Red Cross

Treasurer
Dan Pietso
Red Cross

At – Large Members

Planning
Steve Hartman
Red Cross, MNDK Region
CMS Donald Vance
MN Wing, Civil Air Patrol

Michael Dyer
MN Wing, Civil Air Patrol

Thom Pegg
Nechama

Lt. Amanda Hines
The Salvation Army

Dick Anderson
Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints

Dr. Eshraga Omer
Islamic Circle of North America

Contact us at:
mnvoadleadership@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.mnvoad.org/>

**A skilled workforce that supports the
community with its time, expertise,
and resources in times of disaster.**

Dear: Chair Latz, Co-Chair Novotny and Co-Chair Moller,

On behalf of Minnesota Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MNVOAD), I am writing to express our support for legislation in support of the proposed construction of a Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) warehouse in Roseville. MNVOAD has over thirty disaster response organizations in our network, providing upwards of 90% of non-governmental disaster recovery.

The addition of this facility would be an invaluable asset to our community, especially during the unfortunately frequent times of crisis, when both natural and man-made disasters strike. It is my belief that the services provided by this warehouse will not only improve the efficiency of future State disaster responses but also serve as a lifeline for those who have been affected.

In times of emergency, one of the most pressing needs is for immediate access to critical supplies and resources. A local warehouse dedicated to disaster relief will provide ample space for safe storage and rapid distribution of necessary items such as food, water, blankets, first aid, and other life-saving supplies. With its large capacity, this warehouse will allow for an organized, immediate response, helping to alleviate logistical challenges that often arise in the aftermath of a major disaster.

Additionally, the proposed facility includes an industrial-scale kitchen, which will be essential in providing hot meals to first responders and survivors during any emergency. The ability to prepare and distribute thousands of meals on-site will ensure that those working tirelessly to assist others, as well as the affected individuals themselves, receive proper nutrition. This kitchen will provide a crucial point for the nourishment and care needed to sustain the efforts of those on the ground, and we believe it will be a critical component of disaster response in our area.

The Salvation Army has a long-standing history of helping during times of need, and we are confident that this warehouse will further their mission of compassion and service. This facility will not only enhance the Salvation Army's ability to respond more swiftly and effectively but will also strengthen the resilience of all our communities in the years ahead, for unpredictable crises that threaten lives and property.

Nothing currently in the State of Minnesota offers immediate access to material and supplies at the scale offered by the new Salvation Army warehouse proposal. There is clear public interest and benefit for the State of Minnesota for providing modest public funds for the costs of this project.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to seeing this project come to fruition and the positive impact it will undoubtedly have on our communities in times of need.

Ryc Lyden, President of Minnesota Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MNVOAD)