



# BECOME A CERTIFIED EMOTIONAL SPIRITUAL CARE VOLUNTEER (ESCV) FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Emergency Preparedness Coalition (EPC), in partnership with the Faith Community Working Group (FCWG) invites religious leaders and spiritual caregivers of all faiths to learn more about this two-day Emotional Spiritual Care Volunteer (ESCV) Training.

This training enables participants to serve as ESCVs in mass care settings or to serve as disaster/emotional trauma chaplains within their house of worship, religious community or professional institution. Upon successful completion of the training and a background check, you will be certified to work as a volunteer with the Montgomery County Emergency Preparedness Coalition (DHHS, Police, Fire, OHLS, OEMHS, Red Cross) and will receive an identification badge for such purposes.

Participants who complete this certification will be expected to assist the county in cases of disaster or other emergency situations. Emergency managers and disaster mental health professionals may take this course to develop their knowledge of disaster spiritual care best practices.

**REGISTER HERE:** <http://goo.gl/AqQrYs>

	Orientation	Training
<b>Date</b>	September 18, 2014	October 29 & 30
<b>Time</b>	2:00-4:00pm	8:30am-5:00pm (both days)
<b>Location</b>	Rockville Public Library, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room 21 Maryland Ave Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 777-0140	Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 762-7666 <i>(Continental breakfast, lunch, and training materials are included)</i>

### Key Responsibilities:

- Provide emotional and spiritual care support during disasters and practice exercises as required.
- Provide a rotating on-call support in case of emergency.
- Maintain a positive and consistent rapport with the volunteer base.
- Interact with Emergency Preparedness Coalition volunteers, management, and partner organizations in a professional manner.
- Be prepared to respond to major emergencies or disasters throughout the year beyond on-call weeks.
- Only deploy to Emergency sites when instructed.
- Provide a sense of spiritual safety and security as well as a sense of healing and hope.

### Qualifications:

- At least 3 years of experience in counseling services including serving as a clergy member, religious leader, mental health counselor or social worker. This includes having practiced emotional and/or spiritual care of others (this can include pastoral care or youth mentoring).
- Endorsement by a senior religious leader/supervisor to be certified as an ESCV (this can be provided in the form of a letter or an email)
- Must be at least 21-years old
- Willingness to submit to and pass a police criminal background check

### The Course Curriculum Incorporates:

Operations & Spiritual Care: General Principles, Interventions, Sites and Specifics	Mental Health: Introduction, Impact of Disaster, Response and Reaction	Self-Care: The Need and Techniques, Individual and Community Resilience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotional and spiritual phases of the disaster "life cycle"</li> <li>• Spiritual First Aid: PCAID (Presence, Connect, Assessment, Intervention, Develop Plan of Care) as an intervention appropriate in any phase of a disaster</li> <li>• Disaster human services operations and disaster site operations</li> <li>• Practice in applying principles of spiritual and emotional care in various disaster scenarios</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phases of psychological reaction to disaster and impact on behaviors, thoughts, &amp; feelings</li> <li>• Psychological First Aid as a basic intervention that does not require professional training</li> <li>• Indicators that referrals for professional mental health care may be appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for caregivers to develop effective self-care practices</li> <li>• Practices that minimize compassion fatigue ("the cost of caring") and other stresses related to providing care in times of crisis</li> <li>• Strategies to promote recovery and resiliency, especially through support systems that monitor, nourish and maintain self-care for individuals and communities</li> </ul>