



Victorian Council of Churches

Emergencies Ministry Update

306 Little Collins Street Melbourne 3000 03 - 9654 1736
emergencies@vcc.org.au

January 2010

New Contact Information

The Emergencies Ministry now has a dedicated phone number and email address.

Phone: 9654 1736

Email: emergencies@vcc.org.au

- State Coordinator:
Graeme Winterton 0427.002.264
winterton@datafast.net.au
- Assistant State Coordinator:
Stuart Stuart 0407.212.438
stutwo@aapt.net.au

Bushfires Memorial Services

Services of remembrance are being arranged by local recovery committees in each community affected by last year's fires. The Victorian Bushfires Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBRRA) in conjunction with the VCC will conduct a central service in Melbourne at 12:00 noon on February 7th. at St. Paul's Cathedral.

New Incident Coordination Centre

Convergence and confusion during last year's events has led to the implementation of new personal support coordination protocols by the Department of Human services.

As a part of the new arrangements the VCC has established and equipped an Incident Coordination Centre (ICC) in the Little Collins Street office.

The Centre will be responsible to deploy and coordinate the response of the faith communities to emergency events.

All chaplains and personal support workers as well as denominational involvement in the public sector will be administered through the ICC.

The centre will be staffed by representatives from VECN member churches and opened at the request of the DHS Emergency Coordination Centre. It has the ability to function upon a three shift twenty-four hour basis.

The Victorian Emergency Chaplaincy Network (VECN)

The Central register of trained clergy and personal support workers continues to expand and presently numbers 1071 persons drawn from twenty-one faith communities.

Personnel

Additional funding provided by DHS has enabled the Emergencies Ministry to employ a part time office assistant to manage the database and assist with some office administration. Gemma Creegan is available on Mondays and Tuesdays and can be contacted via the dedicated Emergencies Ministry email and phone line.

2010 Emergency Ministry Training

Stuart Stuart coordinates training. Level 1 Personal Support briefings for lay people will be conducted in the evening of the same day as Level 2 Chaplaincy briefings as follows:

- FRANKSTON / MORNINGTON March 16th
- SHEPPARTON March 23rd.
- WANGARATTA April 20th
- FOOTSCRAY May 11th.
- BENDIGO May 18th.
- DANDENONG June 10th.
- BALLARAT June 22nd.
- MELBOURNE July 20th.

To register and for further information contact the VCC Emergencies Ministry office.

Action Please!

Have you received your Photo ID card?

Some people are yet to provide a jpeg photo or a copy of their police check or WWC document. ID cards cannot be issued until documentation is complete. .