

Tips for a Meaningful Deployment

1. You will have a specific duty assignment. Stay engaged in your assignment until your Supervisor reassigns you. Your team depends on you to complete your assignment.
2. You may have many skills in many areas. We are grateful for all those skills. Use the skills you have appropriately in your assigned duties.
3. We honor the vulnerability of the victims, survivors, and others who have been impacted by disasters.
 - a. Please be sensitive in your language and behavior if you engage with any of them. We are respectful by not using profanity, making empty promises, or asking probing questions about sensitive matters.
 - b. Please respect the privacy of those we serve by maintaining a respectful physical distance when talking and listening. Hugs may be unwanted or threatening to some people. Taking photos is usually inappropriate and invasive – ask your Supervisor first.
 - c. Prayer is a meaningful and regular part of our lives. Most people welcome kind and sensitive prayer. We always ask permission to pray, knowing that it might not be a welcome spiritual intervention. Ask the client what he/she would like you to pray about. Prayers should be short, specific, and spontaneous.
 - d. Women and children are especially vulnerable during disasters and crises. We protect them and ourselves from misunderstandings and public scrutiny by allowing our female chaplains to engage with them. When men engage with women or children, we require at least the company of two people during the conversation or engagement whenever possible.
4. We are sensitive to the diversity we serve. Remember to provide ministry services in a respectful and appropriate way.
5. We treat everyone with respect and dignity, never prioritizing one person because of race, religion, or political preference. The principle of universality is essential in supportive services.
6. We do not engage in controversial issues. We remain neutral to politics, and other divisive issues.
7. Our mission is to support those who have been impacted by disasters and other crises. Therefore, we do not intend to personally gain in any way by our service, ministry, or compassionate care.