



## **Mission:**

The South County Airport Pilots Association (SCAPA) Disaster Airlift Response Team (DART) stands ready to provide volunteer emergency airlift services to aid local communities' disaster response after a cataclysmic event which impairs regional surface transportation.

## **How we fly**

The SCAPA DART sets up a ground and flight operation supported by participating volunteers and pilots. We fly no-charge transport missions with airplanes and helicopters operating under CFR Part 91 flight regulations. We match the capabilities and capacities of pilots and their aircraft to the people and goods who need to go somewhere after a disaster. We check the pilot license, medical, and insurance of participating pilots, and log the weights of materiel and people to assign payloads within the operating envelope of participating aircraft. All participating pilots, volunteers, and passengers acknowledge the risks involved and sign release-of-liability waivers. Pilots certify that they will fly according to CFR Part 91 rules.

## **General Aviation pilots assist after the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989:**

We were inspired to form the SCAPA DART by the experiences of our pilots who participated in the Disaster Airlift for Watsonville and Santa Cruz after the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989. These cities were totally cut off for several days. See the short documentary movie on the Loma Prieta Disaster Airlift at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISpT0p4XY\\_A&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISpT0p4XY_A&feature=youtu.be). This ad hoc airlift flew one half million pounds of urgently needed food and supplies into Watsonville in just a few days.

## **Mutual aid with other pilot organizations**

We encourage pilot associations at all airports to set up their own Disaster Airlift Response Teams. To that extent, we make our Disaster Airlift Response Plan freely available to help other organizations get a quick start on getting organized. We have contacts with people in 13 different pilot organizations where we have each indicated that we would attempt to utilize our resources to provide aid if one of our organization's local community has a disaster occur which impairs regional transportation.

## **The Evolution of SCAPA DART**

The idea of having this SCAPA DART was first discussed by the SCAPA Board of Directors in 2008. After struggling with how to approach this issue, the first Disaster Airlift Response Plan (DARP) was authored by Co-Chair Rod Pharis and presented at the initial Disaster Airlift Response Team table top training session in June of 2011. The plan underwent further development, was reissued, and then a first practice mobilization was conducted in November, 2013. After further development, the DARP was

reissued as version 2.0. Outside organizations began to take notice of what we were doing, and in 2014, the SCAPA DART was awarded \$10,000 from the AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) Foundation and \$5000 from the Northrop Grumman Corporation to assist us in acquiring needed capital equipment and supplies. With the further efforts of Co-Chair Paul Marshall, the SCAPA DART acquired its equipment and developed numerous contacts within the regional emergency management community. SCAPA DART's second mobilization exercise in April 2015 included the participation of numerous agencies, hospitals, charities, and volunteers. Practice missions were flown simulating the local transport of emergency workers, the bringing in of food and supplies, the evacuation of local residents, and the transport of ambulatory injured people to distant hospitals.

### **Further Information on SCAPA DART**

You can read and download a variety of related materials about SCAPA DART and organizing disaster airlift response teams. If you are reading this document electronically, simply paste this URL into your browser and go directly to our web page -

[http://www.southcountypilots.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=143&Itemid=59](http://www.southcountypilots.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=143&Itemid=59) . If

you are reading this document as a piece of paper, it is easier to go to the main SCAPA web page at [www.southcountypilots.org](http://www.southcountypilots.org) and then click on SCAPA DART on the left hand side of the home page.

The pilots and ground volunteers of SCAPA DART thank our major funding sponsors

