**Resolution for Somerset County Recovery**

**WHEREAS Super Storm Sandy (October 29-30, 2012) caused considerable damage to lives and homes in Somerset County, MD, and**

**WHEREAS the Delaware-Maryland Synod and its congregations, Lutheran Disaster Response, Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, Lutheran Partners in Disaster Response and many congregations of the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod have been supportive of the Recovery Effort, and**

**WHEREAS the Rev. Phillip C. Huber, and the Rev. Thomas G. Sinnott, representing Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Partners in Disaster Response, have been instrumental in helping form the Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee (SCLTRC), Inc., (a 501(c)(3) organization) and coordinating the long term recovery effort, and**

**WHEREAS the SCLTRC is composed of an ecumenical, faith-based and non-profit partnership, which includes Episcopal Disaster Relief, Mennonite Disaster Services, American Red Cross, United Methodist Committee on Relief, the United Way, International Orthodox Christian Charities, Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware, Catholic Charities, Chesapeake Conference of 7th Day Adventist, 31 other partner agencies, and**

**WHEREAS the SCLTRC has a staff of seven persons (Case Manager, Case Worker, Office Administrator/Volunteer Coordinator, Manager of Construction Operations, Construction Superintendent, Data Technician, Volunteer Camp Manager), and**

**WHEREAS to date the SCLTRC and it’s Staff have:**

* **Engaged over 1,000 Disaster Volunteers**
* **Served over 700 individuals and 361 families**
* **Repaired over 175 homes**
* **Built 5 new homes**
* **Presently constructing 6 new homes**
* **Have 12 new homes remaining to be built**
* **Have over 65 homes remaining to be repaired, and**

**WHEREAS Lutheran Disaster Response has recently provided $207,000 in staff support funding for the first 9 months in 2015 which establishes the date of September 30, 2015 as the ending date of our long term recovery efforts in Somerset County, and**

**WHEREAS there is a projected $360,000 shortage in funding needed to complete the recovery effort in Somerset County, and**

**WHEREAS we are now half-way through the long term recovery effort and need a surge of energy and resources to complete the ministry we have been called to:**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly encourages its congregations, agencies and institutions to renew their support of the on-going rebuilding efforts in Somerset County by offering their financial support, prayers, and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Synod Assembly recognizes the opportunity for mission in Somerset County, MD by encouraging its congregations to send work crews, work camp cooks, and long term recovery office volunteers to Somerset County to assist in the reconstruction efforts.**

**Submitted by the following:**

**Pastor Phillip Huber, Transforming Ministry Assoc**

**Pastor Thom Sinnott, Retired**

**Pastor Timothy Leitzke, Tree of Life, Odessa and Dean of Delmarva Confernece**

**Pastor Terry Landgon, Faith, Salisbury**

**Pastor Gregg Knepp, St Peter, Ocean City**

**Pastor Tormod Svensson, St. John, Cumberland**

**Pastor Jerrett Hansen, Journey of Faith, Baltimore**

**Pastor Laura Ingersol, Journey of Faith, Baltimore**

**Pastor Susan Tjornehoj, Christ, Baltimore**