



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) To Join National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (National VOAD)**

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation (FAIC) is pleased to join the ranks of the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (National VOAD). Founded in 1970, National VOAD is a forum for organizations to share resources and knowledge throughout all phases of disasters, empowering those organizations that serve disaster survivors and their communities.

National VOAD is the primary point of contact for voluntary organizations in the National Response Coordination Center (at FEMA headquarters) and is a signatory to the National Response Plan. The mission of National VOAD is to provide a forum for promoting cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration; and foster a more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster. Through these organizational efforts, National VOAD members help leverage resources, develop new partnerships, and determine points of consensus.

FAIC established the National Heritage Responders (NHR, formerly known as “AIC Collections Emergency Response Team” or “AIC-CERT”) in 2007 as part of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF) response to the needs exposed after Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. More than 100 volunteers were trained with the same heritage response team curriculum, and have provided vital services by phone, email, and in person.

FAIC looks forward to collaborating with other members of National VOAD as we share information from the heritage responder community with those working in other sectors. Membership in National VOAD provides a valuable opportunity to work closely with other voluntary organizations to help build stronger and more resilient communities.

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**About FAIC** The Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works supports conservation education, research, and outreach activities that advance the conservation profession nationally and internationally while promoting understanding of our global cultural heritage. Learn more about FAIC at [www.conservation-us.org/foundation](http://www.conservation-us.org/foundation)

**About National VOAD** National VOAD, an association of organizations that mitigate and alleviate the impact of disasters, provides a forum promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration; and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster. Learn more about National VOAD at [www.nvoad.org](http://www.nvoad.org)