



WHEN DISASTER STRIKES, CODE SAVES LIVES.

Q&A with Tony Surma, Co-Founder of Humanitarian Toolbox:

When was HT founded?

We founded the Humanitarian Toolbox in 2014. We came up with the concept during a Visual Studio .NET Rocks Tour!

What are your top priorities at this point?

Our top 3 goals right now are to: launch the 3-4 applications we've built, including a 'Crisis Check-In' application, and help them gain traction; identify Project Leaders and other key volunteers, encouraging more non-open source Developers to get involved; and scale efforts.

Who and how do you help?

We're focused on helping nonprofits who primarily assist with disaster response, providing open source solutions that can support multiple nonprofit organizations. We've built about 3-4 open source applications. The main one, 'Crisis Check-in,' provides the ability for people to communicate if they're going to be at a crisis, and when they'll be able to get there. It helps to identify which personnel will be there, which organizations they're from, and the time frames of when they'll be there. This helps with resource allocation and management of crisis relief efforts.

What are the main types of tech volunteers that you need?

We need Project Leads, Developers, Designers and Testers.

When are there opportunities to help?

Since all of the issues and code is virtually available via GitHub, volunteers can help whenever. We also host code-a-thons and test-a-thons at some of the larger Professional Software Development conferences, such as That Conference, CodeMash, Grace Hopper Open Source Day, Star West and Star East QA Conferences and DevIntersection.

How can potential technical volunteers learn more and get involved?

Check out our website and sign up. You can also follow our Blog and Twitter. If you want to start contributing immediately, you can review requirements, issues and code via GitHub! We have between 4-10 code check-ins a week via GitHub.

About Humanitarian Toolbox

Come together, Build tools, Help the world!

- A massive storm floods Manhattan - **and people need to find shelter quickly.**
- Drought hits the Horn of Africa - and **smart delivery of food supplies saves lives.**
- An earthquake rocks Mumbai - and **first responders need to know where to go minute by minute.**

Responding to disasters like these means boots on the ground—but we can help responders do more with less when we see them as coding challenges. Do you want to use your skills to do some good and learn along the way?

Together a few sharp minds can save lives and make a real difference.

That's the mission of the Humanitarian Toolbox. We connect people like you with organizations in need of your expertise. You can build the next generation of life-saving tools and refine them to meet new needs as they arise. We maintain and deploy this 'toolbox' of solutions quickly to get them in the hands of those making a difference. Everything we build is open-source and part of an open ecosystem so the tools can be adapted, integrated and deployed to particular situations as they evolve.

Please join us - regardless of your experience in open source or whether you are or want to be a coder, tester, designer, or something else - your skills can save lives!

Humanitarian Toolbox is a 501(c)3 organization. Visit www.htbox.org for more information.