1- The mission of donations management is to provide a comprehensive process that organizes the giving, receiving and distribution of both solicited and unsolicited (or undesignated) donated cash and goods so that the maximum benefit is derived for the disaster survivors or people in crisis.

2- The donations management process will treat disaster survivors with respect, courtesy and non-discrimination.

3- The principles of the four “Cs”: Cooperation, Communication Coordination, and Collaboration should be exercised at all times.

4- Donations management activities span the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

5- Donations (cash, donated goods and services) with cash being best should primarily go to Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).

6- The donations management function should work to assist communities and donors to donate responsibly through education, relationship building and sharing of donations management best practices.

7- Messaging to the public (donors, communities, partner organizations, etc.) is critical to success and must be well structured, timely, planned and well coordinated to address the combined informational needs of explaining how to donate cash, goods and volunteer services.

8- Plans should fully utilize voluntary organizations and partner organizations to manage donated goods through their strategic and unique skill sets.
9- Donations management uses a team approach engaging government, voluntary, community based organizations, businesses, and faith-based organizations.

10- Donations management uses a flexible approach that adapts to changing size, scope, cultural and local conditions before during and after an event.

11- Donations management will use information management systems that include but are not limited to the National Donations Management Network (NDMN) Tool.

12- Voluntary organizations agree to partner with state and local governments, which have key leadership roles in policy making and in the management of donated cash goods and volunteer services.

13- Fiduciary accountability, responsibility and transparency are key components of a comprehensive donations management plan.

14- Strategic and proper use of facilities is essential to good donations management. Facility types include but are not limited to: PODs, staging areas, warehouses, collection centers, distribution centers, and transportation/ technology hubs.

15- The National VOAD Donations Management Committee supports the donations management function through information dissemination, policy/plan development and training.