

Clear Lake man leads hurricane cleanup team

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A Clear Lake native is one of the workers helping rebuild hurricane-ravaged Florida.

Kipp Dubow, 27, is leading an AmeriCorps team.

He's been to Gainesville and Punta Gorda, Fla., and now is in Fort Myers. His team is expected to be in Florida for about three weeks.

Other Central Minnesotans, including volunteers with the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross, spent time in



Kipp Dubow
Serves on
AmeriCorp team

Florida to help with cleanup efforts.

The duties of Dubow's team include linking people to services and cleaning up some of Florida's devastated areas.

Florida was pummeled in late summer by four hurricanes that caused major destruction and forced hundreds of thou-

Service details

AmeriCorps members must complete at least 1,700 hours of service during the 10-month program. They receive \$4,725 to help pay for college or school loans. For information, go to www.americorps.org.

sands of residents to evacuate.

Dubow called the aftermath "horrible."

"The first thing we saw ... were five giant metal street lights bent completely over,"

said Dubow, a University of Minnesota graduate.

Many Floridians are frustrated by what happened but welcome the help, he said.

"Everyone has been happy to see us and really receptive," he said.

Dubow is the son of Pat and Jim Dubow of Clear Lake. Pat Dubow said she's proud of what her son does.

"He's the type of person that a parent loves to have call home, because no matter what he's doing he's happy doing it," Pat Dubow

said. "He feels like he's making a difference in Florida."

Dubow is one of more than 100 AmeriCorps members sent to Florida this month, according to information from AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps.

The disaster call came as many of the teams were planning to go to their first service assignment.

When they are finished in Florida, Dubow and his team members will go to Oregon, where they will build fences.