



**American
Red Cross**

Hurricane Matthew

Six-Month Update | April 2017

Red Cross Continues Assisting Hurricane Survivors in U.S.

Last fall, Hurricane Matthew's high winds and torrential rains battered the U.S. from Florida to Virginia. After the hurricane passed, swollen rivers across the Carolinas caused devastating flooding that inundated homes and communities for over a week.

The slow-moving storm caused widespread damage to property and infrastructure, while flooding displaced thousands of people from their homes. Many affected families had no place to go, or had fled homes with little more than the clothes on their backs. In response, thousands of American Red Cross disaster workers from across the country mobilized alongside local volunteers and employees—many of whom were also affected by the massive hurricane—to bring swift relief.

Thanks to our generous donors, the Red Cross provided shelter from the storm, food and water, relief supplies, basic health services and sorely needed emotional support for people facing devastating losses. And as hard-hit families began returning to their flooded-out

homes to clean up and salvage their belongings, Red Cross response vehicles traveled through the impacted areas with meals, water and essential cleanup supplies.

In flood-ravaged Lumberton, N.C., John Blackburn and his mother saw their home completely destroyed by the surge of water that followed Hurricane Matthew. The floodwaters sat more than three feet high during the height of the storm and lingered for several days. Despite the loss, John's spirits were high. "The Red Cross volunteers are angels," he said. "They have helped me so much."

Matthew is estimated to be the costliest hurricane to strike the U.S. since Hurricane Sandy in 2012—causing billions of dollars in damage to homes and businesses. After emergency relief operations ended, the Red Cross, with our strong local presence in affected communities, worked with hurricane survivors to plan their recovery, identify unmet needs and locate available resources to get back on their feet.

Response at a Glance

Thousands of American Red Cross workers—over 90 percent volunteers—mounted a massive response to help people devastated by Hurricane Matthew across five states, including Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.



More than **1.4 million** meals and snacks



378 shelters supported with over **100,000 overnight stays**



More than **460,700** relief items distributed



More than **39,500 health and mental health contacts** made



More than **10,700 cases** opened for people in need

—Cumulative figures as of March 21, 2017

Above: Kendrick, Katlynn and Savannah are eager to eat lunch during cleanup efforts from severe flooding in Lumberton, N.C. Their home was severely damaged by floodwater and without power for days after the storm. Daniel Cima/American Red Cross

Community Partnerships Help Families Recover

Many families impacted by Hurricane Matthew’s destruction are now embarking on the long process of rebuilding their lives. To help meet their particular needs, the Red Cross is working closely with our non-profit and government partners—as well as participating in ongoing community long-term recovery committees.

One of those partners quickly joined us to help people in Eastern North Carolina. Matthew Whittle, executive director of Habitat for Humanity in Goldsboro, N.C., created a voucher program for families affected by the storm to purchase items from the Habitat for Humanity ReStore—including furniture, appliances, building materials and more—at a fraction of retail price.

“When you see the community impacted so deeply, you find some way to help. This was a way for us to do that,”

Whittle said. “We appreciated the Red Cross and other agencies working to get the word out [about the voucher program] so folks could take advantage of it.”

Jessica Depee, of Goldsboro, was one of the first Red Cross referrals to Habitat for Humanity after the hurricane. Floodwaters rose about three feet in her home, forcing her boyfriend and their five children to evacuate. The family relied on relief from the Red Cross to get through the disaster and its immediate aftermath—then were grateful to find help from Habitat for Humanity as they began to refurnish their home.



Jessica Depee and family received vital help from the Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity after Matthew-related flooding inundated their Goldsboro, N.C., home. Photo courtesy of Jessica Depee.

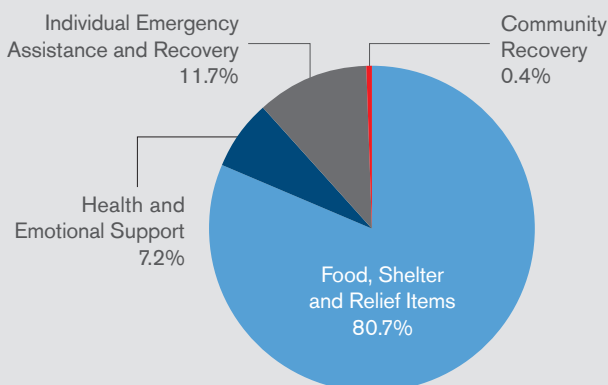
Generous Donations Support Relief, Recovery in the United States

As of March 21, 2017, the Red Cross has spent or made commitments to spend approximately \$22.5 million, including the value of critical donated goods and services, to support emergency relief and recovery efforts for Hurricane Matthew in the U.S. Thanks to support from

generous donors, the Red Cross has raised \$19.5 million specifically designated to help people affected by Hurricane Matthew in the U.S. Costs above this amount will be covered by donations made to general disaster relief.

Hurricane Matthew in the U.S. – Expenses and Commitments* through March 21, 2017

\$22.5 M (\$19.5M raised)



*These costs include the logistics, staff and technology expenses that make our services possible, as well as the value of critical donated goods and services. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs.

Food, Shelter and Relief Items: Red Cross volunteers and employees open shelters to provide safe refuge, serve nourishing meals to residents and first responders, and hand out needed relief items.

Individual Emergency Assistance and Recovery: The Red Cross works one-on-one with people to create recovery plans, find housing solutions, replace items, provide other support and help them apply for government and other community assistance.

Health and Emotional Support: Our volunteers and employees help provide services such as first aid support, replacing prescription medicines or eyeglasses, and helping people to cope.

Community Recovery: The Red Cross supports broader recovery initiatives to help communities meet specific disaster-caused needs, such as community rebuilding projects.

American Red Cross Helps Restore Livelihoods, Meet Recovery Needs in Haiti

Six months after Hurricane Matthew’s landfall in Haiti, the American Red Cross continues to work with the Haitian Red Cross to assist families in need. In the hurricane’s immediate aftermath, we distributed tens of thousands of relief supplies like shelter kits, hygiene items and mosquito nets in affected communities. We also provided cholera prevention supplies and educated residents on prevention and treatment—as well as mobilized hundreds of volunteers to raise awareness of the government’s emergency cholera vaccination campaign.

Today, American Red Cross efforts have transitioned to early recovery initiatives, with a focus on income-generating activities. Storm-related livestock and crop losses wrecked the livelihoods of many residents and led to food shortages. By funding Heifer International, we are replacing lost business assets such as livestock, seeds and plant cuttings for hundreds of families. Mobile veterinary clinics have also been touring localities offering free animal care.

The American Red Cross is also launching an innovative cash transfer program that provides Haitians with financial support to acquire local goods and services that best fit

their particular recovery needs. These unconditional cash grants will also infuse funds into local economies, supporting community recovery. This multi-purpose cash transfer will help families meet urgent needs without taking on additional debt.

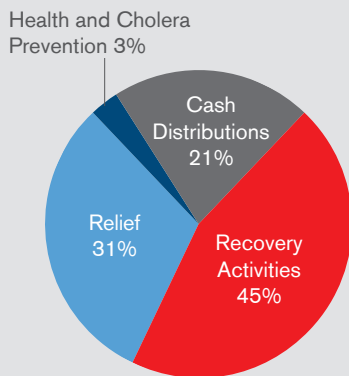
Finally, as part of our ongoing work to help Haitians prepare for future disasters, we are training residents on skills such as first aid to help increase local emergency response capacity and reduce disaster risks. When the next disaster strikes, quick access to relief items for families in need will be crucial. That’s why the American Red Cross and the Haitian Red Cross are working to replenish our vital stock of relief supplies that were depleted by Hurricane Matthew.

Generous Donations Support Relief, Recovery in Haiti

Thanks to compassionate supporters, the Red Cross has raised \$4 million to help people impacted by Hurricane Matthew in the Caribbean, including Haiti, as of March 21, 2017. Costs above this amount will be covered by internal and external sources.

Hurricane Matthew in the Caribbean Expenses and Commitments* Through March 21, 2017

\$5.0M (\$4.0M raised)



Relief: Includes the distribution of relief items such as shelter materials and tools, cooking supplies, blankets and hygiene items.

Health and Cholera Prevention: Includes health activities in health centers and at the community level, such as the provision of cholera prevention kits and education campaigns, water purification supplies and mosquito nets.

Cash Distributions: Includes unrestricted cash grants that allow individuals and families to purchase what they need to meet their particular recovery needs.

Recovery Activities: Includes livelihoods support and the replacement of lost economic assets such as livestock, seeds and tools to help people resume income-generating activities; as well as supplies and training to repair damaged homes and improve residents’ water and sanitation.

*These costs include the logistics, staff and technology expenses that make our services possible. Figures are estimates and could change. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. Commitments and funds raised include \$1.36 million in funding from USAID for response and early recovery.

American Red Cross Helps Fight Threat of Cholera

In the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, 40-year-old Jeannie Celestin found refuge with her family in the public high school in the Port-à-Piment commune. She and her four children, husband, sister and mother lived for several days in a small classroom, along with three other families who also lost everything.

When Jeannie's son Benito became sick, his mother thought at first it was indigestion. But three days after the first symptoms appeared, Jeannie realized during a visit by a Red Cross volunteer that her son was suffering from cholera. The volunteer helped her locate the nearest cholera treatment center.

During the same week, Charita, Jeannie's mother, also fell ill. "I did not understand what happened to me," she explains. "It looks like the sky was about to fall upon my head. I was really scared for my family."

With American Red Cross support, life-threatening cholera outbreaks have been reduced in Port-à-Piment and other communes in the south of Haiti where the threat was greatest. We have worked with the Haitian Red Cross and government partners to support cholera prevention, as well as to distribute hygiene and cholera prevention kits in affected communities and cholera treatment centers.

Jeannie heard from Red Cross volunteers about the immunization campaign taking place in her area and decided to get immunized, along with her entire family.

"If we had been vaccinated before, we would have been able to avoid these illnesses in the family," she says. "Thanks again to Red Cross volunteers, I know now how to prevent myself, my family and neighbors from being victims of cholera."



On December 2, 2016, Dr. Micherose Gauthier of the American Red Cross speaks to a group of beneficiaries receiving cholera kits in Tiburon in Haiti's Sud Department, which was heavily affected by the cholera outbreak following Hurricane Matthew. Anderson Laforet/American Red Cross

Thank you!

The American Red Cross must be prepared to respond quickly when disasters occur—across the country and around the world. From home fires that affect a single family to hurricanes that impact millions, those in need turn to the Red Cross in their darkest hours because they know they can depend on us with vital relief when it's needed most. Your donation helps us fulfill this promise. We are grateful for your trust.