



Hurricane Harvey UPDATE



Source.

A Message from the Tribal Council

It's been seven days since Hurricane Harvey's landfall late Friday, August 25, and it is the strongest storm to make landfall in the United States since Charley in 2004. ([Source.](#)) We are mindful of the devastation left in the wake of this natural disaster and are organizing assistance efforts. Our thoughts and prayers remain with those impacted by Harvey, especially our Tribal Members and their families who are experiencing this horrific event.

What's Being Done?

Our Family Services Department (FSD) and Emergency Management Team (EMA) have been diligently working with the appropriate agencies to provide the assistance we can at this time. FSD has made an initial outreach to our Tribal Members affected in Texas. To date, those with which contact has been made are safe and secure. Applications for those needing assistance are being received and processed. **If you have been affected by Hurricane Harvey and would like to check in with FSD, or if you need help with acquiring assistance, please reach out to [them](#).**

In the event of a disaster, there are standard procedures that our EMA follows. These procedures are in place to: (1) ensure the safety of our team members and (2) make certain our efforts are being used where they are most needed. To self-deploy is unwise as it puts our folks in an unsafe situation (as the road conditions and ability to acquire gas and other essential supplies is unknown among many other factors). Therefore, it is imperative to wait until there is an actual call for help. Our team has now received its assignment and will be joining the efforts in Houston. We pray they are successful in their mission and remain safe.

I Want To Help. What Can I Do?

We've received many inquiries regarding what you can do to help. At this time, we recommend donating to a reputable organization (a list is provided on the following page). While we've considered various supply drives, we believe our resources will go much further if we partner with organizations who are experts in disaster relief and recovery efforts. During Katrina and other natural disaster efforts, there were instances of clothing and other items that were simply unused because they did not meet the actual needs ([Source.](#)). We want to be wise stewards of our resources, and again, we encourage you to donate if you'd like to help with these efforts. No amount is too small!

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CHARITABLE

ORGANIZATIONS

HELPING OTHERS IN TIME OF NEED



Joe Raedle/Getty Images

Source.

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) lists national organizations that include ways to make a donation in the event of a disaster, such as Hurricane Harvey and its impacts on the Houston, TX area and other surrounding areas.

Listed below are several of the National VOAD organizations. A full list is available [here](#).

Adventist Community Services.

[Donate.](#)

American Red Cross.

[Donate.](#)

AmeriCares.

[Donate.](#)

Mennonite Disaster Service.

[Donate.](#)

[Volunteer.](#)

The Salvation Army.

[Donate.](#)

[Training.](#)

[Volunteer.](#)

Direct Relief.

[Donate.](#)

Habitat for Humanity.

[Donate.](#)

[Volunteer.](#)

The Humane Society of the United States.

[Donate.](#)

National Council of the United States, Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

[Donate.](#)

[Volunteer.](#)

World Renew.

[Donate.](#)

North American Mission Board.

[Donate.](#)

All Hands Volunteers.

[Donate.](#)

[Volunteer.](#)

National VOAD organizations that are already in response in Texas and are vetted by FEMA:

Partner Members:

Adventist Community Services
American Red Cross
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
Catholic Charities
Crisis Response Ministry
Feeding Texas
Hope Animal Assisted Crisis Response
Islamic Relief
Upbring Disaster Response
Mennonite Disaster Services
Presbyterian Church in America Disaster Response
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Reach Out America
Save the Children
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Southern Baptist of Texas Convention Disaster Relief
Texas Crisis Resiliency Team
TEXSAR
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
The Salvation Army
Trusted World
United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR):
- Central Texas Conference (Fort Worth)
- New Mexico Conference (El Paso)
- North Texas Conference (Dallas)
- Northwest Texas Conference (Lubbock)
- Southwest Texas Conference (San Antonio)
- Texas Conference (Houston)
- United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)
Victim Relief Ministries
World Renew

Associate Members:

AmeriCares
Billy Graham Rapid Response Team
Central Texas VOAD
Church World Service
Guadalupe County VOAD
Habitat for Humanity Texas
International Fellowship of Chaplains
OneStar Foundation
Operation Blessing
Samaritan's Purse
Southeast Texas VOAD
Tarrant County VOAD
Team Rubicon
Texas Gulf Coast VOAD
United Ways of Texas
VOAD in Cooke County, Texas