

Corporation for National and Community Service

DISASTER SERVICES UPDATE 8/30/12

Hurricane Isaac

Tropical Storm Isaac first impacted Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on August 24th. Currently the storm has moved west of Florida and into the Gulf of Mexico, with a likely impact to eastern Louisiana, Mississippi and western Alabama. On August, 28th the storm intensified to a category 1 Hurricane. **Approximately 220 AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members have been deployed to affected areas.**

New AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region

August 30th

28 AmeriCorps NCCC members from the Atlantic Region are deploying today to the American Red Cross staging area in Memphis for deployment to affected states. These members will be supporting shelters, mass care and feeding operations.

NEW American Red Cross AmeriCorps National Program

August 28th

31 National Preparedness Response Corps, an American Red Cross National AmeriCorps program have been deployed along the Gulf Coast. These members are supporting sheltering operations, operating Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV), assisting with logistics, staffing, and mass feeding.

American Red Cross AmeriCorps State Program

August 28th

12 AmeriCorps members from New York American Red Cross chapters have deployed to Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi to assist with shelter operations, mass care, government relations and logistics and transportation.

ALABAMA

American Red Cross AmeriCorps State Program

August 28th

6 AmeriCorps State American Red Cross members from Illinois have deployed to Alabama as part of an Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) crew.

FLORIDA

American Red Cross AmeriCorps State Program

August 27th

10 members are preparing kid-friendly shelter kits for use in shelters in Pensacola.

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LOUISIANA

BATON ROUGE, LA

American Red Cross AmeriCorps State

August 27th

3 AmeriCorps members are assisting in operating shelters in the Baton Rouge community.

AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region

August 28th

3 NCCC members have been deployed to Baton Rouge to assist with shelter operations.

HAHNVILLE, LA

RSVP

August 28th

25 RSVP volunteers are assisting with St. Charles Parish evacuations.

10 RSVP volunteers are assisting with call center support providing information to the public.

MADISONVILLE, LA

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 27th

21 NCCC members have been deployed to Madisonville to assist the American Red Cross with shelter operations.

NEW ORLEANS, LA

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 27th

A 10 member team has deployed to the American Red Cross South Louisiana chapter in Madisonville to support shelter operations.

SHREVEPORT, LA

AmeriCorps NCCC North Central Region

August 27th

A 9 member team has deployed to Shreveport to assist the American Red Cross with shelter management.

MISSISSIPPI

NEW Volunteer Generation Fund

August 30th

The Volunteer Center at United Way of South Mississippi, a sub-grantee of the Volunteer Generation Fund, is staffing the Emergency Operations Center assisting American Red Cross secure feeding programs, fielding requests for damage repair and connecting these requests to VOAD partners, working with United Way Worldwide and regional United Ways to develop and publish a website for donations in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, and reported out in EOC briefings on volunteer recruitment, resources being staged by VOAD partners and UW efforts in the region.

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Additionally, in partnership with the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service, the volunteer center is preparing to open a Volunteer Reception Centers (VRC) if needed. In preparation for this, the volunteer center has pre-trained nearly 50 volunteers to help activate VRCs on the Mississippi coast. The Volunteer Center is securing locations now and is prepared to activate at least two VRCs in Hancock and Harrison counties. They and MCVS have been pre-registering stand-by volunteers so that once the VRCs are activated volunteers can be mobilized and deployed as soon as possible.

American Red Cross National AmeriCorps Program

August 27th

4 American Red Cross members have been deployed from Philadelphia to Mississippi to assist in shelter operations within the state.

GULFPORT, MS

RSVP

August 27th

15 RSVP volunteers from the Handy Man Brigade are assisting disabled seniors with home preparation for storm impact, assisting the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center with communications. RSVP volunteers are also assisting with transportation of seniors to American Red Cross shelters. Additionally, RSVP volunteers are on stand-by with the local Red Cross chapter to support with shelter operations and the RSVP CERT team is in place for emergency response when the storm passes. The RSVP program is also reaching out to known vulnerable seniors to identify any unmet needs.

JACKSON, MS

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 27th

20 members have been deployed to Jackson to assist the American Red Cross Capitol River Chapter with shelter operations.

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 27th

10 members, have been deployed to assist the United Way of the Capital Area in staffing the 2-1-1 Mississippi Call Center. River 10 will field calls and provide preparedness information to the public.

TROPICAL STORM DEBBY

In late June, Tropical Storm Debby flooded thousands of homes, washed out roads, opened up sinkholes and closed a section of Interstate 10 — the state's main east-west highway. Four people were killed in the storm. In the Tampa area, more than 20 sinkholes opened up from the flash flooding. Water was up to the roofs at some homes in low lying areas of Live Oak, Fla., on Wednesday. Several feet of water remained around businesses in downtown near the courthouse and many roads were impassable.

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LAKE CITY, FL
AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 11th

A 10 member team will be deploying August 11th to Lake City, Florida, to support the work of Lake City Regional Office of Catholic Charities (in partnership with Columbia County Emergency Management), performing mucking and gutting operations in flooded homes, as well as delivering disaster recovery information door-to-door, and cleaning any remaining debris in neighborhoods. River 10 will be deployed until September 7th.

NEW DISASTER EVENTS

For information on new disaster events, please visit FEMA's daily situation report at:

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/reports/index.shtm>

Resources

Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-985-5990

The Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, year-round crisis counseling and support. The Helpline is staffed by trained counselors from a network of crisis call centers located across the United States, all of whom provide:

- Crisis counseling for those who are in emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster
- Information on how to recognize distress and its effects on individuals and families
- Tips for healthy coping
- Disaster-specific resources and referral information.

Colorado Wildfire Assistance

For those interested in assisting those affected by the wildfires in Colorado, please visit: www.HelpColoradoNow.org. This website identifies ways to donate time or resources to those in need.

If you would like to learn more about how you can assist communities affected by disaster visit www.serve.gov. If you would like to learn more about how to prepare your family and or community please visit www.ready.gov.