

Gulf Coast Response 2017 Response and Recovery

Following are excerpts from recent email communications flagging ideas or resources for Hurricane Harvey, Irma, and/or broader disaster relief response and recovery. Excerpts are listed in reverse chronological order, most recent first.

HEFN does not endorse any particular grantseeker or project. This list is intended to help circulate information that could facilitate funder response considerations.

Additions or questions? Email HEFN at info@hefn.org

RE: HARVEY, IRMA, MARIA

From Trust for America's Health, 10/1/17

- "As a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will make available special enrollment periods for all Medicare beneficiaries and certain individuals seeking health plans offered through the Federal Health Insurance Exchange."
- Here's some updated recovery information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on Hurricane Maria, Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

RE: HARVEY

From Claire Aikin, GAIA, 9/21/17
claire@no-burn.org

130+ Organizations Demand A Just Harvey Relief Effort Without Subsidies for Fossil Fuel and Petrochemical Companies

September 21, 2017- Organizations in the Gulf and across the country released a [joint statement](#) today expressing solidarity with the thousands of Texans affected by Hurricane Harvey and demanding that recovery funds flow to frontline communities, not to the oil, gas, and petrochemical companies that compounded Harvey's impacts. This statement comes as former Shell CEO Marvin Odum was recently tapped to lead the recovery efforts in Texas, raising serious questions about whether taxpayer money may be diverted towards corporate polluters whose greenhouse gas emissions contributed to the destructive strength of Hurricane Harvey....

RE: HARVEY AND IRMA

From Carrie Dickinson, 9/24
carrie.dickenson@acmt.net

The Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSU) National office has created a page to house flood resources relevant to pediatric and reproductive environmental health. The page is here on the PEHSU website: http://www.pehsu.net/Hurricane_and_Flooding_Resources.html.

RE: IRMA

From Regine Webster, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, 9/22/17

UN OCHA new resource: their [business guide for the humanitarian response to Hurricane Irma](#) is based on the most recent regional response plan for relief and recovery efforts in the affected regions. This succinct, four-page guide provides specific guidelines on how to address a list of humanitarian priorities by contributing directly to appealing organizations or through their partners.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that we launched the [CDP Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund](#) to address long-term recovery needs, including rebuilding homes, businesses, infrastructure, meeting the needs of young children, and providing mental health support.

RE: HARVEY AND IRMA

From Kathy Gutowsky, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, 9/15/17

Kathy.Gutowsky@disasterphilanthropy.org

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma continue to be top of mind for the CDP team and most of the U.S. public as well.

In Texas, the strength of the [Texas State VOAD](#) (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters) is unparalleled, but the number of people requesting [FEMA Individual Assistance](#) is staggering. With every passing day, we learn more and more about the excellent work being undertaken by the nonprofit sector. They are working tirelessly to ensure that Harvey recovery is off to a solid start. Please continue to visit our [Harvey profile](#) to learn more about the nonprofits working in Texas.

In Florida, concerns about the needs of older adults has mounted given the tragic passing this week of eight nursing home residents. For thoughts on how to support the needs of aging and disabled populations, we encourage you to read our [Playbook strategy on the topic](#).

Our Thursday webinar, co-sponsored with our friends at the [Council on Foundations](#) and the [Southeastern Council on Foundations](#) brought to light the breadth and depth of need in Florida as well as across the Caribbean. To learn more about how Irma hit both here and abroad, I invite you to read our detailed summary and listen to the audio recording of "[Hurricane Irma: What Funders Should Know](#)."

Our colleagues at [Foundation Center](#) have been providing us with frequent updates on donations made to support both Hurricanes Harvey and Irma relief and recovery efforts, and you can find a summary of that information in our [Harvey and Irma disaster profiles](#).

RE: HARVEY AND IRMA

From Yuki Kidokoro, Climate Justice Alliance, 9/14/17

Notes from CJA Sept 13 Call: Weathering the Storms: Updates from Frontline Communities Impacted by Harvey & Irma

HAITI UPDATE

Ricot Jean-Pierre, director of programming at PAPDA - the Haitian Platform to Advocate Alternative Development (<https://grassrootsonline.org/who-we-are/partner/haitian-platform-to-advocate-alternative-development-papda>) and Sara Marsha of Grassroots International (<https://grassrootsonline.org>)

Donate to support the movements in Haiti doing community-based disaster response and recovery at www.Grassrootsonline.org/Hurricane

PUERTO RICO UPDATE

Katia R. Avilés Vázquez, PhD and Jesús Vázquez of Proyecto Agroecológico El Josco Bravo (<https://www.facebook.com/eljoscobravo>)

FLORIDA UPDATE

Antonio Tovar-Aguilar of Farmworker Association of Florida (<http://floridafarmworkers.org>)

HOUSTON UPDATE

Juan Parras, ED of Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (t.e.j.a.s.) (<http://tejasbarrios.org>)

Help fund environmental cleanup in Houston by donating to t.e.j.a.s and the fenceline communities that t.e.j.a.s. serves at <http://bit.ly/tejasHarveyFund>

COMING CLEAN

Michele Roberts, national co-coordinator of Coming Clean's Environmental Justice and Health Alliance (EJHA) (<http://comingcleaninc.org>) will advise group about collaborative work with t.e.j.a.s. in regards to chemical security. Report: Who's in Danger? Race, Poverty, and Chemical Disasters (<http://comingcleaninc.org/assets/media/images/Reports/Who%27s%20in%20Danger%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>)

WEBINAR RECORDINGS

VIDEO: http://bit.ly/CJASept13_VIDEO

AUDIO ONLY: http://bit.ly/CJASept13_AUDIO

NOTES: http://bit.ly/CJASept13_NOTES

RE: HARVEY AND IRMA

From: Jessica Martinez, National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, 9/15/17
[<mailto:jessica=nationalcosh.org@mail214.atl171.mcdlv.net>]

[This email](#) outlines reports and needs from a COSH worker training in Houston.

From opening: "I'm writing you from Houston, on the third and final day of an intensive bilingual "train-the-trainers" session for workers who want to see their city rebuilt safely and securely. What I've witnessed here has been so powerful that I wanted to share my experience with you. Here I joined twenty-five day laborers, domestic workers, community health workers and others, all gathering essential information and tools that they will bring back to educate and empower hundreds of other workers."

RE: HARVEY & IRMA

From US EPA EJ Mailing List, 9/13/17

Mortgage Relief Options for Homeowners Affected by Hurricanes Harvey or Irma

Mortgage help: Federally regulated Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have come together to get the word out about mortgage relief options for those affected by natural disasters, including Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Our goal is to make sure you have time to focus on your safety. Here is what you need to do to get help.

What help is available? If you are affected by the recent hurricanes, you are eligible to temporarily stop making your monthly mortgage payment for up to 12 months. At the end of this temporary payment break:

- You won't have late fees.
- You won't have delinquencies reported to the credit rating agencies.
- You won't have to catch up on all of your payments at once.
- You can work with your servicer to resume making a mortgage payment that is similar to what you paid before the disaster. Or if you need additional assistance, you can work with your servicer on options to keep your home.

Contact your mortgage servicer (the company where you send your monthly payments) as soon as possible to let them know about your current circumstances. The telephone number and mailing address of your mortgage servicer should be listed on your monthly mortgage statement. You also can look it up on the Mortgage Bankers Association website at www.mba.org/news-research-and-resources/hurricane-relief.

If you are having difficulty contacting your mortgage servicer, contact the Homeowner's HOPE Hotline at 1-888-995-HOPE (4673) for assistance and FREE confidential support from a HUD-approved housing counselor.

Helpful Resources:

Fannie Mae - Check to see if Fannie Mae owns your loan at: www.KnowYourOptions.com/loanlookup
Additional assistance? Call 1-800-2FANNIE (1-800-232-6643), or go to: www.KnowYourOptions.com/relief

Freddie Mac - Check to see if Freddie Mac owns your loan at: www.freddiemac.com/mymortgage
Additional assistance? Call 1-800-373-3343 and select option #2, or go to: www.freddiemac.com

FEMA - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers assistance and information about dealing with a disaster on their website at www.fema.gov. Also, visit their website to find information specific to Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma at www.fema.gov/hurricane-harvey and www.fema.gov/hurricane-irma. To locate federal, state, and local resources and assistance, you can also go to www.disasterassistance.gov.

Other helpful resources can be found on The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) website at www.hud.gov and the American Red Cross website at www.redcross.org/get-help.

RE: HARVEY & IRMA

From Kathy Gutowsky, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, 9/12/17

As Irma slowly dissipates, we are gathering information about the storm's impact across the Caribbean and U.S. To help you determine how to most effectively respond, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy team would like to share the following resources:

- First, in partnership with the [Southeastern Council on Foundations](#) and the [Council on Foundations](#), we are hosting a "[Hurricane Irma: What Funders Should Know](#)" webinar, this Thursday, September 14 at 3pm ET/2pm CT. The panel for this webinar is one of our best yet and includes experts from [FEMA](#), [UN OCHA](#), the [Florida Philanthropic Network](#), and the [Jessie Ball duPont Fund](#).
- Second, in anticipation of Hurricane Irma's magnitude, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy launched the [CDP Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund](#). We expect the long-term needs to be rebuilding homes, businesses, infrastructure, meeting the needs of young children, and supporting mental

health needs. Geographically, the fund will focus on the entirety of the storm's impact area. Specific location and need-focus will be determined by the grant committee.

- Third, our disaster profiles for [Hurricane Harvey](#) and [Hurricane Irma](#) are being regularly updated to provide you information on NGO activity, funder responses, funds that have been launched, and storm background.

Kathy.Gutowsky@disasterphilanthropy.org

RE: HARVEY

From: US Human Rights Network, Colette Pichon-Battle, 9/12/17

USHRN will co-host a [National Human Rights and Long-term Gulf recovery call on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 1:00pmEDT](#) to offer a detailed assessment from the ground in the Harvey zones that are not getting a lot of press attention.

In the meantime, I wanted to tell you about USHRN Response Efforts:

- **Direct Response:** USHRN will be collecting donations (drop offs in Slidell, LA and Atlanta, GA;) of cleaning supplies to take to Native American communities and independent African American churches in Southwest Louisiana. Support Needed: \$4,000 (space); supply donations - non-toxic, cleaning supplies; protective gear (gloves, boots, eye and face protection),
- **Community Controlled Fund- Hurricane Harvey.** USHRN will act fiscal agent for this [Gulf South Rising - community controlled fund- Hurricane Harvey fund](#) and will facilitate 100% of all donations received, managed and distributed by the grassroots/frontline community members. The GSR initiative created a unique, effective and community-governed process to collect dollars intended for communities in crisis. The link will go live at www.gulfsouthrising.org on **Friday 9/1/2017**. Support Needed: \$5,000 (web tech/support); donations of any size.
- **Disaster Volunteer Human Rights Training:** USHRN will be hosting a series of human rights training for volunteers headed to support recovery in the Harvey zone. Advised by USHRN members that are survivors of hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike, Gulf Coast leaders of Color will co-lead training that offers information and best practices for being of service and building power. The training will offer tools for volunteers to help protect human rights in climate disaster recovery. Volunteer crews will leave with a perspective that shifts their focus from charity to authentic alliance. Gulf Coast leaders will be connected with support for communities often left out or prioritized from recovery resources. Support Needed: \$60,000 (staff and space)
- **Human Rights Community Clinics:** US Center for Climate Law & Policy is USHRN's newest program built on the programming merger of the Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy. We will be delivering community human rights clinics throughout south Texas and south Louisiana. Clinics will coordinate legal services volunteers to provide 1) collective healing sessions (rooted in sustainable, traditional practices); 2) legal support (with FEMA, Red Cross, evictions, heir's property and Immigration issues); and 3) political education sessions connecting human rights and climate change. These sessions will have childcare, translation, food and community information. Support Needed: \$40,000 (3-5 clinics)
- **Climate & Human Rights Defenders Strategy Summit:** USHRN will host Climate Leaders and Human Rights Defenders from December 6-10 in Atlanta ([2017 national Advancing Human Rights convening](#)) to provide space to healing and respite during our national gathering. Selected leaders will reflect on recent climate disaster events and the human rights violations that occur, then strategize on best steps toward building more sustainable communities in the midst of this new climate reality. Support Needed: \$42,500 (50 advocates/leaders).

Please remember to [Register for the National Long-Term Recovery Call scheduled for September 13, 2017 @ 1:ppmEDT/](#)

RE: HURRICANE RECOVERY

From: [Grassroots Global Justice Alliance](#), 9/11/17

As the impacts are still being assessed, we are tracking relief efforts that are led by grassroots organizations supporting frontline communities in the affected regions. We strongly urge donating resources and support directly to grassroots organizations who are consistently more likely use relief funds in accountable ways, in their own communities, and get relief directly to where it is most needed based on their collective priorities.

Visit this [Grassroots Hurricane Recovery](#) page and see below for a list of funds and grassroots relief efforts in Miami, Houston, Puerto Rico and Haiti. We'll update this page as we discover more ways to support.

RE: HARVEY

From: Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees

[GCIR Page on Hurricane Harvey Response. Includes info for 9/18 webinar: After Hurricane Harvey: Special Challenges Facing Immigrants and Refugees](#)

RE: IRMA

From Kathy Gutowsky, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, 9/8/17

In light of Irma's trajectory, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy offers these resources:

- We have launched the [CDP Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund](#) – dedicated to supporting medium- and long-term needs of vulnerable communities affected by Irma.
- Our [Hurricane Irma profile](#) is live and details what we know about the storm and response efforts thus far. We will be updating the profile frequently to include NGO response activities, grants awarded to meet the needs of the disaster, funder activity, and facts and stats as we are able.
- The Disaster Philanthropy Playbook, [Collaborating with FEMA, HUD, State and Local Governments guide](#), offers innovative practices and key takeaways on how to strengthen relationships with FEMA and state and local emergency management personnel.

P: (812) 679-9353 || Kathy.Gutowsky@disasterphilanthropy.org

RE: IRMA

From: Popular Center for Democracy, cpd@populardemocracy.org

A coalition of trusted community and labor organizations in Florida have set up the [Hurricane Irma Community Recovery Fund](#). Resources will go toward first response and humanitarian aid as well as long-term organizing to ensure a just Irma recovery for Florida's most vulnerable communities.

RE: DISASTER RELIEF

From Mollie Fager, Earthjustice, 9/8/17

[How to Help our Partners on the Frontlines of Disaster Relief](#)

RE: IRMA

From Dave Biemesderfer, United Philanthropy Forum, 9/11/17

If you get questions from your members on how to respond, here are some resources to which you can direct them:

- [FPN's Hurricane Irma Disaster Philanthropy Resources](#). Our member Florida Philanthropic Network has an excellent set of resources on how to help with Hurricane Irma relief and recovery.
- [Forum's Hurricane Irma Resource Page](#). We've also compiled a list of resources on the Forum's website. We'll continue to update as new resources come in.

(202) 888-7430 | dave@unitedphilforum.org

RE: HARVEY

From Waterkeeper Alliance

9/7/17

[Bayou City Waterkeeper](#) and Waterkeeper Alliance are responding to Hurricane Harvey, working to assess the damage the record-breaking storm has brought to southeast Texas. Joined by [French Broad Riverkeeper](#), [Hurricane Creekkeeper](#) and [Savannah Riverkeeper](#) earlier this week, Bayou City Waterkeeper was one of the first nonprofits to get out on the waters of Houston to assess the pollution that massive floods have spread across the city.

RE: HARVEY

From: Alicia Harvie, Farm Aid

Last week, Farm Aid activated our Family Farm Disaster Fund to support farmers and ranchers in Texas and Louisiana impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Farm Aid provides \$500 in individual emergency grants to farmers for immediate relief and recovery, and we are actively fundraising to support these efforts (www.farmaid.org/harvey). We are also connecting with several local, regional and state organizations to coordinate deeper training and analysis for farmer service providers so they can properly help farmers navigate the various disaster and emergency recovery resources being made available.

The press release for our Hurricane Harvey efforts is pasted below. This is a first step in our ongoing efforts to respond to this crisis, which includes:

- Making emergency grants to farm and ranch families in Texas and Louisiana impacted by Hurricane Harvey;
- Helping farmers and ranchers understand their farm recovery options;
- Supporting local and state farmer service providers to help farmers navigate farm recovery options, from mental health resources to federal funding opportunities;
- Advocating for needed disaster recovery funds and resources from the federal government.

Please circulate in your networks and do let us know if you have any questions or interest in collaborating. We've found fruitful collaboration in the past with funders in this network for similar disasters and are happy to do so again.

alicia@farmaid.org, (617) 833-5102

RE: HARVEY

From: Grantmakers in Health, 9/5/17

Support Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts

Visit [this list](#) of resources on the GIH website for funders interested in supporting Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. We will continue to update the list as new resources and opportunities for support become available. Please email additional items to nkhanna@gih.org or tweet [@GIHealth](#).

RE: HARVEY

From Liz Barry, Public Lab, 9/3/17

Updated wiki page, now including three links to TEJAS reports and a Houstonian-compiled guide "Harvey - money for the people" focusing on vulnerable populations. See <https://publiclab.org/wiki/harvey>

RE: HARVEY

From Healthy Schools Network, 9/1/17

info@healthyschools.org

Hurricane Harvey devastates Texas. Healthy Schools Network wishes everyone struggling in the recovery the very best. Please [donate to these local Houston charities](#).

In times of adverse weather, it's important to keep kids safe. Here is [PEHSU's guide to returning children to areas impacted by flooding / hurricanes](#).

After severe weather conditions, mold can always be a problem. Here is [PEHSU's guide to mold in the home and school](#).

RE: HARVEY

From Ellie Lanphier, Climate and Energy Funders Group / Consultative Group on Biological Diversity
9/1/17

And as many of us are looking for ways to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey, I'd like to re-share just a few of the many great organizations set up to help their community that could use some extra support:

- [Another Gulf is Possible](#): this webpage is being continually updated and is serving as a central information source for frontline-to-frontline direct resource & support mobilization.
- [Hurricane Harvey Community Relief Fund \(Texas Organizing Project\)](#)
- [t.e.j.a.s.](#)

And some helpful resources:

- [Center for Disaster Philanthropy](#)
 - [Center for Effective Philanthropy](#)
-

RE: HARVEY

From Laura Livoti, Common Counsel Foundation

Texas Organizing Project (TOP) established a fund to reach frontline folks and which will build capacity in a group that will remain on the ground for the long term.

Harvey Community Relief Fund
to harveyreliefhouston.org
Texas Organizing Project Education Fund
Memo line "Harvey Community Relief Fund"
P.O. Box 120296, San Antonio, TX 78212

Laura Livoti, CEO, Common Counsel Foundation
[510-834-2995](tel:510-834-2995) x302

Dear All,

For folks Interested in Supporting Grassroots, Frontline Community groups in the Gulf Coast, in their relief, recovery and response efforts to Hurricane Harvey, please check out:

<https://anothergulf.com/a-just-harvey-recovery/>

In other words, to ensure that your support goes directly to communities directly impacted, and is spent in meaningful and effective ways, give directly to local, community-based groups dealing with this crisis in their own backyards.....[#AJustHarveyRecovery](#)

Ananda Lee Tan
Phone: [778-875-0696](tel:778-875-0696)
Skype: anandaleetan

RE: HARVEY

From Gabriel Jones, Environmental Grantmakers Association, 8/31

The Center for Effective Philanthropy has also compiled [a list of resources](#) for responding to Harvey, and the Center for Disaster Philanthropy created an [ongoing list of funds and organizations](#) that need support.

RE: HARVEY

Recommendations from Hip Hop Caucus, 8/29/17

[Hip Hop Caucus How to Help Page](#)

RE: HARVEY

From Penny Fujiko Willgerodt, Prospect Hill Foundation, 8/29/17

I've started to be on some of the daily calls (1pm central time) organized by Bryan Parras (Sierra Club), Derrick Evans (Turkey Creek Community/Gulf Coast Fund) and Dr. John Cooper (Texas A&M) re immediate, mid-term and long-term needs related to Harvey. Yesterday's call was about directing funds for just recovery and resilience – funding for social impact and environmental issues both short term and long term. Calls include average of 25 people from all over the region plus allied orgs in CA, NY, WA, etc.

If there are any donors interested in directing funds to human justice, environmental justice, undocumented people, env. petrochemical health issues, etc, etc, please know that a mechanism is being organized now to receive those funds. Might end up at TX A&M or Black Belt Community Foundation or U.S. Human Rights Network.

In the interim, I personally donated and have been recommending people to donate to t.e.j.a.s., the best environmental justice organization in the region. <http://tejasbarrios.org/>

For more info please contact Bryan Parras at 713-303-5811. He is in Houston and works for Sierra Club now. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hightechaztec>

Penny Fujiko Willgerodt

Executive Director, The Prospect Hill Foundation

646-808-1860 direct line

347-510-6202 mobile

RE: HARVEY

United Philanthropy Forum [How to Respond to Hurricane Harvey](#) page, 8/28/17