

HOW TO HELP: HURRICANE MATTHEW



TOP TIPS: Volunteer & Donate Responsibly

- **Cash is best.** Financial contributions to recognized disaster relief organizations are the fastest, most flexible, & most effective method of donating. Organizations on the ground know what items & quantities are needed, often buy in bulk with discounts &, if possible, purchase through area businesses which supports economic recovery.
- **Confirm donations needed.** Critical needs change rapidly – confirm needed items BEFORE collecting; pack & label carefully; confirm delivery locations; arrange transportation. Unsolicited goods NOT needed burden local organizations' ability to meet survivors' confirmed needs, drawing away valuable volunteer labor, transportation, & warehouse space.
- **Connect to volunteer.** Trusted organizations operating in the affected area know where volunteers are needed, & can ensure appropriate volunteer safety, training, & housing.

MORE ONLINE: www.fema.gov/donate | www.fema.gov/hurricane-matthew | www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter

FLORIDA

Volunteer Florida serves as Florida's lead agency for volunteers & donations before, during, & after disasters. Individuals interested in helping following Hurricane Matthew may register online to volunteer. volunteerflorida.org/hurricane-matthew

Volunteer Florida CEO Chester W. Spellman said "One of the most critical times to use volunteers is following disasters. Whether it is shelter staffing, food distribution, or to assist with clean up, we will need volunteers positioned to serve immediately with local disaster relief organizations. Having volunteers prepared & ready to deploy will be a critical tool as we move forward."

GEORGIA

Please volunteer & donate responsibly. For information on volunteering in Georgia, email volunteer@gemhsa.ga.gov.

NORTH CAROLINA

Monetary Donations & Volunteer Opportunities – Governor Pat McCrory has activated the **NC Disaster Relief Fund** to which monetary contributions may be made. To make a donation, please visit ncdisasterrelief.org. You may also text **NCRECOVERS** to **30306** to donate funds. All donations received will support Hurricane Matthew long-term recovery efforts in North Carolina.

All other monetary donations & offers to volunteer may be made directly through charitable nonprofit organizations that are responding to this disaster. Information is available under "Hurricane Matthew--Donate Now" on the **NC Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NCVOAD)** website at ncvoad.org.

Clothing – Clothing items are **not** being accepted at this time. Please donate clothing items to charitable organizations in your local community which can make best use of these donated items.

Food – Please donate food items through local food banks & charities in your community.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Monetary Donations – The **One SC Fund** supports & directs funds to nonprofit organizations providing disaster relief & recovery assistance. yourfoundation.org/community-impact/one-sc-fund-sc-flood-relief/

Volunteer Opportunities – First consider volunteering within your own networks, such as churches or civic groups. If you are not affiliated with a group, please register at VolunteerSC.org to be matched with appropriate opportunities & training.

SC Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (SCVOADs) – Additionally, consider making a direct donation to or finding local volunteer opportunities with relief organizations listed at the SC Emergency Management Division website below.

Clothing & Food – Please take these donations to charitable organizations in your community. You can confirm most-needed food items by contacting the **South Carolina Food Bank Association**. scfoodbankassociation.org

For updates & additional information, please call 1-888-585-9643, or visit scemd.org/recovery-section/donations-and-volunteers.

(10/12/2016)