UNITED WAY HURRICANE HARVEY RECOVERY FUND

In response to the widespread devastation from Hurricane Harvey, United Way Worldwide has established the United Way Harvey Recovery Fund, a national fund to support storm-related needs and long-term recovery efforts throughout the affected regions. 100 percent of individual donations given to the United Way Harvey Recovery Fund will be distributed to 23 local United Ways in the affected areas to meet the needs of local individuals and families.

United Way has a history of serving as the cornerstone for long-term recovery after natural disasters including Hurricane Katrina. United Way is laying the ground work for mid- and long-term recovery in the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey, which is expected to take several years.

Donations can be made at https://www.unitedway.org/hurricane-harvey.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What is the United Way Harvey Recovery Fund?
A. This fund will help United Ways in the affected areas meet the storm-related needs and support long-term recovery throughout the affected regions. With your support, we can help rebuild communities.

• 100 percent of individual donations given to the United Way Harvey Recovery Fund will be distributed to local United Ways in the affected areas.
• United Way’s focus will be on mid- and long-term recovery.

Q. Is this a local fund?
A. No. This is a worldwide fund established by United Way Worldwide as part of its ongoing work to support community rebuilding, a role of the organization once the first-responders work is done.
United Way served as the cornerstone for long-term recovery after Hurricane Katrina and other disasters.

United Way is proud to partner with the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and many others who are helping with immediate relief and evacuations.

United Way is laying the ground work for the region's long-term recovery, which is expected to take several years.

Many local United Ways play a critical role in short-term assistance too, through 2-1-1 and other resources. But they're also the “glue” that holds communities together for longer-term recovery.

Tens of thousands of calls related to Hurricane Harvey have come into 2-1-1 since Sunday morning.

Q. Can I make a contribution through my local United Way campaign?
A. Yes, but this is not the quickest manner to get your gift to people in need. United Way of the Capital Region distributes funds as collected beginning in January.

- To provide immediate assistance donors can give to the American Red Cross at https://www.redcross.org/donate/hurricane-harvey.
- To support the long-term recovery efforts, donors can contribute to the United Way Worldwide fund, which has been created to uniquely handle the scope of donations and ensure they are sent to the areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Q. How will the fund’s money be distributed?
A. All of the money will be distributed to United Ways in the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey.

- United Way Worldwide will work with United Ways in the affected areas to determine the best distribution plan.

Q. Are there credit card processing fees?
A. No. Bank of America and American Express, longtime partners of United Way, have generously offered to waive credit card processing fees ensuring that the maximum amount of individual donations will go toward recovery efforts on the ground.

Q. How will United Way Worldwide be accountable for the fund?
A. United Way Worldwide will report the total amount of money raised by the national fund and United Ways in the affected areas on its website (unitedway.org), updating that number on a daily basis. Distributions will also be tracked on its website.

- United Way Worldwide meets the Better Business Bureau’s 20 Standards for Charity Accountability spanning Governance, Measuring Effectiveness, Finances and Fundraising. The Better Business Bureau’s Wise Giving Alliance helps donors make informed giving decisions and promotes high standards of conduct among organizations that solicit contributions from the public. Evaluations are done without charge to the charity and are posted for free public access on www.give.org.