ONE YEAR LATER

HURRICANE IRMA

AN UPDATE ON DONATIONS, RESULTS, & FUTURE WORK

Photo courtesy of Samaritan’s Purse
Charity Navigator is the nation’s largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities. With data on over 1.8 million US-based nonprofits and ratings for close to 10,000, Charity Navigator guides over 11 million individuals across the country to make informed giving decisions.

Especially in times of crisis, donors use Charity Navigator to discover efficient charities worth supporting. A year after Charity Navigator published the Hurricane Irma ‘Hot Topic’ featuring over forty-two 3- and 4-star rated organizations, this study has been put together with help from 13 of the organizations on the original list, as well as 4 other nonprofits, to provide an update on the work done, the work continuing to be done, and the current needs of communities affected. Of these 17, all represent national or international nonprofits.

Additionally, these organizations display a wide spread of mission through the diversity of their cause areas. 5 are Development & Relief Services; 6 are Humanitarian Relief Supplies; 4 are Multipurpose Human Service Organizations; and 1 is a Jewish Federation.

Each organization participating in this study answered over forty in-depth questions prepared by Charity Navigator about specific intricacies of the charity’s work in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma. The figures on the following pages are aggregated results reported by the 17 nonprofits.
ABOUT HURRICANE IRMA

Hurricane Irma made landfall on September 10th, 2017 as a Category 4 hurricane, causing an estimated $65 billion dollars in damage, according to the National Hurricane Center – making it the fifth most costly hurricane on record. Over 130 individuals are reported to have died due to the hurricane, in addition to a reported 13 million people affected by the storm.
THE RESPONSE

11.8% of the nonprofits included in this study began responding to Hurricane Irma on the date of landfall, with another 58.8% beginning their response during the fifteen day period beforehand due to the overlap of Irma and Maria. Of these 17 organizations, only 3 have stopped their response efforts (1 in September, 1 in October, and 1 in November), with 14 continuing to provide ongoing support.

76.5% of the organizations provided for immediate needs (food, water, shelter); 76.5% provided for long-term needs; 47.1% funded other nonprofits; and 47.1% focused on other forms of additional response.

Each of these organizations provide varying levels and types of support for individuals affected by the hurricane. Of the total 17 organizations, 47.1% said that there was no longer any need for their provided items or services; 5.9% were not sure; and 47.1% said there is still demand.

The items still in demand, as reported by some of the organizations, are: furniture, flooring, shingles, high quality books, mental health services, financial assistance, home repairs/new homes, disaster preparedness resources, and medicine.
DONATIONS UPDATE

$141,534,389
dollars donated as Irma restricted funding August - December 2017

355,447
individuals donated specifically for Hurricane Irma relief

$1,809,717
dollars donated as disaster/hurricane restricted funding August - December 2017

27.96%
Average percent of restricted Hurricane Irma funds to total contributions received for 13 nonprofits August - December 2017

$3,538,537
dollars donated as unrestricted funding August - December 2017

8.52%
Average percent of unrestricted Hurricane Irma funds to total contributions received for 3 nonprofits August - December 2017

Unrestricted Funding: Donating to an organization without specifying where you’d like the money to be used
Restricted Funding: Donating to an organization and specifying how you’d like the organization to use the funds (e.g. for Hurricane Irma)

Source: Charity Navigator
THE NUMBERS

For the organizations participating in the study, the timeline for complete recovery for the communities affected varies dramatically. 29.4% of the 17 organizations stated that they did not know by when the communities affected would be completely recovered.

For another 35.3% of the organizations, they estimated a recovery timeline of around 3 - 5 years.

The remaining 29.4% had the following answers: 5 - 8 years, 1 - 2 years, and just "years."

$6,783,820

granted to over 150 other groups
by 7 of the 17 charities

$44,802,930

spent on providing for immediate needs August - December 2017

$18,669,629

spent on providing long-term support August - December 2017

$9,238,858

spent on other forms of response August - December 2017

$8,934,148

spent on providing emergency supplies August - December 2017

221,423 individuals
helped by 11 organizations

7,234 volunteers
went to the affected areas for 11 organizations

16,837 volunteers
worked for 12 of the organizations
to support Irma relief

1,145 staff
went to the affected areas for 14 of the organizations

57 staff
were already in the area when Irma hit for 4 of the organizations
COMMUNITIES AFFECTED

3 of the organizations hired **62 local residents for different types of jobs** from government liaisons to case managers to construction coordinators.

The 17 organizations worked with **over 220 other nonprofits and agencies** to provide support, relief, and programs.

6 of the 17 organizations **established locations in the affected areas** after Hurricane Irma hit.

None of the organizations **hired third-party management companies** to assist in helping those affected.

**THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT NEEDS FOR THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED ACCORDING TO THE CHARITIES ARE:**

1. **Housing repair assistance**
2. **Counseling / Psychological Services**
3. **Establishing redundant power and communications sources**
ITEMS GIVEN OUT

A LIST OF SERVICES, ITEMS, AND MATERIALS

1,060,793 books
27,909 emergency and educational resources
1,600,000 meals and snacks
1,800,000 assorted relief items
500,000 lbs of assorted relief items
555,300 overnight shelter stays
62,500 health and mental health contacts
Financial assistance for 12,900 households
40 truckloads of rebuilding supplies
274,000 prescriptions
740,000 supplies to health facilities
21,840 gal. of bleach
958 Tdap vaccines
50 homes repaired by one organization
298,314 nutritional supplements
5,752 sanitary pads
1,600 emergency hygiene kits
479 rechargeable batteries
312 stethoscopes
1,687 sharps containers
3,428 off-the-counter durables
1,960,078 off-the-counter consumables
179,159 prescription consumables
610 medical instruments
5,976 shea butter soaps
17,053,297 defined daily doses
94,747 other personal care items
48 ankle braces
112,170 oz of body wash

$49,218,070
estimated cost to provide these items

5 organizations received these items from donations
3 organizations have not determined what the cost was

8,952 shaving razors
18,976 oz of body lotion
23,904 toothbrushes
56,564 oz of shampoo and conditioner
56,039 bars of soap
160,300 mL of sterile water
4,250 surgical masks
209,680 medical gloves
14,723 oz of deodorant
660 surgical instruments

Photo courtesy of American Red Cross
GIVING BASKET
CHARITY NAVIGATOR’S DONATION FUNCTION

These 13 organizations from the original Hurricane Irma list account for 61.1% of all dollars given specifically for Hurricane Irma relief through the Charity Navigator site, and 60.3% of the number of donations supporting Hurricane Irma relief.

All 42 organizations on the Hurricane Irma Hot Topic list, created by Charity Navigator, plus the 3 additional organizations, received 15.2% of all donations made through Charity Navigator’s Giving Basket from August 1st, 2017 to July 31st, 2018.

The 17 respondents also accounted for 11.3% of all of the donations given through Charity Navigator’s Giving Basket in the same time period.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

All Hands and Hearts - Smart Response
American Red Cross
Americares
Brother’s Brother Foundation
Direct Relief
First Book
GlobalGiving
Good360
Habitat for Humanity International
Heart to Heart International
International Relief Teams
Islamic Relief USA
Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Matthew 25: Ministries
Samaritan’s Purse
Save the Children US
UMCOR – United Methodist Committee on Relief

Research conducted and report written by Sara Nason of Charity Navigator between June and September 2018. For additional information, please contact media@charitynavigator.org.