

NCS Strategy for Disaster Relief

Disaster Relief Organizations

There are several organizations in which to donate money, time and resources in the aftermath of natural disasters. The NCS staff conducted research to identify the most reputable disaster relief organizations to make donations. The American Red Cross and Americares, both 501c3 organizations, are the recommended charities of choice. Both align with the Society’s passion of ensuring that people across the world receive quality and equitable healthcare, specifically in neurocritical care, and doing whatever possible to help those in need.



To learn more about the Red Cross and Americares, including how to donate, refer to pages two and three.

Recommended Strategy for NCS Members

With the existence of organized and credible disaster relief organizations, NCS can take advantage of the gateways already established by them. With our Disaster Relief action plan, NCS members will be notified of the best ways to take action in the aftermath of a disaster. This plan was effective after Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in 2017 and Hurricane Michael in 2018. NCS will send emails with information about the best places to donate and be prepared to communicate quickly after a disaster occurs.

Disaster Relief Action Plan

1. Identify the disaster relief organizations that are collecting donations. (see pages 2 – 3)
2. Select the most effective organizations to donate or volunteer (i.e., those that make it easy for the funds and supplies to be delivered to the intended recipients). (see pages 2 – 3)
3. Prepare an email with directions on how to give.
 - In doing so, state where funds are directed and the targeted recipients.
4. Get approval on email message from the EC (because of the sensitive nature of requesting funds).
5. Send email to members.
6. Track progress and report participation.
7. Post the *message to donate* on the home page of the NCS website.

Standard Policy Recommendation

Once a disaster has been declared in the USA or in an NCS global partner location, NCS will follow the Disaster Relief Action Plan outlined above. With this plan in place, NCS can react within days of disaster declaration.

What about FEMA?

While they are a tremendous resource to families who need assistance, they were not recommended due to the long process and length of time it could take to receive relief. However, more FEMA information is available on the next page.



FEMA

The mission of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is to reduce the loss of life and property and protect our institutions from all hazards by leading and supporting the nation in a comprehensive, risk-based emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.¹ [A presidential disaster declaration of an emergency triggers financial and physical assistance through FEMA. The Act gives FEMA the responsibility for coordinating government-wide relief efforts.](#)

For 38 years, [FEMA's mission](#) remains, to lead America to prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from disasters with a vision of "A Nation Prepared." On April 1, 1979, President Jimmy Carter signed the executive order that created the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). From day one, FEMA has remained committed to protecting and serving the American people. That commitment to the people we serve and the belief in our survivor centric mission will never change.

NOTE: The information on AmeriCares and the Red Cross was for the most part, was copied from their websites.



AmeriCares is a health-focused relief and development organization that responds to people affected by poverty or disaster with life-changing medicine, medical supplies and health programs. For nearly 40 years, we have responded rapidly and effectively to the needs of our local partners and their communities.

Their philosophy

A World of Opportunity

- We envision a world in which all people have pathways to health and opportunity.
- A deeply collaborative organization, we have built an unrivaled network of local, national and international partners delivering clinical services, emergency programs and access to medicine.
- With our partners and donors, we create thoughtful solutions and long-term change for some of the world's most complex, community health problems in the U.S. and around the world.
- We provide unparalleled leverage for donors' philanthropic dollars by using donated medicine and supplies and the local infrastructure of our partners to build community health.

How to Donate:

[Click here](#) to donate. Your gift's impact is multiplied because we deliver medicine and aid to local health providers that live and work in the community. Every \$1 donated = \$20 in aid! Save lives in the United States and more than 90 countries around the world.

Donations are tax-deductible.

We leverage every dollar you donate many times over to provide even more help to people in desperate need. That is the power of giving to AmeriCares. **More than 97% of expenses support health programs and less than 3% is use towards administrative expenses.**

Source: www.secureamericares.org



American Red Cross

Their Work: Red Cross volunteers and staff work to deliver vital services – from providing relief and support to those in crisis, to helping you be prepared to respond in emergencies.

Their mission

Each day, thousands of people – people just like you – provide compassionate care to those in need. Our network of generous donors, volunteers and employees share a mission of preventing and relieving suffering, here at home and around the world.

We roll up our sleeves and donate time, money and blood. We learn or teach life-saving skills so our communities can be better prepared when the need arises. We do this every day because the Red Cross is needed - every day.

Disaster relief by the numbers

- Nearly 64,000 disaster responses yearly
- 95% of our disaster relief workers are volunteers
- 90% of disasters we respond to are home fires

An average of 91 cents of every dollar spent invested in humanitarian services and programs.

How to Donate:

[Click here](#) to donate. Donations are tax-deductible.

[Click here](#) for video testimonials from people who received assistance after Hurricane Harvey.

Source: www.redcross.org

ⁱ <https://govinfo.library.unt.edu/npr/library/nprprt/annrpt/vp-rpt96/appendix/fema.html>