

EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE



In the aftermath of **Hurricane Harvey**, Direct Relief continues to provide community health centers and free clinics in Texas and Louisiana with shipments of essential medicines and medical supplies. In addition to committing an initial \$500,000 to the emergency response efforts, Direct Relief has provided approximately 300 shipments of medical aid valued at \$6 million to 45 healthcare organizations recovering from the storm, with more shipments planned on the horizon.

After **Hurricane Irma** struck, Direct Relief reached out to healthcare partners in Florida and the Caribbean to offer assistance, and \$20 million in medical aid has been shipped to medical facilities in Florida, the British Virgin Islands, Antigua & Barbuda, and the Dutch Antilles – with many additional shipments planned. Direct Relief also has a hurricane preparedness program that equips healthcare facilities with “hurricane modules” containing critical medicines and medical supplies that are shipped prior to hurricane season each year; many of Direct Relief’s healthcare partners in these areas were able to access these prepositioned modules immediately after the storm.

Following the **earthquakes in Mexico**, Direct Relief immediately reached out to officials in Oaxaca and Mexico City to extend an offer of medical assistance to health care organizations in the area. Direct Relief is also coordinating with authorities from the National, State, and local Ministry of Health departments, as well as the network of clinics and hospitals that Direct Relief’s Mexico office supports on a regular basis. Direct Relief recently deployed an Emergency Health Kit to a trauma hospital in southern Mexico City, which contains enough medicines and supplies to treat 1,000 people for a month, and is preparing additional shipments of medical aid to scale up its support to health care partners within the country.

As nations in the Caribbean recover from **Hurricane Maria**, Direct Relief’s Emergency Response team recently met with a number of representatives from government ministries and hospitals to coordinate shipments of medical aid and offer ongoing support throughout the rebuilding process. In Puerto Rico, Direct Relief is coordinating with the Puerto Rican Department of Health, as well as other agencies and administrations involved in the aid distribution process.



Over \$2 million in medical aid has already been shipped to the island, which included multiple Emergency Health Kits containing a wide range of essential medicines, wound care items, and chronic diseases medications; additional shipments are scheduled to arrive in the upcoming days, including a shipment of more than 12,00 vials of insulin. Direct Relief also committed an initial \$300,000 in cash to help rebuild Puerto Rican community health centers. In addition, major aid shipments have also arrived in Dominica and the U.S. Virgin Islands, with more being planned as logistics channels open up.