

Hurricane Sandy

ONE YEAR LATER



Reuters/Marko Nekso

Kim Joyce stands in front of the remains of her home, destroyed by Hurricane Sandy.

Reuters/Mike Segar



Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



FEMA/Rosanna Arias

Thank you!

Thank you for your outpouring of prayers and financial support to those whose homes, businesses and communities were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy one year ago. Because of gifts from people like you, more than \$4 million was collected to directly respond to Hurricane Sandy. Lutheran Disaster Response was there to provide immediate need to communities affected, and we continue to walk with our brothers and sisters in the United States who are still working to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

Working with our trusted partners and synods, Lutheran Disaster Response has taken an active role in the recovery of the areas affected by Hurricane Sandy.



FEMA/Jocelyn Augustino

Trusted partner

Because Lutheran Disaster Response is a trusted partner, we received a \$1.9 million grant from the American Red Cross to support our commitment to the thousands of people affected by Hurricane Sandy. This grant has enabled us to extend and expand our relief efforts with our partner organizations.

Hope after the hurricane

Because of people like you, Lutheran Disaster Response is able to help those whose homes have been destroyed by Hurricane Sandy, providing healing and hope to people like Gilbert Johnson.

"I was in shock, barely living day to day," Gilbert says of the days and months after Hurricane Sandy left a gaping hole in his roof and flooded his entire home. Fortunately for Gilbert, he picked up the phone and found himself talking to not only a real person, but the right person – Yussef Parris, a disaster case manager working with Lutheran Disaster Response. It wasn't until Gilbert invited Yussef into his home that the full extent of damage from the storm was realized.

Gilbert was living without a roof, his electricity and heat had been shut off and his septic tank had collapsed, all because of the storm. Gilbert, legally blind, was unable to see well enough to fill out any forms and, having talked to a few people with little



Gilbert Johnson stands in front of his home.

progress in helping him, he had almost given up. Gilbert says, "I was skeptical. I didn't trust anybody to help me, but you [Yussef] proved to me that you will advocate for me – you're on my side."

Yussef and the long-term disaster recovery committee are walking with Gilbert on his journey to rebuild his home and his life. He is eager to get back in his home and is very grateful. "I never could have imaged this; it is better than I ever could have dreamed. Now I have hope."

Cuba

Working with the Cuban Council of Churches, a partnership of 20 Protestant churches, Lutheran Disaster Response provided food, shelter, water, roof reconstruction and help in restoring livelihoods for more than 1,000 families.

Haiti

Hurricane Sandy increased the risk of cholera, a deadly waterborne disease that has previously been widespread in Haiti. In collaboration with The Lutheran World Federation and the Lutheran Church in Haiti, Lutheran Disaster Response worked to drain excess water to help reduce the risk of cholera outbreaks following the hurricane.

Maryland

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries to help meet the needs of people affected in Maryland. Since the storm hit, we have helped with construction, rebuilding and rehabbing more than 140 homes. Case workers are helping clients with counseling, food or health related issues. The coordination of more than 130 volunteers giving their time and talent have helped the community to rebuild. Lutheran Disaster Response has been a part of activating a long-term recovery group that is an integrated, ecumenical rebuilding network that is working toward the future recovery of the community.

New Jersey

Lutheran Disaster Response is partnering with Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey. Together, we have provided more than 30 unmet-needs grants to help families cover hurricane related expenses not covered by FEMA or insurance. Our volunteer coordination work has brought more than 125 volunteers who have been hosted by Reformation Lutheran Church, in partnership with Long Branch Covenant Church, culminating in more than 896 volunteer hours at different sites. Lutheran Disaster Response has also helped bring Camp Noah to New Jersey, a fun and safe environment designed to help children heal after a disaster.

New York

Lutheran Disaster Response is partnering with Lutheran Social Services of New York, helping families throughout the impacted area. Case managers are working with more than 250 families to help advocate for them and provide assistance where needed. Some support that has been provided includes construction and repair costs. Progress has been made with more than 60 families becoming self-sufficient in their long-term recovery. Volunteer groups have also been coordinated and hosted, contributing to more than 1,400 hours of work in Queens, N.Y.

When the dust settles and the headlines change, Lutheran Disaster Response stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Long-term response

The rebuilding after Hurricane Sandy continues for many in the United States. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to walking with those who need assistance. Coordination and support for volunteer groups, case management and construction management are ways that Lutheran Disaster Response, U.S. continues to be present in communities. Through our Lutheran affiliates, plans are in place to assist 10,000 individuals in their recovery, host two more Camp Noah programs, and coordinate over 2,400 volunteers.

Lutheran Disaster Response, through ELCA members, congregations, synods and partner organizations, will continue to help people affected by Hurricane Sandy for the long-term. The recovery isn't over, and neither is our work. Together, we can rebuild lives and restore hope.

Give now

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, designated for "Hurricane Sandy" will be used entirely (100 percent) for aid as we continue to respond to this disaster.

■ Online

www.ELCA.org/HurricaneSandy

■ Mail

Lutheran Disaster Response
39330 Treasury Center
Chicago, IL 60694-9300
Write "Hurricane Sandy" on your check's memo line.

■ Phone

800-638-3522



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