Hurricanes Hugo and Andrew

Hurricane Hugo swept through the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands before slamming into the South Carolina coastline on September 19, 1989. The hurricane caused as much as $3 billion in damage and caused 10 lives in South Carolina and North Carolina, where it caused wind damage. Hugo was also responsible for water damage in the city of Charleston, South Carolina, and for several thousand dollars of damage to businesses and homes in the same area.

The Red Cross prepared for the disaster by providing shelter and food to the victims in the affected areas. In all, 57,000 people received assistance from the Red Cross, and 900 Red Cross workers were dispatched to the area. The Red Cross provided relief to the victims and worked with the government to help with the recovery efforts.

Hurricane Andrew struck the city of Miami, Florida, on August 24, 1992. Andrew was the costliest hurricane in U.S. history, behind Andrew and Hugo, with damage estimated at $3.2 billion dollars. As always, the Red Cross responded with emergency services to comfort those left homeless by the disaster. Visit the National Hurricane Center http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/ for more information about these and other storms.

HIV/AIDS Education

The Atlanta Chapter in 1986 formed an HIV/AIDS education program that set an example for a national Red Cross HIV/AIDS education program. The program included community education, outreach, and support for people infected with HIV/AIDS.

Distribute HIV/AIDS brochures and public service announcements.

Train family members and public health workers to care for people with AIDS.

Work with health departments, employers, and civic agencies to educate the public about AIDS.

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