

# LOUISIANA FLOODS

## ONE-MONTH UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016



**American  
Red Cross**

## One Month Later, Red Cross Still Helping Louisiana Residents Recover

One month after deadly floods ravaged communities in Louisiana, the American Red Cross continues to support thousands of people beginning to rebuild their lives.

Last month's record flooding, caused by a storm that dumped nearly 7 trillion gallons of rain, is the worst natural disaster to strike the U.S. since Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Rising waters affected an estimated 120,000 homes, forcing many residents to flee with almost nothing. As a result, this disaster has caused the largest volume of people in need of emergency shelter and food in the last four years.

In the face of so much loss, more than 4,400 Red Cross workers—over 90 percent volunteers—have mounted a massive response. And our work continues today.

"Imagine yourself without shelter, clean clothes or even a toothbrush. Thousands of people in Louisiana faced just that when floodwaters overtook their homes," said Gail McGovern, Red Cross President and CEO.

"Our disaster volunteers quickly got to work, making sure affected individuals and families had a safe place to stay, food to eat and a shoulder to lean on," McGovern added. "One month later, the Red Cross is still helping in Louisiana, thanks to the generous financial donations which have enabled us to provide comfort, support and hope to flood survivors."

Estimates show our relief effort could cost \$25 million to \$30 million. As of Sept. 13, we've received nearly \$23



Across southern Louisiana, the Red Cross is helping thousands of people who are starting the long cleanup process. Marko Kocic/American Red Cross

million in designated donations and pledges to support Louisiana. This includes \$825,000 raised during the Louisiana Rising benefit concert on Sept. 5.

Our response is far from over. Shelters remain open, and we continue to offer food, health services and emotional support. Over 40 Red Cross response vehicles are still delivering food, water and cleanup kits to hard-hit areas, and we're connecting people to recovery resources, including limited financial assistance for those who qualify.

It will take time for people to get back on their feet, but with the commitment of generous donors and volunteers, we can help ensure they have support to recover.

### Response at a Glance

More than 4,400 American Red Cross workers—**over 90 percent volunteers**—have mounted a massive response to help thousands of people devastated by the Louisiana floods.



More than **1.1 million**  
**meals and snacks**  
served



Nearly **698,000**  
**relief items**  
distributed



Over **74,000**  
**overnight stays**  
provided

—Cumulative figures as of September 14, 2016

## Giving Hope When It Matters Most

Jodi Bocco is one of thousands of Red Cross volunteers who came from all over the country to help in Louisiana. She provides emotional support to adults and children impacted by disasters.

“This is an opportunity to make a difference when times are tough for others,” said Jodi, who is from New Jersey.

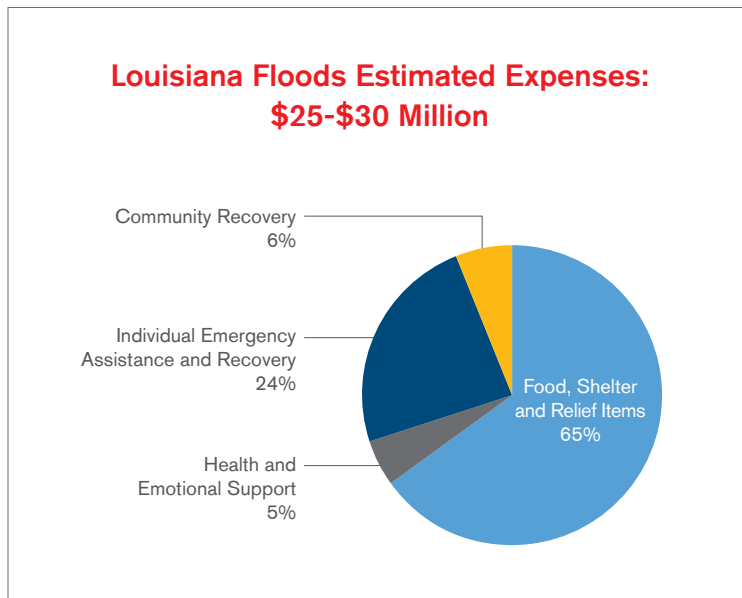
Over the past month, Jodi and other selfless volunteers have provided more than 38,000 health services and emotional support contacts for people coping with the stress and trauma of the floods.



Marko Kokic/American Red Cross

## Louisiana Floods Relief and Recovery: Projected Budget

Generous Red Cross donors are supporting ongoing relief and recovery in Louisiana.



*These costs include the logistics, staff and technology expenses that make our services possible. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs.*

**Food, Shelter and Relief Items:** Red Cross volunteers and staff open shelters to provide safe refuge, serve nourishing meals to residents and first responders, and hand out needed relief items.

**Health and Emotional Support:** Our volunteers and staff help provide services such as first aid support, replacing prescription medicines or eyeglasses, and helping people to cope.

**Individual Emergency Assistance and Recovery:** The Red Cross works one-on-one with people to create recovery plans, find housing solutions, replace items, provide other support and help them apply for government and other community assistance.

**Community Recovery:** The Red Cross supports broader recovery initiatives to help communities meet specific disaster-caused needs, such as community rebuilding projects.

## Thank You

The Red Cross must be ready for every disaster, big or small, and we respond to an average of nearly 66,000 disasters per year—including single-family or apartment home fires, severe weather, floods and wildfires. Those in need turn to the Red Cross in their darkest hours because they know they can depend on us right after the disaster and through their recovery. Your donation helps us fulfill this promise. We are grateful for your trust.