



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

Assisting Victims of Hurricane Harvey

JOSE M. SERRANO September 6, 2017

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As millions of New Yorkers know, the devastation and damage created from a natural disaster can be heart wrenching. In 2011, Hurricane Irene devastated New York from Long Island throughout our upstate communities. Then, just a year later, Hurricane Sandy ravaged New York City, Long Island, Westchester and our state's coastline to which residents in those areas are still feeling the effects. During those times, our neighbors throughout the country graciously came to our aid by providing donations and resources. Tragically, it is now the city of Houston, and the citizens of Southeast Texas and beyond that desperately need our help. Hurricane Harvey has been relentless in its severity and continues to pummel the area. Now, it is time for New Yorkers to show their support and provide a lending hand. Please consider donating to the list of organizations below that are leading the relief efforts.

The [Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund](#) administered by the Greater Houston Community Foundation.

The [South Texas Blood and Tissue Center](#) is reporting a critical shortage. To donate, call 210-731-5590 or visit their website for more information.

[Carter BloodCare](#) covers hospitals in North, Central and East Texas. To donate, call 877-571-1000 or text DONATE4LIFE to 444-999.

The Humane Society

The [Texas Diaper Bank](#) in San Antonio is asking for diapers and wipes. Drop off or mail: 5415 Bandera Road, Suite 504 in San Antonio, Texas 78238.

[The United Way of Greater Houston](#) flood relief fund will be used to help with immediate needs as well as long-term services like minor home repair. Visit their website to donate or text UWFLOOD to 41444.

[The American Red Cross](#) is accepting donations on its website. You can also text HARVEY to 90999 to donate \$10.

[AmeriCares](#) takes medicine and supplies to survivors.

[Catholic Charities](#) provides food, clothing, shelter and support services to those from all religious backgrounds.

Donations to the [Salvation Army](#) can be made online, by calling 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-725-2769) or texting STORM to 51555.

[AABB](#), which coordinates a task force to manage blood collection efforts during disasters, put out a call on Sunday for blood donations in the aftermath of Harvey. Most in demand: those with type O-positive blood.

Please also consider visiting the website of [Charity Navigator](#), which has a list of reputable local charities throughout the affected areas.

As we can see, it is crucial to do all that we can to be prepared in times of crisis. To further assist you, my office has a brochure available that provides some life-saving tips on protecting your family during a disaster. For more information on this, and other important issues, please visit my website at www.serrano.nysenate.gov or feel free to contact my office

at 212-828-5829.