Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF) Establishes Disaster Relief Fund to Assist Victims of Hurricane Irma

Contributions from insurance industry companies and professionals also continue to support those affected by Hurricane Harvey

Los Angeles, CA (September 19, 2017) – The Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF), a nonprofit organization that unites the insurance industry in helping communities and enriching lives through grants, volunteer service and leadership, has announced the establishment of a new disaster relief fund to assist the millions affected by the catastrophic damage of Hurricane Irma. With thousands of people still displaced and in emergency shelters in Florida, and hundreds of thousands without electricity, the need for assistance is extensive and widespread – from historic flooding in South Carolina through Jacksonville to the vast devastation in the Keys and U.S. Virgin Islands.

"IICF board members, volunteers and supporters have been pledging their generous support for those in Florida and beyond, just as they stepped up immediately to help in Texas following Hurricane Harvey," said Bill Ross, CEO, Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation. "With Hurricane Irma following so closely behind Harvey, there is unprecedented need for support of the community at large, and those involved with the IICF have answered the call without hesitation."

Donations can be made to the IICF Hurricane Irma Disaster Relief Fund by clicking here or visiting: https://app.etapistry.com/onlineforms/InsuranceIndustryCharitable/Relief-2.html

IICF earlier established its Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Fund following the devastation wrought by that storm in late August, and to date, has raised more than $400,000 to help the affected communities - through both company contributions and individual donations from 1,000 insurance professionals. FEMA continues to estimate that long-term damages and cost of recovery in Texas may exceed even Hurricane Katrina, and with the immediate needs still so great, the IICF Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Fund remains open to contributions by clicking here or visiting: https://app.etapistry.com/onlineforms/InsuranceIndustryCharitable/Relief-1.html

While raising relief funds following both catastrophic hurricanes, IICF is now also working to identify local nonprofit organizations providing direct assistance in greater Houston and other Texas communities. John Vasturia, President, Specialty Markets, Munich Reinsurance America and IICF Board of Governors Chair, noted that, “IICF has already identified several local lead agencies assisting individuals and families affected by Hurricane Harvey, including the Greater Houston Community Foundation and Houston Food Bank. We’re directing 100% of the funds raised through the IICF disaster relief funds to local nonprofits meeting local needs, so we’re able to maximize our impact and help these communities begin to recover.”

"With both hurricanes making landfall in the Southeastern U.S., IICF’s Southeast Division, based in Dallas, is leading our fundraising efforts. The outpouring of support from the entire insurance industry across the country and from our United Kingdom Division has been tremendous. We’ve had outreach from Florida as well, where IICF is currently planning its next chapter expansion," added Ross.

In its role as the philanthropic voice of the insurance industry, IICF will collect and report on the total of all donations made through these two relief funds and contributions by the entire industry. Millions in initial contributions to Hurricane Harvey relief efforts have been pledged by the insurance industry collectively so far, with most employee giving and company matching programs still in progress.

About the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF)
The Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF) is a unique nonprofit that unites the collective strengths of the insurance industry to help communities and enrich lives through grants, volunteer service and leadership.
Established in 1994, IICF has contributed $28.7 million in community grants, along with more than 240,500 volunteer hours, to hundreds of charities and nonprofit organizations, reinvesting in local communities where funds are raised for maximum impact. IICF is a registered nonprofit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Learn more at [www.iicf.org](http://www.iicf.org).

**Contact:**
Alisa Breese, Communications Director
Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation
Phone: (949) 481-3741
Email: abreese@iicf.com