



## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Teamsters Locals, Joint Councils and Affiliates

**FROM:** Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer

**DATE:** October 17, 2018

**RE:** Disaster Relief Efforts for Victims of Hurricane Michael

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared a major disaster for the state of Florida on October 11, 2018 for victims of Hurricane Michael. Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Taylor, Wakulla and Washington Counties have all been designated as areas in need of immediate relief.

More than 200,000 people throughout Florida have been affected by Hurricane Michael. A number of our members have lost their homes, and with the chaos that inevitably follows a devastating natural disaster, they may be unable to reach out to friends or relatives for assistance.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is requesting disaster relief assistance from all of our Joint Councils, local unions and affiliate organizations for Teamster members and their surrounding communities who have been affected by the storm. Here's what you can do to help:

1. Donate supplies through Costco: Teamsters Disaster Relief is partnering with the Florida AFL-CIO and Costco Wholesale of Tallahassee, Fla. to deliver much-needed supplies to victims of Hurricane Michael.

**The items that are most needed at this point in time are as follows:** toilet paper, paper towels, new towels (hand, bath, etc.), new sheets and new pillows, disinfectant wipes, trash bags, rubber gloves, working gloves, gallon-sized plastic containers, gallon-sized Ziploc bags, hand sanitizer, dry food, mosquito repellent, indigestion and

diarrhea relief medicine, first-aid kits, laundry detergent, dish soap, extension cords, oral electrolyte solution (Pedialyte), red plastic five-gallon gasoline containers, bottled water, Gatorade, baby food, baby formula, diapers of all sizes (both depends as well as baby diapers), diaper rash cream, new baby clothes (all sizes), baby wipes, new socks, new underwear, canned foods and milk, can openers, any non-perishable food items, toiletries for men and women (razors, deodorant, bar soap, shampoo, body wash etc.), hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste, tampons, pads, etc.), flashlights, dog food, cat food, kitty litter, pet supplies, coffee, sugar, and batteries.

To make a donation via Costco, go to <https://www.costco.com/> or to your local Costco Wholesale Club and request that the supplies you purchase be sent “in care of Florida AFL-CIO” to the following location: 4067 Lagniappe Way, Tallahassee, FL 32317.

**\*Please do not send any used clothes as donations.**

2. Make a donation to the Teamsters Disaster Relief Fund: To make a donation to the Teamsters Disaster Relief, go to <http://tdr.teamster.org/>.

You can also mail a donation to the following address:

Teamsters Disaster Relief Fund  
c/o International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
25 Louisiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

3. Send a tractor-trailer full of relief supplies to Florida: As recently as last month, Teamsters Joint Councils and local unions from all across the country joined forces to send disaster relief supply convoys to our membership in North Carolina who had been affected by Hurricane Florence. Teamsters Joint Council 13 Human Rights Coordinator Roy Gillespie is working with all IBT affiliates to plan routes to staging areas for the convoys as not all major highways are open at this point in time. To begin the process of coordinating the delivery of supplies to Florida via tractor-trailer, please contact Roy at (314) 302-5981 as soon as possible.

For any additional questions or concerns, please contact Joint Council 75 President Jim Shurling at (904) 786-7971 or Roy Gillespie at (314) 302-5981. We thank all of our Teamster brothers and sisters who are willing to help out their fellow members in their time of need.