

# How To Help Those Impacted by Hurricane Ida

Email sent Fri, Sep 3, 2021 at 12:33 PM via [ducommunityservice@dillard.edu](mailto:ducommunityservice@dillard.edu)



Good afternoon, Bleu Devils!

Many of you have inquired about ways you can help support those impacted by Hurricane Ida. Below are a few ways you can help. Please note that we will continue to update this list as we receive more information.

Please remember that your safety and wellbeing are our top priority right now. Make sure that you are caring for yourself and your loved ones. We will coordinate campus-wide volunteer initiatives upon our return to campus. Right now, you may volunteer on an individual basis as you see fit.

1. Share the link for individuals to donate directly to Dillard students impacted by the storm. Click [here](#) to share the link.
2. Sign up [here](#) to participate in a Phone Banking project with Together Louisiana to help assess needs of those impacted by Hurricane Ida.
3. [Sign up](#) to assist with recovery efforts coordinated by NOLA Ready.
4. Volunteer with or give to a local nonprofit.
  - [All Hands and Hearts](#) prepared for Ida by stationing its disaster assessment and response team in Beaumont, Texas. Its volunteers will enter areas affected by the storm when they can, meeting initial needs that will probably include chain-saw work to clear debris and trees, roof tarping, mucking and gutting flooded houses, and sanitizing homes with mold contamination.
  - The [Second Harvest Food Bank](#), which serves South Louisiana, has prepared more than 3,500 disaster-readiness food boxes with items like rehydration drinks and nutrition bars, as well as bottled water. It also maintains cooking equipment that can be transported to heat prepared meals. Donations of bottled water and cleaning supplies are welcome. Volunteers can apply to help, but [donating money](#) is the most efficient way to assist the aid effort, the organization said.
  - [Culture Aid NOLA](#) has set up an impromptu cooking hub at the Howlin' Wolf nightclub in New Orleans using thawing food from the freezers of restaurants

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experiencing power outages. The meals will be distributed to people in need, said Julie Pfeffer, a director. The group, which was originally formed to help people during the pandemic, [has a donations page](#). It needs volunteers, trucks and takeaway containers.

- [AirLink](#) is a nonprofit humanitarian flight organization that ships aid, emergency workers and medical personnel to communities in crisis. It has joined [Operation BBQ Relief](#) to supply equipment, cooks and volunteers to prepare meals for people affected by the storm. [Donations are welcome](#).
- [SBP](#), originally known as the St. Bernard Project, was founded in 2006 by a couple in St. Bernard Parish who were frustrated by the slow response after Hurricane Katrina. It focuses on restoring damaged homes and businesses and supporting recovery policies. Its Hurricane Ida plan needs [donations](#), which will pay for supplies for home rebuilding and protective equipment for team members.
- A number of volunteer rescue groups operate under some variation of the name Cajun Navy. One is [Cajun Navy Relief](#), a volunteer disaster response team that became a formal nonprofit organization in 2017; it has provided relief and rescue services during more than a dozen of Louisiana's floods, hurricanes and tropical storms. The team has identified supplies that are needed and [is accepting donations](#).
- Rebuilding Together New Orleans, which uses volunteer labor to repair homes, [accepts donations](#) to help with its work. The organization has also created an [online wish list](#), and a hotline number: 844-965-1386.
- Bayou Community Foundation works with local partners in Terrebonne Parish, Lafourche Parish and Grand Isle in coastal southeast Louisiana. It has set up an [Ida relief fund](#).
- Louisiana Baptists, a statewide network of 1,600 churches, has an [online form](#) for people to request help in recovery. Its relief efforts include the removal of trees from homes and the tarping of roofs, as well as meals, laundry services and counseling. Those wishing to donate [can go here](#).

### 5. Engage with national organizations that are lending a hand.

- AmeriCares, a health-focused relief and development organization, is responding to Ida in Louisiana and Mississippi and [matching donations](#). Vito Castelgrande, the leader of its Hurricane Ida team, said the organization would begin assessing damage in the hardest-hit communities when it is safe to travel.
- Mercy Chefs, a Virginia-based nonprofit group, was founded in 2006 after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, the hometown of its founder, Gary LeBlanc. The organization has served more than 15 million meals to people affected by natural disasters or who have other needs. The group has deployed two mobile kitchens to serve hot meals in Ida's wake and [is accepting donations](#).
- GoFundMe has created [a centralized hub](#) with verified GoFundMe fund-raisers to help those affected by Ida. It will be updated with new fund-raisers as they are verified.

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- Project HOPE has sent an emergency response team with 11 medical volunteers and has distributed 8,000 hygiene kits, which include items like shampoo, soap, a toothbrush, deodorant and first-aid supplies. [Donations can be made](#) solely for Hurricane Ida emergency relief.
- The Red Cross has mobilized hundreds of trained disaster workers and relief supplies to support people in evacuation shelters. About 600 volunteers were prepared to support Ida relief efforts, and shelters have been opened in Louisiana and Mississippi, with cots, blankets, comfort kits and ready-to-eat meals. The organization has also positioned products needed for blood transfusions. Donations can be made through [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), or 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767), or by texting the word REDCROSS to 90999.
- The Salvation Army has prepared field kitchens and other relief supplies to [help along the Gulf Coast](#).
- United Way of Southeast Louisiana is [collecting donations for a relief fund](#) to rebuild and provide long-term assistance, including community grants.

If you have been impacted by Hurricane Ida and need assistance, please e-mail us at [advocacy@dillard.edu](mailto:advocacy@dillard.edu) or call us at 504.383.4896. If you know of other ways Bleu Devils can help, please feel free to share them with me.

As our University motto says, *Ex Fide Fortis* - from faith comes strength. We are strong, we are resilient, we are **Dillard**. We will continue to uplift one another and weather the storm.

In Dillard Love,

Dean Williams

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### Volunteer Experience

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