



In collaboration with FedEx, International Medical Corps shipped generators and water bladders into Puerto Rico to support clinics without electricity or running water, helping the clinics resume operations.

SITUATION UPDATE

Background

This year's Atlantic hurricane season produced several deadly storms, including Hurricanes Irma and Maria, which devastated several Caribbean islands as well as affecting the United States. Hurricane Irma, which developed into a Category 5 on September 5, was recorded as the 11th most intense hurricane in the Atlantic basin, maintaining peak intensity for 37 hours.

Irma's destruction was most felt on the islands of Barbuda, Saint Martin, Anguilla, the Virgin Islands, and the United States – specifically, Florida. Less than two weeks later, Hurricane Maria, the fourth massive hurricane to strike the Caribbean during the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season, developed in the Caribbean. The storm traveled over Dominica on September 18th as a Category 5, and later over Puerto Rico on September 20th. The devastation was widespread – ninety-six people died and the damage estimates are at over \$51 billion USD across the Caribbean.

In Dominica, winds reached 160 mph, ripping the roofs off most homes and cutting the island off from cellular, radio and internet services. International Medical Corps' medical volunteers teams are reporting stories of families that did not realize the storm would be so strong; they huddled in closets and bathrooms for hours as winds ripped roofs and windows from their homes. Maria affected 100% of Dominica's residents, inflicting serious damage to roads, public buildings, homes, airports, all of the island's 53 health facilities, and the agricultural sector. Dominica's recovery is progressing slowly, as food, water, electricity, and communications capabilities remain scarce across the island. Shelter remains a top priority for residents as 98% of homes were damaged in the storm.

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

International Medical Corps is responding to the aftermath of multiple hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Dominica, and Florida.

100% of health facilities and 98% of homes were damaged as a result of Hurricane Maria in Dominica.

66% of Puerto Rico remains without power, and 25% of residents still do not have access to running water.

In Dominica, International Medical Corps has deployed medical volunteers to support local health facilities and mobile medical units, supporting 14 health facilities and providing more than 400 consultations to date. Moving forward, services will include facility rehabilitation; water, sanitation and hygiene services; and mental health and psychosocial support.

In Puerto Rico, International Medical Corps is providing power, clean water, communications and cash grants to 26 health facilities and local clinics that serve more than 15,000 people.

Maria travelled onward to Puerto Rico, hitting the island as a category 4 storm and causing widespread flooding, high winds, and storm surges. Most catastrophically, the aging electrical system was completely downed, subsequently shutting down water pumping stations and halting access to electricity and water across the island. Today, six weeks after the storm, 66% of Puerto Rico remains without power. 25% still do not have access to water, and those with water are advised to boil or purify water with chlorine prior to drinking it – a task that is difficult without electricity. International Medical Corps assessments, as well as information from FEMA, show that many health facilities are only partially operational, if at all. It is expected to take months for the electrical grid to come back online.

International Medical Corps Responds: Dominica

International Medical Corps has been responding to needs on the island of Dominica through a combination of direct medical support and the mobilization of medicines and supplies. Moving forward, International Medical Corps will provide primary health care support and the rehabilitation of water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure to the hardest-hit areas of the island.

Volunteer medical staff from the United States are supporting health centers in St. John and St. Andrew's parish – home to a combined 18,000 people and some of the island's most heavily populated areas. In these parishes there is one hospital, two "T3 facilities" (moderately sized health centers with emergency room capabilities) and 11 "T1 facilities" (small health centers with limited services). The medical teams are relieving overworked staff in Portsmouth and Marigot hospitals and clinics, as well as supporting mobile medical units (MMUs) to reach those unable to travel to health facilities, including elderly and disabled. As of October 27, 412 individuals had been treated by staff through the MMUs, and six were referred to hospitals or existing facilities for additional treatment.

International Medical Corps has continued its partnership with Pharmacists without Borders, sending two rotating pharmaceutical teams to support Dominica's Central Pharmacy and medical supply procurement. The second rotation of pharmacists have commenced work in the Portsmouth Hospital and Wesley Health Center as requested by the Chief Pharmacist at the Central Medical Store (CMS). They are sorting and organizing the large amount of pharmaceutical and medical donations received at the larger regional health facilities and implementing an inventory system in coordination with the Ministry of Health, helping to restore the medical supply chain on the island. In addition, at the request of Pan American Health Organization and Senior Lab Technician at the Ministry of Health, International Medical Corps has procured reagents, chemicals to ensure accurate lab tests, to support laboratory machines. These reagents will provide a stop gap until the normal supply chain is restored.

To fill immediate travel capacity gaps following the hurricane, International Medical Corps operated flights into Dominica, Antigua, and the British Virgin Islands from the 29th of September to the 31st of October. All together, these flights moved 328 people, including Ministry of Health officials, PAHO representatives, International Medical Corps staff, medical volunteer teams, and patients. An additional 71,000 pounds of cargo were also moved with the flights. The transit service has now ceased as regular flights are operating again.

International Medical Corps Responds: Puerto Rico

International Medical Corps continues to collaborate with La Asociación de Salud Primaria de Puerto Rico (ASPPR), a non-profit health network of nearly 70 clinics supporting vulnerable populations in Puerto Rico. To date, support of the clinic network includes the distribution of generators, water bladders, and cash grants benefitting some 26 clinics and local health centers that reach more than 15,000 people. Clinics and centers are using the funds to support physical rehabilitation, procure medication and supplies and secure power and fuel, among other urgently needed items.



Generator leaving San Juan to travel to a local health facility

Donations to ASPPR Clinics, Puerto Rico			
Generator: Clarke EDG6000 46KvA		Centros de Servicios Primarios de Salud, Inc.	Florida
Generator: Clarke EDG6000 46KvA		Neomed Center	Gurabo
Generator: Clarke EDG6000 46KvA		Migrant Health Center Western Region, Inc.	Mayaguez
Generator: Clarke EDG6000 46KvA	Cash Grant	Centros de Salud Primarios de Patillas, Inc.	Patillas
Generator: Clarke EDG6000 46KvA	Cash Grant	Atlantic Medical Center, Inc.	Barceloneta
Generator: HIPOWER 80kVA	Cash Grant	Corporacion Sanos	Caguas
Generator: HIPOWER 80kVA	Cash Grant	Salud Integral en la Montaña, Inc.	Naranjito
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal		Health Promed	Vieques
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal	Cash Grant	Hospital General Castañer, Inc.	Jayuya
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal		Centro de Servicios Primarios de Patillas	Santa Isabel
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal		Centro de Servicios Primarios de Patillas	Maunabo
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal		Salud Integral de la Montana	Orocovis
Potable Water Bladder, 500gal		COSSMA- Las Piedras	La Piedras
	Cash Grant	HPM Foundation, Inc.	Culebra
	Cash Grant	Corporacion de Servicios Medicos y Primarios de Hatillo, Inc.	Hatillo, Utuado, Arecibo, Aguadilla
	Cash Grant	Morovis Community Health Center, Inc.	Morovis/ Toa Baja
	Cash Grant	Hospital General de Castañer	Adjuntas
	Cash Grant	Camuy Health Service, Inc.	Camuy
	Cash Grant	Migrant Health Center	Las Marias
	Cash Grant	Migrant Health Center	Maricao
	Cash Grant	Migrant Health Center	Isabela
	Cash Grant	Prymed	Cialas
	Cash Grant	Consejo de Salud de PR	El Tuque
	Cash Grant	Hospital General de Castañer	Castañer
	Cash Grant	COSSMA	Cidra
	Cash Grant	Costa Salud Community Health Centers, Inc.	Rincón/ Aguada

[International Medical Corps Responds: Florida](#)

In Florida, International Medical Corps continues to support a network of 30 local clinics in and around Fort Myers, an area hit hard by Hurricane Irma. With the clinic's 500 staff largely displaced from their homes, we are providing sanitation facilities so that staff can return to work. We are also helping restore power and rehabilitate the network's clinic in Bonita Springs, which serves some 30,000 people. In addition, we are also partnering with a clinic network in Miami-Dade County, helping to provide low or no-cost medication for vulnerable families, ensuring that they continue to receive care for chronic diseases such as diabetes and easing their financial burden in the wake of the storms as they rebuild.

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