

Speaker
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Manager with Direct Relief



CARING FOR MOMS AND BABIES IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY

Maris Steward, Direct Relief
Florida Association of Community Health Centers – Spring Maternal Health Summit

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce Direct Relief as an organization
- Discuss emergency response solutions
- Explore how Direct Relief can support your organizations as part of your emergency preparedness planning and when responding to emergencies



A photograph showing a doctor with blonde hair and a stethoscope around her neck, smiling and interacting with a young girl. The girl is wearing a white hospital gown with colorful cartoon characters and has her arms raised in a joyful gesture. A woman with dark hair, wearing a striped shirt, stands behind the girl, also smiling. The scene is set in a clinical or hospital environment.

BACKGROUND



Since 1948,
nonsectarian,
apolitical, and
privately funded



Direct Relief was established by immigrant businessmen to help people in post-war Europe living under tremendous hardship

A FOCUS ON HEALTH

- Health Systems Strengthening
- Noncommunicable Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Maternal and Child Health
- Infrastructure Investments and Capacity Building
- Emergency Preparedness and Response





CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

Building business relationships for humanitarian benefit

Direct Relief partners with 70+ global biotech, pharmaceutical, and medical device companies to receive in-kind product contributions

Over \$2 billion (wholesale) distributed annually in ~100 countries, including United States

Thousands of medicines provided that enable treatment of millions of patients annually



KEY CAPABILITIES



UNIQUE ACCREDITATION AMONG NONPROFITS

National Association of Boards of
Pharmacy Drug Distributor
Accreditation—highest commercial
standard

50-state licensure for pharmaceutical
distribution

FDA-Wholesale Drug Distributor
Registration

Federal Drug Supply Chain Security Act
Compliance

Over 50 successful audits by major
manufacturers and regulatory agencies



U.S. DISTRIBUTION CENTER

155,000 square foot facility (10,000 pallet spaces)

8,400 square foot cold-chain storage (800 pallet spaces)

24,700 shipments, comprising 6.4 million pounds of medicines and medical supplies, in FY25

In FY25, support to 93 countries and 54 U.S. states & territories





PROGRAMS

Direct Relief
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SUPPLIES
FOR HUMANITARIAN USE ONLY

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Forklift

CROWN



THE NETWORK

500 healthcare institutions – (Ministries of Health, charitable NGOs, other government facilities, etc.) – in 100 countries

1,400 safety-net health facilities – (health centers, free clinics, public health departments, Title X clinics, etc.) – in all 50 U.S. states and territories



THE APPROACH

- Identify providers and analyze the health needs of the most vulnerable
- Mobilize and deliver philanthropic resources
- Derive and amplify insights



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

- Increasing access to high-quality contraceptives for uninsured and low-income women across the U.S.
- Access to long-acting reversible contraception (IUDs and Nexplanon), emergency contraception, oral contraceptives available via Safety Net Support Program

A military helicopter, marked with the number 163055, is parked on a tarmac. Several personnel in flight suits and helmets are working with a large pallet of medical supplies. The pallet is labeled '16/22' and 'Direct Relief EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF'. The scene is set outdoors on a clear day.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

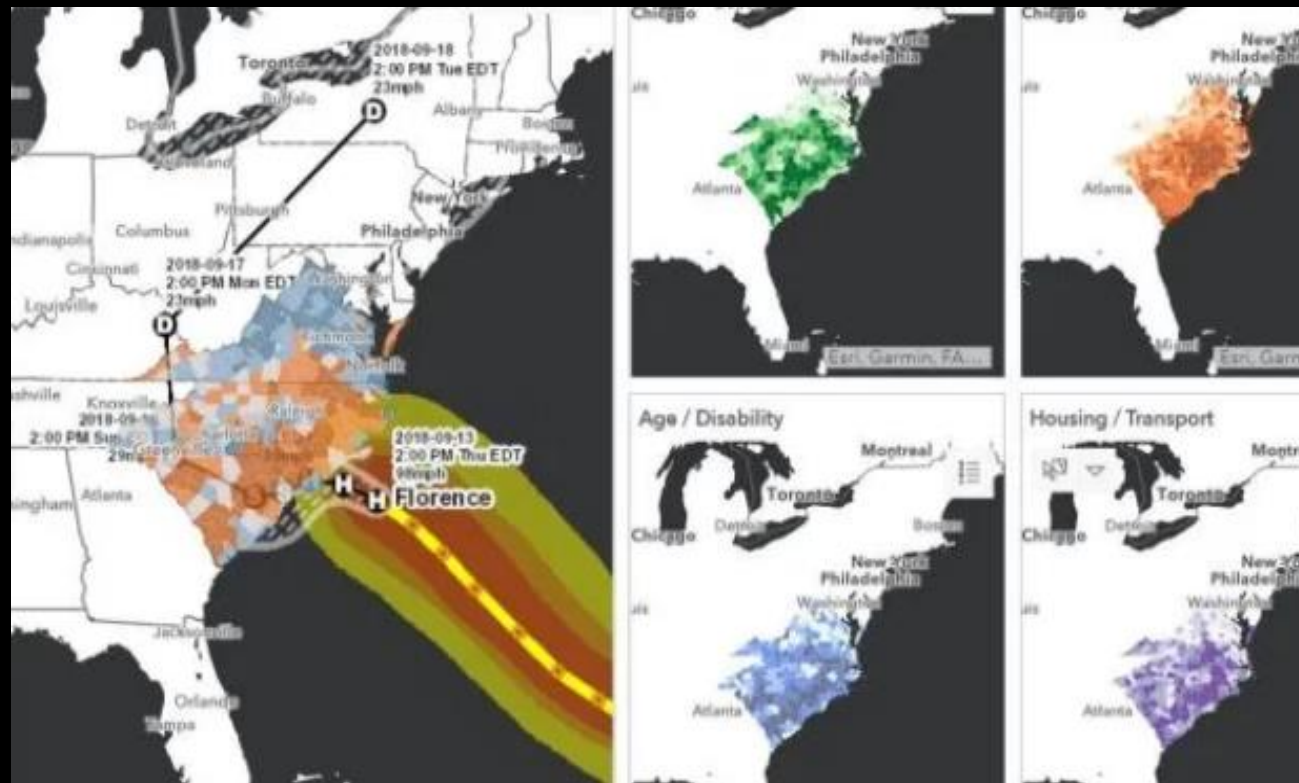
16/22

Direct Relief
**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SUPPLIES**
HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF
DIRECT RELIEF CONTRACT #12002-879-0002

Ministry of Health
Bahamas

HEALTH AND CRISIS MAPPING

- Analyzing spatial data to more effectively tackle global health challenges
- Mapping technology platforms like ArcGIS enable Direct Relief to compile event-specific interactive maps of disaster response in near real-time
- Enhanced analytic tools—from optimized hot-spotting to spatial regression analysis—allow Direct Relief to test hypotheses about the causes and consequences of humanitarian aid



HEALTH RISKS - FLORIDA

- Disruption in Health Services
- Extreme Heat
- Flooding
- Hurricanes
- Vector Borne Disease
- Wildfire Smoke



HEALTH RISKS AND THE IMPACT ON MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

- Increases in preterm birth
- Increases in pregnancy complications or delivery complications such as preeclampsia
- Vector-borne diseases, including those associated with flooding, can increase risks of birth defects and cause delivery complications
- Disruption in health services or accessibility can cut-off prenatal care and safe delivery locations



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

- Emergency Health Kits
- Emergency Medical Backpack
- Hurricane Preparedness Packs
- Strategic Emergency Stockpile



STRATEGIC EMERGENCY STOCKPILE

Ensuring capacity to respond

Inventory Includes:

- Antibiotics
- Hygiene Kits
- Inhalers and Nebulizers
- Insect Repellent
- PPE: coveralls, eye protection, exam gloves, N95 masks
- Vaccines: Tetanus
- Water Purification Tablets



EMERGENCY MEDICAL BACKPACKS

Contents Includes:

- Antibiotics (topical)
- PPE: eye protection, exam gloves, leather palm gloves, N95s
- Water Purification Tablets



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PACKS AND EMERGENCY HEALTH KITS

Contents Includes:

- Antibiotics
- Disinfectant Supplies
- Inhalers and Nebulizers
- Medications for diabetes, cardiovascular, asthma, mental health
- PPE: eye protection, exam gloves, N95



EMERGENCY RESPONSE ORDERS

- Following a disaster, partners can order available products and kits
- Shipments are deployed rapidly to ensure timely disaster support
- All orders ship via FedEx free of charge



