

## Give Assistance to Hurricane Victims in Florida

**PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA**—Hurricane Charley has killed at least 20 people and left thousands homeless after striking southwestern Florida. The storm packed 145-mph winds and caused heavy rain throughout the region. The hurricane demolished homes and businesses. Half a million people remain without electricity while others don't have access to critical services such as running water.

Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte were among the hardest-hit areas, and barrier islands were also affected, including Sanibel Island where the storm reached landfall. Twenty-five of Florida's 67 counties were designated federal disaster areas.



Hurricane Charley took lives and destroyed homes and businesses in Florida. Emergency relief and long-term assistance is needed for the most vulnerable in the region.

APWorld Wide Photo

### You can help today.

**Please send the most generous gift you can to help provide emergency assistance for children and families in Florida.**

Your partnership is critical to providing desperate aid to vulnerable people struggling to pick up the pieces in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley's destruction.

**You can help the Church respond to this crisis and demonstrate Christ's love for our brothers and sisters during their time of need.**



An independent 501(c)3 organization

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
*Episcopal Relief and Development/  
US Hurricane Relief Fund*

**MAIL TO:** PO BOX 12043, Newark, NJ 07101-5043

To make a credit card donation, please call 1.800.334.7626 ext. 5129 or visit [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org). **Thank you for all you do to help save lives and build hope.**

*If funds for this project are oversubscribed, ERD will use these funds for similar life-saving projects.*

Episcopal Relief and Development is working with the Dioceses of Southwest Florida and Central Florida to provide emergency assistance to hurricane victims. ERD will provide critical aid, such as food, temporary shelter, baby supplies, and medicine, to vulnerable families cut off from receiving support.

"While injured, congregations are responding with zeal and vigor," said the Rt. Rev. John B. Lipscomb, Bishop of Southwest Florida. "Damaged but structurally-safe parish halls are being converted into relief missions and dormitories for relief workers," said Bishop Lipscomb.

Episcopal Relief and Development is meeting immediate needs and will work with the dioceses to provide long-term assistance and help communities recover.

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