

DISASTER AID USA UPDATE

Hurricanes Eta and Iota – Flooded Guatemala and Honduras

By Bob Grill, President of Disaster Aid USA; and Paul Mahata, Chair, District Disaster Relief Committee

Disaster Aid USA, in coordination with the District 7620 Disaster Relief Committee, is preparing to respond to the disasters at the northern Caribbean Coast of Guatemala and Honduras. This is in addition to our multiple deployments in Louisiana and Florida Panhandle to help the victims of Hurricanes Laura, Sally, and Delta. DAUSA is working and coordinating with the Rotary District Governors in these areas. We urge you to consider donating money individually or as a club to benefit the victims of these disasters.

Hurricanes Eta and Iota left a bleak outlook in the northern Caribbean Coast of Guatemala and Honduras. Both unleashed torrential rains that have, in turn, caused widespread flooding and devastating landslides and mudslides. The weather systems have destroyed houses, flooded villages, toppled trees, and knocked out power grids, driving thousands of people out of their homes to seek sanctuary in other more secure structures; others have died or gone missing.

The East Guatemala Rotary Club contacted the Cypress-Fairbanks Rotary Club in Houston, TX, and indicated the immense need for humanitarian relief due to Eta and Iota's hurricanes brought to the different areas of Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The East Guatemala Rotary Club is fully capable of guaranteeing delivery to the areas most affected by the two storms in the recent weeks. Guatemala also has Rotary Clubs working in the most affected regions of Izabal, Coban, Huehuetenango, Gualán, and Chiquimula. All these areas have no road access now due to the loss of bridges and roads. DAUSA was assured by the local Rotary clubs that all humanitarian aid will be delivered to devastated areas. We have been made aware that the Government of Guatemala granted the Rotary Clubs in Guatemala a five-year governmental exemption franchise enabling Rotary to bring into the country all humanitarian aid donated free of tax.

We are asking that you consider visiting the DAUSA web site: www.DisasterAidUSA.org and click on the PayPal button and make donations individually or as a club. Your donations will be used to provide aid and assistance to the victims of Hurricanes Eta, Iota, Laura, Sally, and Delta, as people rebuild their lives and homes. Alternatively, you can mail a check to: Disaster Aid USA, 9817 Lanham Severn Road, Lanham, MD 20706. Also, there is an option for donating money through Network for Good.

<https://disasteraidusa.networkforgood.com/projects/107762-hurricane-laura-2020>

For any questions feel free to contact Bob Grill: bob.grill@disasteraidusa.org or Paul Mahata: Pmahata@verizon.net.

