

DISASTER AID FOR HURRICANES LAURA AND SALLY

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

Disaster Aid USA, in coordination with District 7620 Disaster Relief Committee, is doing a deployment to Louisiana and Florida Panhandle to help the victims of Hurricanes Laura and Sally. You may be aware that recently two strong hurricanes – Laura and Sally badly impacted the Gulf Coast. The flooding and wind damage are very significant, and dozens of lives have been lost. Disaster Aid USA has decided to deploy volunteers in Louisiana and Florida Panhandle, using rescue boats and disaster relief trailers with emergency equipment. So, now we are seeking able-bodied volunteers as well as donation of funds to carry out the disaster relief work, primarily in these two states. DAUSA is working and coordinating with the Rotary District Governors in these states. We urge you to become a volunteer, if you can, or consider donating money individually or as a club. In the past, district 7620 has been very supportive of DAUSA which is led by our own PDG Bob Grill.

Sadly, for our brothers and sisters, the wind and tornado damage from Hurricane Laura was very extensive in southeast Louisiana. And now, Hurricane Sally has done extensive flood and wind damage to Florida Panhandle. Monetary donations are needed to provide funds for Disaster Aid USA to continue in the weeks ahead with its trailers and teams of Rotarian and non-Rotarian volunteers who will be chain-sawing fallen trees, carrying tree limbs and other debris, such as shingles and siding. Mucking and gutting is also needed as a result of the flooding in homes. Volunteers are needed to remove and carry to the curb water-soaked furniture, carpet, flooring, dry-wall, etc.

Disaster Aid USA welcomes all able-bodied volunteers (male and female, young and old, experienced and inexperienced). If in a previous life, you were a lumberjack that could carve trees with a chainsaw, we need you! If you can pick up a tree limb or a shingle, we need you! Please visit our website: disasteraidusa.org. Read who we are and see what we do and have done over the last 10 years. We are asking that you consider clicking on the PayPal button and making a donation individually or as a club. Your donation will be used to provide aid and assistance to the victims of Hurricanes Laura and Sally, as they

rebuild their lives and homes. Alternately, 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

TROPICAL STORM AMANDA AID FROM DC

Rotary Club of Washington D.C. made a donation to the Rotary Club of San Salvador Maquilishuat (CRSSM), for families affected by tropical storm Amanda. On May 31, 2020, El Salvador was severely affected by tropical storm Amanda. Many families with limited income were left without homes, in temporary shelters, or in dwellings at risk of collapsing; the storm occurred at a time when the population was under mandatory quarantine due to the COVID19 pandemic, and these families had already lost their limited income resources due to the quarantine.

In light of this situation, on July 1, 2020, Rotary Club of Washington D.C., in solidarity with these families in need, gave a generous donation of US \$2,000 to Rotary Club San Salvador Maquilishuat, for supplies to be distributed to families affected by the storm. Rotary Club Maquilishuat undertook the logistics of purchasing and delivering supplies to the communities benefited.

Purchase was made of 160 packages of basic nonperishable supplies (rice, beans, sugar, salt, pasta, cooking oil, bread, flour, soup, tomato sauce, sanitary tissue paper), benefiting 160 families. Considering an average of 4 persons per family, approximately 640 people have received help in the communities of Bello Amanecer, San Felipe, and Las Cañas, all in the municipality of Ilopango in San Salvador. The cost per package was US \$12.50.

We at Rotary Club of San Salvador Maquilishuat are infinitely grateful for the support received from Rotary Club of Washington D.C., which has allowed us to bring relief and hope to these families.

Give from oneself before thinking of oneself.



[Above] Disaster Aid USA, in coordination with District 7620 Disaster Relief Committee, is doing a deployment at Louisiana and Florida Panhandle to help the victims of Hurricanes Laura and Sally. (Gazette)