

Hi Classmates,

I would like to provide you and update on the current Puerto Rico earthquake District 7000 Rotary disaster initiatives.

Most of our Clubs have carried out various types of supplies collection and distribution activities. We have also established a bank account for a cash collection drive.

Initially, it was the community who reacted in providing for their fellow citizens Later, For the most part, both the affected municipalities and the Puerto Rico Governments have stepped up to provide food and shelter in tent cities and other public facilities not damaged by the earthquakes. They have not necessarily reached out to all affected communities or individual families Many affected families have not moved to shelters and are living in improvised tent camps in or near their communities. They might go to work if they can but at night, they are afraid of sleeping in their damaged homes. The emotional impact on families in the Southwest is overwhelming as earthquakes of 3.4 to 5. 6 magnitudes continue at 6-10 occurrences per day, many at night.

Our local District is attempting to provide relief by funding activities aimed at providing emotional relief clinics to the affected areas and also funding the inspection by local engineers of damaged homes to allow the affected families to decide on how to proceed in the future, i.e., the damages are minor and the home may be returned to or structural damages are either minor and fixable in the short term or the damages are more significant and perhaps the home will need to be permanently abandoned. Further help may be provided to some by supplying appliances, etc., supplies of a more permanent nature.

District 7210 New York, Cindie Kish and her disaster relief team have been provided humans and economic support since Hurricane Maria and have again raised to the task. They are carrying out a donation drive and will be traveling to Puerto Rico early next week to assess needs and provide support.

We feel that cash donations will help us support such initiatives and encourage all of our friends to contribute to this effort.

We want to thank one of our Zone DGs who made a \$2,500 cash contribution on behalf of his District.

I am attaching a file containing the necessary banking information.

Hope all of you are doing well.

DG Marilyn Lopez