

Dear UA Community –

As our fellow citizens and friends in Texas deal with unprecedented rain, historic flooding, and brace for another landfall of Hurricane Harvey, I write to ask you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers and to consider helping if you are able. We Alaskans are no stranger to similar natural catastrophes – volcanoes, earthquakes, snow and wind storms, mud slides, floods – and we understand the vulnerability that follows such events. The goodness of others helps us through such devastation. And so I ask you to join me, if you are able, in helping the many charities and local relief agencies working around the clock on response and recovery efforts. Here are a few of the involved relief organizations accepting donations to assist those who are impacted:

- American Red Cross, at www.americanredcross.org
- The United Way of Greater Houston, at www.unitedwayhouston.org/flood
- Greater Houston Community Fund established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner to raise funds for local disaster relief, at www.ghcf.org
- The SPCA of Texas, assisting animals, at www.spca.org/
- Global Giving, a crowdfunding site is attempting to raise \$2 million for local relief efforts, at www.globalgiving.org
- The Houston Press has compiled a list of local food banks at www.houstonpress.com/restaurants/texas-food-banks-mobilize-for-hurricane-harvey-how-you-can-help-9735249
- The Houston Chronicle has compiled a list of charities at www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-weather/hurricaneharvey/article/Hurricane-Harvey-How-to-help-victims-of-the-12003372.php

You also can check www.givewell.org/ for other options as well as a checklist and tips for charitable giving.

Thank you for considering a donation and extending that big hearted Alaskan hand to those in need.

Best regards,
Jim Johnsen