

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



DIRECT RELIEF provides targeted assistance to help providers prepare for and respond to emergencies. Safety net health centers and clinics deliver essential services when a disaster strikes – Direct Relief partners with these facilities and provides specifically-requested medications, supplies, and cash grants immediately following a disaster.

To prepare partners for emergencies, resources are pre-positioned at local facilities, ensuring that essential materials are on hand when a disaster occurs.

Emergency response efforts are swift and efficient as a result of extensive relationships with local, regional, and national associations, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and FedEx. Direct Relief is in the unique position to offer appropriate emergency response due to:

- ▶ 70+ years of experience in pharmaceutical distribution.
- ▶ Partnership with more than 1,300 safety net health centers, clinics, and other safety net providers across the U.S.
- ▶ Being the only nonprofit licensed by the National Boards of Pharmacy to distribute prescription medicines in all 50 states.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ▶

APPLICATION: Hurricane preparedness
TREATS: 100 patients for 3-5 days

Since 2007, Direct Relief has pre-positioned Hurricane Prep Packs in vulnerable regions affected by hurricanes. The mobile, waterproof packs contain medical items to treat 100 patients for 3-5 days. Recipients are selected based on their location, past experience with emergency response, patient population, and capacity to treat affected people during an emergency.

The pack's contents were informed by responses to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, work with the Texas Blue Ribbon Commission on Emergency Preparedness and Response, and partner feedback. If a hurricane doesn't strike, pack contents are easily absorbed into regular clinic inventory. >





◀ EMERGENCY HEALTH KIT

APPLICATION: Emergency response
TREATS: 100 patients for 3-5 days

Decades of emergency response expertise goes into every Direct Relief Emergency Health Kit – designed to provide safety net facilities with essential emergency medicines and supplies required to meet the needs of patients immediately following any natural or man-made disaster including wildfires, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, and hurricanes. The contents include a range of medications and supplies to treat chronic disease and acute care needs. Emergency Health Kits are built and stored at Direct Relief’s headquarters for rapid deployment.

FAMILY HYGIENE KIT ▼

APPLICATION: Personal care and disease prevention
SERVES: A family of 5

For families displaced from their homes following a disaster, the most basic personal care items are often overlooked. Using suggested contents from FEMA and CDC, Direct Relief keeps Family Hygiene Kits on hand to be used in the event of a disaster. The kits contain basic personal care supplies such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, razors, and other products to help families who are left without everyday necessities because of natural disasters or other emergency situations. Pre-packing these kits means families will have access to essential personal care items immediately following a disaster.



EQUIPPING OUTREACH TEAMS ▼



APPLICATION: Emergency response
CONTAINS: OTC drugs, consumables, wound & eye care, personal safety gear, and more

Direct Relief provides health centers and clinics with specially-designed, ruggedized backpacks filled with medical supplies to help address community health needs in an emergency and during outreach. Each Emergency Medical Backpack contains supplies and equipment that meet a variety of prevalent disaster-related health needs, including infection control, diagnostics, trauma care, and personal protection tools. The packs enable safety net providers to respond when disaster strikes.

This program was developed by Direct Relief in collaboration with the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (Cal EMSA). The packs were designed by Direct Relief with input from experienced emergency responders. In 2010, Direct Relief received the Outstanding Medical Reserve Corps Partner Organization Award from the National Office of the Civilian Volunteer MRC organization.



Endorsed
by
Cal EMSA