

An International Medical Corps staff member surveys the damage in Georgia from Hurricane Helene during our response in 2024.

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season is shaping up to be an active one, with the US National Hurricane Center predicting a 60% above-normal season of activity. As of late July, three named storms have formed. Though the storms have not made landfall as high-intensity hurricanes, the sheer amount of rainfall caused by the weather systems have led to catastrophic flash flooding, significant damage and loss of life.

On July 4, catastrophic flooding caused by the remnants of June's Tropical Storm Barry swept through Central Texas,

causing the Guadalupe River to rise 26 feet in a matter of hours and killing more than 135 people.<sup>2</sup> Local partners across the affected Texas Hill Country—including Kerr, Menard and Tom Green counties—have reported escalating needs for mental health services, as many community members experienced significant loss and/or participated in search-and-recovery efforts.

On July 17, a tropical disturbance, classified an "Invest 93L"—the same designation initially given to 2023's Hurricane Idalia—developed off the coast of Louisiana, triggering flood advisories and notable storm preparation in communities across the southeastern part of the state. Other regions across the country, including New Mexico, Appalachia, the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast, have also experienced severe storms and flash flooding; 20 million people across the country were under flood watch on Friday, July 18.3 Simultaneously, an extreme heat wave is building across the eastern part of the US, with nearly 100 million people in more than 20 states under heat alerts as of July 23.4

As hurricane and heat season continues, and states, agencies and organizations work to prepare for impact, vulnerable populations—including the elderly, people with chronic health conditions, low-income communities (many of whom are under- or uninsured), non-English speakers and people experiencing homelessness—remain disproportionately vulnerable to adverse and exacerbated health risks and challenges, including disrupted access to health services,

## **FAST FACTS**

- Since the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season began June 1, at least three named tropical storms have formed, with the remnants releasing historic amounts of rainfall and causing flash flooding in inland communities.
- On July 4, Central Texas experienced catastrophic flooding that resulted in the death of 135 people, including dozens of children.
- On July 18, a tropical disturbance formed near the coast of Louisiana that triggered heavy rains across the southeast portion of the state.

## **OUR RESPONSE**

- In response to the Central Texas Flooding, International Medical Corps is partnering closely with the Texas Association of Community Health Centers to meet the specific needs of affected health centers.
- Also in response to the Texas flooding, we are deploying an emergency response team of mental health clinicians to provide critical care to affected first responders, healthcare workers and community members in Menard and Tom Green counties.
- We continue to coordinate closely with federal, regional, state and local partners and health centers across the US and Puerto Rico to strengthen their preparedness for the hurricane season and severe weather events.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-predicts-above-normal-2025-atlantic-hurricane-season

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/19/us/texas-floods-kerr-county-missing.html

<sup>3</sup> https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2025/07/18/flooding-rains-forecast-south-mid-atlantic-midwest/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2025/07/23/heat-humidity-cities-forecast/

increased insecurity around food or water supply, power loss, extreme heat, loss of essential medication or medical devices, and increased mental and emotional stress.

As the frequency, scale, severity and duration of severe weather events continue to increase, these at-risk communities face compounded challenges, bearing the brunt of repeated disasters and enduring longer recovery periods.

## **International Medical Corps' Response**

In preparation for the 2025 hurricane season and in response to the 2024 season, International Medical Corps is continuing collaboration with federal, regional, state and local partners across the country. Together, we are strengthening response mechanisms; strategically prepositioning resources, improving regional and local coordination; enhancing health center preparedness; and implementing initiatives to build greater community resilience. International Medical Corps remains active and ready to help local partners and communities effectively prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of growing severe weather events.

In response to the July 4 flooding in Texas, we are partnering with the Texas Association of Community Health Centers (TACHC). At the request of TACHC and two health center networks in Menard County and the city of San Angelo in Tom Green County, International Medical Corps is deploying an emergency response team of mental health clinicians to provide urgent behavioral and mental health care to frontline responders, healthcare workers and affected community members. Teams will work in close coordination with the local health center networks.



An International Medical Corps volunteer physician conducts a medical consultation with a community member in a shelter in Buncombe County, North Carolina, following Hurricane Helene.

Significant portions of Menard and Tom Green counties received up to 15 inches of rain in hours, and experienced heavy flooding and destruction, during the July 4 weekend. Local partners report that at least 78 families and individuals in San Angelo alone lost their homes completely due to the flooding and are living in hotels. One partner health center reported that the pediatrician who provides primary care in two counties lost their home, hindering their capacity to continue working as they deal with the personal impact of the flooding. Additionally, many frontline workers and community members from these communities participated in search-and-recovery efforts in their own cities and in hard-hit Kerr County, leading to increases in mental health needs.

In ongoing preparation for the 2025 hurricane and heat season, International Medical Corps is pre-positioning essential supplies to health facility partners in Florida and Puerto Rico based on local needs and challenges, including hygiene and wound-care kits, diapers, mobility aids, power sources, insulin coolers and other critical relief items. International Medical Corps is continuing to support communities affected by the 2024 hurricane season, including those in Florida, North Carolina and Puerto Rico, working closely with local health center networks to strengthen response capacities and ensure that communities can access and receive the healthcare they need. In 2025 alone, International Medical Corps has conducted 14 training sessions and workshops, reaching 363 people.

# **International Medical Corps in the US and Territories**

International Medical Corps has been an emergency responder in the United States and Caribbean since 2005, when we partnered with local community clinics overwhelmed by Hurricane Katrina. In the US, International Medical Corps works with national, state and local partners in the healthcare system to address the significant challenges that face domestic healthcare services, and deploys emergency response teams in response to disasters. Over the last two years, International Medical Corps has responded to 11 emergencies across 10 states and territories, including the recent Los Angeles wildfires, and trained 630 health workers from 47 organizations. Across these responses, we have deployed more than 100 medical and mental health professionals, and provided direct medical and mental health care to nearly 3,000 people. Our teams have distributed more than 140,000 units of medical and non-medical supplies, delivered critical equipment for rebuilding, and provided water, sanitation and hygiene services to health centers and local partners, enabling them to continue to meet the needs of their communities.

Over the past seven years, International Medical Corps has engaged partner networks of more than 275 hospitals, clinics and health-related facilities and NGOs across 18 states and territories, supporting more than 6 million patients and healthcare providers in the US.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.sanangelo.gov/769/July-4-Flood-Information

# 2024–25 Atlantic Hurricane Seasons Response\*

# **FLOODING — 2025** (TROPICAL STORM BARRY)

### **HURRICANE HELENE — 2024**

Florida, Georgia, North Carolina & Tennessee

 Distributed 32K+ emergency and recovery items to 82 health centers and local partners

#### **North Carolina**

- · Deployed 47-person medical team who provided 1,894 patient visits
- · Delivered 6K+ gallons of water and 34 water and hygiene-related supplies/equipment to clinics
- · Training staff of four health centers on emergency preparedness

#### Tennessee

· Procured and delivered 400 doses of Tetanus and Hepatitis A vaccines to a health center

### **HURRICANE DEBBY — 2024**

Georgia & South Carolina

- Partnered with five health centers and the Red Cross
- Distributed 5K+ emergency and recovery supplies

#### **HURRICANE MILTON — 2024** Florida

- Statewide equipment prepositioning for clinics
- · Training 50+ clinics on emergency management

- · Partnering with the Texas Association of Community Health Centers (TACHC) and two health center networks
- · Deploying team of mental health professionals to provide behavioral and mental health support

# **HURRICANE BERYL - 2024**

- · Supported three temporary clinics, regional hospital and regional health center
- Procured construction materials and distributed medical supplies to health facilities

- · Partnered with two large health center networks
- Distributed 2K+ emergency and recovery supplies/items
- Prepositioning supplies with affected clinics
- Training clinics on emergency preparedness

## **HURRICANE ERNESTO — 2024**

#### **Puerto Rico**

- · Partnered with four community health center networks
- · Distributed 2K+ emergency and recovery items/supplies

# **HURRICANE FRANCINE — 2024**

#### Louisiana

- · Partnered with four health centers
- · Distributed 2K+ emergency and recovery items/supplies



\*As of July 23, 2025