



International Medical Corps volunteers provide mental health services to a woman displaced by the floods.

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.¹ Four storms had formed as of early August, and though they did not make 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.² Local partners across the affected Texas Hill Country have reported escalating needs for mental health services, as many community members experienced significant loss and/or participated in difficult search-and-recovery efforts. Recovery and cleanup efforts continue, as communities work to remove downed trees, mud and debris from damaged homes and buildings. These efforts are taking place amid rising temperatures, raising concerns about heat exhaustion.³ Health-center staff have also expressed worry about people with chronic conditions who face mobility challenges and other barriers to getting the healthcare they need during cleanup and recovery.

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 which include people who 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, 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.

FAST FACTS

- Since the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season began June 1, at least four named tropical storms have formed, with the remnants releasing historic amounts of rainfall and causing flash flooding in inland communities.
- On July 4, as a result of Tropical Storm Barry, Central Texas experienced catastrophic flooding that resulted in the death of at least 135 people, including dozens of children.
- Atlantic hurricane season historically picks up significantly in mid- to late August. The National Hurricane Center is tracking several systems that could develop into storms over the coming week.

OUR RESPONSE

- In response to the flooding, we deployed staff and volunteers to six counties in Texas Hill Country, including Kerr County, to provide mental health services.
- As of August 4, we had provided 117 community members with wellness checks and mental health resources.
- We continue to coordinate closely with federal, regional, state and local partners, as well as with health centers across the US and Puerto Rico, to strengthen their preparedness for the hurricane season and severe weather events.

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

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

³ <https://cbsaustin.com/news/local/volunteer-efforts-continue-amid-heat-challenges-in-central-texas-flood-recovery>

International Medical Corps' Response

To support the ongoing readiness efforts 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 ready to help local partners and communities effectively prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of severe weather events.

Tropical Storm Barry: Central Texas Flooding Response

In response to the flooding in the Texas Hill Country on July 4 triggered by the remnants of Tropical Storm Barry, International Medical Corps deployed an emergency response team at the request of the Texas Association of Community Health Centers (TACHC) and local health center networks. The team—comprising mental health clinicians and staff—is providing urgent mental health services to first responders, healthcare workers and community members. We have partnered with Frontera Healthcare Network, a local federally qualified health center, to augment mental health resources in affected communities, including in the community of Hunt in Kerr County, near Camp Mystic—where nearly 30 campers and counselors lost their lives. The team is conducting daily wellness checks and visits, and providing national, state and local mental health resources to community members involved in search-and-recovery operations and those coping with grief.

The International Medical Corps team and local health center network have identified pressing and underserved flood-related needs in nearby counties: Gillespie, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch and Menard. Though these areas also experienced severe flooding, mudslides and infrastructure damage, many health and mental health needs remain unmet. In tandem with the daily services provided in Hunt, International Medical Corps' clinical team is also deploying to community hubs such as food pantries, school districts and community centers in the five surrounding counties to conduct wellness checks and disseminate free mental health and self-care resources. In our first week of operation, the clinical team has conducted 117 wellness checks and visits.

International Medical Corps has also partnered with Frontera to deploy its mobile medical unit (MMU) to reach flood-affected patients—particularly those with chronic conditions—in their homes. The MMU will operate daily across the five counties, with health center staff delivering health services and our clinical volunteers delivering mental health services.

International Medical Corps has shipped 1,000 hygiene kits and 1,000 wound-care kits for distribution during MMU outreach efforts and other disaster-recovery community events. We also have procured 280 essential hygiene items, including deodorant and baby wipes, and clothing items such as t-shirts and socks, to distribute to community members.

International Medical Corps is working closely with Frontera staff to assess gaps and plan a robust schedule of community outreach activities through August 15. Moving forward, we are exploring opportunities to support longer-term recovery efforts, including helping to cover the cost of medication for Frontera clients, and other activities to ensure long-term continuity of care for impacted families and communities. Looking ahead to long-term recovery, International Medical Corps is helping the health center network address growing access gaps, particularly among low-income, uninsured and underinsured patients, whose clinic visits have dropped significantly since the floods.

2025 Hurricane and Heat Season Preparations

In ongoing activity around the 2025 hurricane and heat season, International Medical Corps continues to pre-position essential supplies to health facility partners in Florida and Puerto Rico based on local needs, including hygiene and wound-care kits, diapers, mobility aids, power sources, insulin coolers and other critical relief items. The Florida Association of Community Health Centers (FACHC)—one of International Medical Corps key partners in emergency response and recovery efforts—reports that their priorities for this hurricane season include prepositioning equipment, enhancing real-time communication tools and assessing health center operations and broader community impacts. We are supporting these efforts by procuring essential supplies—including a medical field tent, generators and battery backups—for FACHC, and helping to preposition them at three partner health centers across Florida. This will enable FACHC to quickly deploy resources to affected health centers after emergencies, helping them maintain operations and manage patient surges during critical times. International Medical Corps is also continuing to support communities affected by the 2024 hurricane season, including those in Florida, North Carolina, Texas and Puerto Rico, working closely



An International Medical Corps volunteer distributes hygiene and wound-care kits to flood-impacted homes.

with local health center networks to strengthen response capacities and ensure that communities can access and receive the healthcare they need. So far in 2025, International Medical Corps has conducted 15 training and informational sessions, reaching 382 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.

