



An International Medical Corps volunteer speaks with a community member at a gathering point in Hunt, Texas, located along the bank of the Guadalupe River.

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season is proving highly active, with the US National Hurricane Center forecasting a 60% above-normal season of activity.¹ Four named storms have already formed; though none made landfall as high-intensity hurricanes, residual rainfall has led to catastrophic flash flooding, significant damage and loss of life in various communities. A fifth storm system, Tropical Storm Erin, is currently intensifying in the Atlantic, and is expected to become the season's first hurricane—causing communities from the Bahamas to the US East Coast to be on high alert as it moves west.²

On July 4, flooding caused by the remnants of June's Tropical Storm Barry devastated Central Texas. The Guadalupe River rose 26 feet in hours, killing more than 135 people, primarily in Kerr County.³ Surrounding rural communities were also severely affected and experienced notable loss, including extensive infrastructure damage. The flooding rendered entire homes uninhabitable or unsafe, disrupting livelihoods, increasing food and water insecurity, and leaving community members in a state of much uncertainty. In Menard, located more than 100 miles away from Kerr County, floodwaters reached 6 feet. The local fire department conducted 132 water rescues, with just four responders covering a 1,000-square-mile area.

The aftermath has brought continued challenges: food storage and belongings were lost, mold and mildew have spread rapidly due to high temperatures and homes remain unsafe or uninhabitable—with enormous financial loss and costs of repairs and rebuilding. Mental health needs are escalating, particularly among those who experienced loss, trauma or were involved in search-and-recovery efforts. Cleanup continues amid rising heat, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses.⁴ Healthcare partners report growing concerns for people with chronic conditions, exacerbated by mold exposure, water contamination, mobility issues and limited access to care.

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

FAST FACTS

- Since the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season began June 1, four named tropical storms have formed, some of which have released historic amounts of rainfall and caused flash flooding.
- 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. This week, Tropical Storm Erin is building in the Atlantic and moving west. It is predicted to become the first hurricane of the season.

OUR RESPONSE

- In response to the Texas flooding, International Medical Corps has deployed a team of mental health professionals to provide care to people in six counties in Texas Hill Country, including Kerr County.
- To date, we have provided more than 820 wellness checks and outreach engagements to community members, first responders and volunteers who have been impacted by the flooding.
- As Tropical Storm Erin intensifies, International Medical Corps is coordinating with the Florida Department of Health and other local partners in anticipation of the storm's impact. 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 continued hurricane and heat season.

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

² <https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/2025-08-11-tropical-storm-erin-forms-the-latest-forecast-track>

³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/19/us/texas-floods-kerr-county-missing.html>

⁴ <https://cbsaustin.com/news/local/volunteer-efforts-continue-amid-heat-challenges-in-central-texas-flood-recovery>

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.

International Medical Corps' Response

As part of our ongoing readiness efforts for the 2025 hurricane season and in response to the 2024 season, International Medical Corps is working closely with federal, regional, state and local partners across the country to strengthen response mechanisms, strategically preposition resources, improve regional and local coordination, enhance health center preparedness and implement initiatives to build greater community resilience. We remain ready to help local partners and communities effectively prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of severe weather events. As Tropical Storm Erin intensifies in the Atlantic this week and is anticipated to make landfall as a hurricane in the Caribbean and along the United States East Coast, International Medical Corps has already connected with the Florida Department of Health and other local partners in preparation for the storm's impact.



International Medical Corps volunteers and Frontera Healthcare staff speak with a community member in Brady, Texas, about her needs and challenges following the flood.

Tropical Storm Barry: Central Texas Flooding Response

In response to the July 4 flooding in Central Texas, 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. Our team—comprising mental health clinicians and staff—continues to deliver critical mental health services to first responders, healthcare workers and community members across the impacted Texas Hill Country. We have partnered with Frontera Healthcare Network, a local federally qualified health center, to augment mental health support and resources in affected communities, including the town of Hunt in Kerr County—near where nearly 30 campers and counselors lost their lives at Camp Mystic. Team members are conducting daily wellness checks and outreach visits, and are connecting affected first responders and community members who have been involved in search-and-recovery operations—and are thus coping with the sudden loss and grief—with national, state and local mental health resources.

Beyond Kerr County, the International Medical Corps team and local health center network have identified pressing and underserved flood-related needs in Gillespie, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch and Menard counties, which also suffered severe flooding and infrastructure damage. In addition to the daily services our team provides in Hunt, we are delivering services in community hubs such as food pantries, school districts and community centers, as well as being present with the community, conducting wellness checks and disseminating free mental health and self-care resources. To date, the clinical team has conducted 821 wellness checks and visits. Team members have met with community members and provided a space to listen to their stories and experiences, allowing them to process safely.

International Medical Corps has also partnered with Frontera to deploy its mobile medical unit (MMU) to reach flood-affected patients—particularly those considered high-risk and/or with chronic conditions—in their homes. The MMU, which operates daily, includes Frontera's medical staff and our mental health clinicians.

Additionally, our teams have distributed critical supplies and items to first responders and affected community members, including 287 hygiene kits, 377 wound care kits, and 361 hygiene products and essential items—such as baby wipes, deodorant, socks and t-shirts—across schools and community hubs.

International Medical Corps will provide direct community outreach with Frontera across affected counties through August 15. We will continue to support the health network's longer-term recovery efforts, such as expanding community health worker coverage, improving access to care and medications, and addressing sharp declines in clinic visits among low-income, uninsured, and underinsured patients. International Medical Corps will continue to partner with Frontera Healthcare Center to support ongoing community health worker outreach efforts and mobile unit deployment.

2025 Hurricane and Heat Season Preparations

International Medical Corps continues to pre-position essential supplies—including hygiene and wound-care kits, diapers, mobility aids, power sources, insulin coolers and other critical relief items—to health facility partners in Florida and Puerto Rico based on local needs. 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 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 19 training and informational sessions, reaching 421 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.

