



At the Hunt Store in Hunt, Texas, located along the bank of the Guadalupe River, staff from International Medical Corps and Frontera HealthCare coordinate and plan community-outreach efforts for affected communities in Texas Hill Country.

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season is proving highly active, with the US National Hurricane Center forecasting a 60% above-normal season of activity.¹ Six named storms have already formed, with several causing intense rainfall, catastrophic flash flooding, extensive damage and significant loss of life in some affected communities. Hurricane Erin, the strongest storm to date, intensified to a Category 5 storm and passed near Puerto Rico and along the US East Coast, resulting in heavy rainfall and localized flooding. This season remains active, with storms anticipated to increase in September.

Early on July 4, heavy flooding caused by the remnants of Tropical Storm Barry devastated Central Texas. The Guadalupe River rose 26 feet within hours, killing more than 135 people, primarily in Kerr County.² Surrounding rural communities were also hard-hit, with widespread infrastructure damage, loss of homes and long-term disruption to livelihoods. In Menard, located more than 100 miles away from Kerr County, floodwater reached six feet. The local fire department, with only four responders, conducted 132 water rescues across a 1,000-square-mile area.

The aftermath has brought continued challenges: food storage and belongings have been 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, as many people experienced sudden and enormous loss and trauma, or were involved in search-and-recovery efforts. Cleanup continues amid rising heat, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses.³

FAST FACTS

- Since the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season began June 1, six named tropical storms have formed—including Hurricane Erin—many 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 September. Last week, Hurricane Erin quickly intensified to the first major hurricane of the season—reaching Category 5 at one point.

OUR RESPONSE

- In response to the Texas flooding, International Medical Corps deployed a team of 13 mental health professionals from July 27 to August 15 to provide care to impacted communities and first responders in six counties in Texas Hill Country, including Kerr County. Over the course of the response, we have:
 - provided more than 1,327 wellness checks and outreach engagements to community members, first responders and volunteers who have been impacted by the flooding;
 - facilitated the distribution of more than 70 hot meals daily;
 - distributed 2,515 relief items, including individual hygiene kits, wound-care kits and hygiene products; and
 - continued to support local recovery efforts in partnership with a local healthcare network.
- As Hurricane Erin, the first major hurricane of the season in the Atlantic last week, approached Puerto Rico and the US East Coast, International Medical Corps coordinated closely with local partners to support preparation.
- As hurricane season enters its historically most active month of September, International Medical Corps is actively communicating and coordinating with federal, state, county and local partners to support preparedness efforts.

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>

Healthcare partners report growing concerns for people with chronic conditions, due to mold exposure, water contamination, impaired mobility and limited access to care.

As hurricane and heat season continues, states, agencies and organizations are working to respond to the impacts of severe weather and prepare for ongoing impact. However, 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 at risk, with heightened exposure to challenges that include 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 Hurricane Erin intensified last week into one of the fastest growing storms in the Atlantic and passed by Puerto Rico and the United States East Coast, International Medical Corps connected with the Florida Department of Health and other local partners to identify any anticipated needs from the storm's impact.

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, to provide mental health care to first responders, healthcare workers and community members across the hardest-hit areas of the Texas Hill Country. Between July 28 to August 15, International Medical Corps deployed 13 mental health clinicians—most of whom are based in Texas—and conducted 1,327 wellness checks and community outreach engagements in group and individual settings across 17 sites. The team worked in close partnership with Frontera Healthcare Network, a local federally qualified health center, to strengthen and augment mental health services and resources in affected communities, including the town of Hunt in Kerr County—near the site of the tragic loss of nearly 30 campers and counselors at Camp Mystic.

In Hunt, team members took a community-based approach, supporting ongoing food and supply distribution activities led by local volunteers and organizations. These activities provided critical opportunities to connect directly with community members and first responders. International Medical Corps helped facilitate the distribution of at least 70 meals per day—reaching up to 200 on some days—and provided logistics expertise to streamline operations at the distribution point. This coordination helped reduce duplication of efforts, increase efficiency and effectiveness, and eventually enabled a smooth handoff to local partners.

Our logistics specialist worked closely with local churches, volunteer groups and residents to organize resources and information both for the recovering community and for responding organizations. Meanwhile, our mental health clinicians continued daily wellness checks and outreach, connecting first responders and community members—many of whom were involved in search-and-recovery operations and coping with significant trauma—with appropriate national, state and local mental health resources. By fostering trusted relationships, our clinicians created safe spaces for residents to process loss and grief.

Beyond Kerr County, International Medical Corps and its partners identified urgent, unmet needs in Gillespie, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch and Menard counties—also severely impacted by the flooding. We delivered behavioral and mental health services at community hubs, including food pantries, schools, community events and local centers. In partnership with Frontera, International Medical Corps also supported the deployment of a mobile medical unit (MMU) to reach high-risk and chronically ill patients in Brady and Menard. Operating daily, the MMU brought Frontera's medical staff and our mental health clinicians directly to patients' homes, which allowed for critical connections. Together, both teams worked to identify and address holistic needs and connect people to Frontera for ongoing care.



An International Medical Corps staff member speaks with a community member who lost her home in the flooding. We provided her with cooling towels and extra materials for her temporary residence.

Our teams distributed 2,515 critical supplies to schools, first responders and affected families, including 1,107 hygiene kits, 1,047 wound-care kits and 361 essential hygiene products and items such as baby wipes, deodorant, socks and t-shirts. As students returned to school the week of August 11, these supplies proved timely and essential.

Though International Medical Corps' teams left the region on August 15, our support to the impacted Texas Hill Country continues. We remain committed to partnering with Frontera in long-term recovery efforts, which include providing community health workers to expand outreach and care coordination, improving access to services and medication, and addressing sharp declines in clinic visits among low-income, uninsured and underinsured patients. Drawing from the successes of the activities conducted in our joint response, International Medical Corps will continue to work with Frontera to support MMU activities and active outreach efforts.

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 based on local needs. We are coordinating closely with our partners, including the National Association of Community Health Centers, state primary care associations and health facilities across Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina and Texas.

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 for FACHC, and helping to preposition them at three partner health centers across Florida, enabling FACHC to more quickly deploy resources to affected health centers after emergencies, and 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.

2024–25 Atlantic Hurricane Seasons Response*



*As of August 5, 2025