



**HURRICANE IRMA'S  
ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY:  
THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT**



Donor Report - September 2018

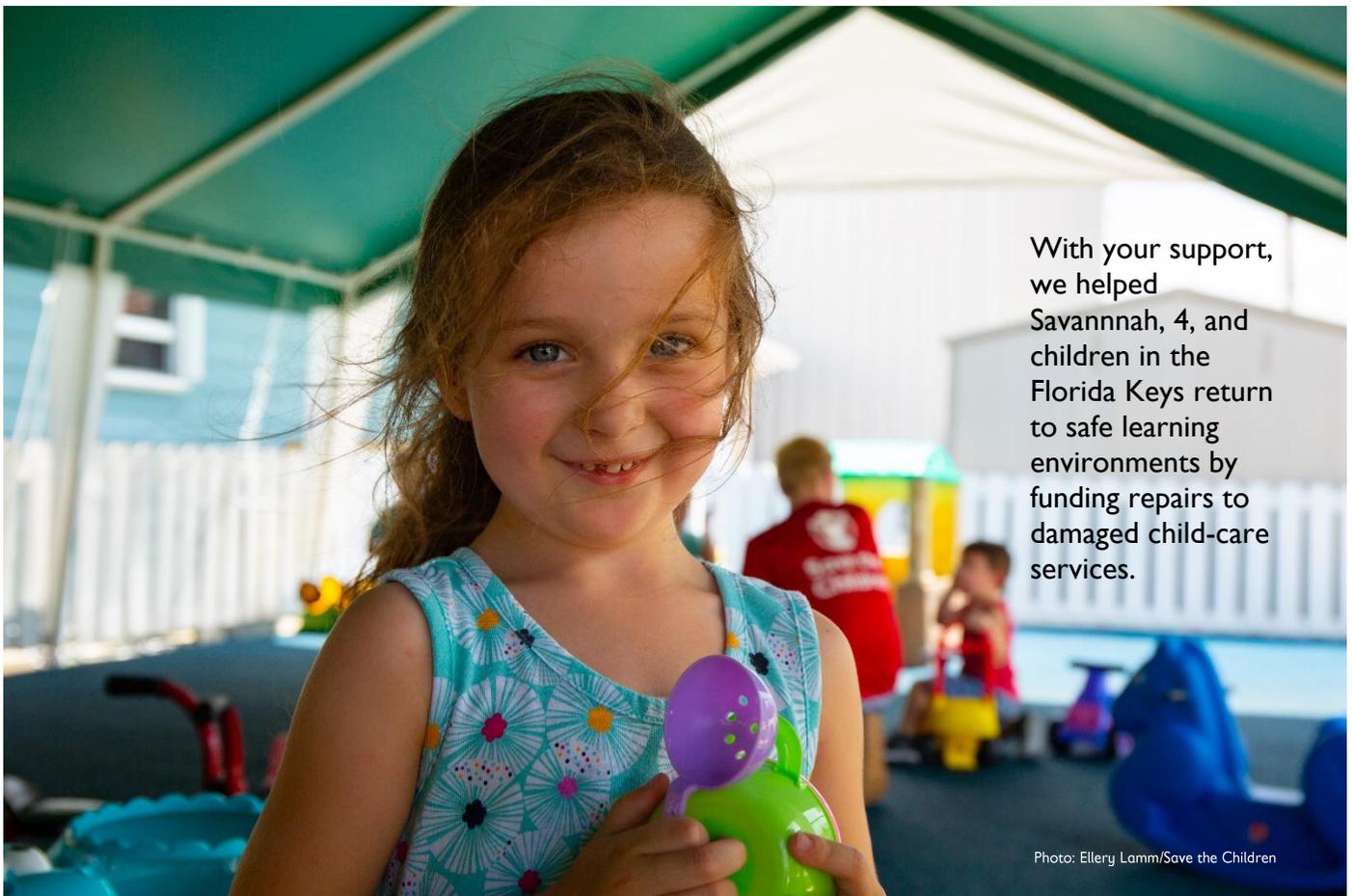
## Your Support has made a Difference

**Hurricane Irma barreled into the Florida Keys on September 10, 2017. This second of three major U.S. hurricanes in a month left children and families dealing with the loss of homes and power. Schools and child-care centers closed for weeks or months. In the Dominican Republic, floods from Irma increased health risks.**

**Your generous support was the driver of our responses in Florida and the Dominican Republic. We sent nearly 50 staff and volunteers to Florida to launch relief and increase our reach through trusted local agencies. We're there today, helping restore child-care services, helping children and caregivers cope and preparing families for future disasters. We're focusing our efforts in the most vulnerable communities and reaching migrant farmer families, many of whom lost everything.**

**In the Dominican Republic, we protected the health of children and families by helping to control disease outbreaks. We also organized health and sanitation activities in schools.**

**Hurricane Irma tested our ability to mobilize a second major relief effort for children in less than a month. Your contribution was crucial, and we are pleased to highlight some of the many ways it has made a difference. Please see your donations at work in this heartwarming video – [www.SaveTheChildren.org/Irma](http://www.SaveTheChildren.org/Irma)**



With your support, we helped Savannah, 4, and children in the Florida Keys return to safe learning environments by funding repairs to damaged child-care services.

Photo: Ellery Lamm/Save the Children

## YOUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE



**14,000+**

children and adults provided with essential supplies



**9,000** children

returned to their restored child-care centers



**550** families

received tuition waivers so kids could continue learning and parents got back to work



**500+**

children and their caregivers received support to cope with trauma and manage stress



**73**

child-care centers received grants and technical assistance to restore services

## One Year after Hurricane Irma

Across south Florida, many children and their families have returned to seemingly normal lives. Schools are open, and child care that working families depend on is available. But families who lost homes and belongings or had their lives uprooted still feel the repercussions of the hurricane. Stress levels are high as they try to rebuild homes that must comply with new regulations. Hotels and tourist sites remain closed and jobs have not returned.

Children struggle with social-emotional issues and with negative behavior at home and in school. Some are scared that another hurricane may come and are worried if they will be prepared.

In the Dominican Republic, our local staff report that while children and families no longer face immediate risks that Hurricanes Irma and then Maria created, more can be done to prepare them and their schools and communities for the impact of a future disaster.

## Your Generosity at Work: Meeting Needs and Building Resiliency in Florida

Nearly 39,000 children and adults from the Florida Keys to Jacksonville have directly and indirectly benefited from programs your support made possible.

We are reaching forgotten and remote communities with critical services and working with partners to provide holistic programming that helps children and families get the materials, support and skills they need to recover and thrive.

Our work in the Dominican Republic benefited over 21,000 children and adults affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

## Providing Essential Supplies

Our staff and partners provided more than 14,000 vulnerable children and families with meals, clothing, hygiene supplies and infant care products. Through our grants to several local social service agencies, 1,500 families received assistance with their food and housing needs.

## Restoring Child-care Services

Irma destroyed child-care programs across the Keys and southwest Florida, or damaged them too badly to reopen quickly. Children's learning was put on hold and parents struggled to return to work. In the Keys, the impact on the limited number of programs created a critical shortage of quality child care that threatened to force families to relocate and programs to close permanently.

Our grants helped to make repairs and replace materials at 73 child-care programs and preschools and seven community centers. Repairs at four facilities are ongoing.

Our child-care restoration efforts, a unique role that we play in U.S. disasters, has benefited over 9,000 children in Florida and will benefit children for years to come.

Other partners used our support to reduce or waive tuition so children from some 550 struggling families could return to learning. This was critical in supporting the recovery process for families who lost work or whose expenses increased due to the storm.



### **Ensuring Children's and Caregivers' Well-being**

In Florida, our flagship emotional wellness program, Journey of Hope, has helped more than 500 children and the adults who care for them cope with loss, fear and stress. Even toddlers are not immune to the impacts of stress after a disaster, and to support them we've trained staff from early childhood organizations in our Shelter from the Storm program. To date, these professional caregivers have used this training to help buffer over 400 very young children from any stress associated with Irma. They are sharing what they learn with others through their networks, multiplying the impact of the training.



### **Preparing Children and Partners for the Next Disaster**

We're working with local partners to prepare children, families and communities for the next emergency and strengthen their resilience. Child-care centers have created emergency plans to keep children safe and sound, and we are piloting a workshop to help parents create a home emergency plan and help their children cope during and after a disaster. By training our partners to train others and implement these programs, we are building local capacity and sustainability.

To date, over 650 children in Florida have learned preparedness and resilience skills through our Prep Rally program at schools and

summer camps. Prep Rallies, for children in grades K-5, use games and activities to teach children about the importance of planning ahead, gathering supplies and knowing what to do during a disaster. At the end of the Prep Rally, children take home an emergency "go-bag" with supplies that can help them cope with disaster.

## **Our Florida Priorities for Year Two of Recovery**

Thanks to you and everyone who contributed to our Hurricane Irma appeal, Save the Children will continue serving children and families in Florida. This work is especially important in the state's south and southwest regions, where the most damage occurred and where families have limited resources. Over the next year, our teams will be working with partners on key priorities.

We will help more children cope with post-hurricane stress and process their emotions by expanding the Journey of Hope program. Our Caregivers Journey of Hope will be expanded to reach more adults who care for children, including offering the program in Spanish and Haitian Creole to meet the needs of local communities.

We will also expand our Prep Rally emergency preparedness program to ensure that more children are ready and resilient for disasters.

We will provide grants for emergency preparedness and resilience building to ensure that child-care centers in south and southwest Florida have emergency plans that reflect the unique needs of children. Two of our partners, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe and the Redlands Christian Migrant Association, will implement training activities and then practice their plans to ensure children's safety. Staff at each partner will serve as long-term advocates for emergency preparedness within their organizations and communities.

## Community Partners

Save the Children is grateful for the dedication and collaboration of community partners in reaching thousands of the most vulnerable children affected by this disaster. We continue to work alongside community partners to support longer-term recovery of impacted communities across southwest Florida. Community partners have included:

- Redlands Christian Migrant Association
- Shelter for Abused Women and Children
- Grace Place for Children and Families
- Healthy Families Miami
- Kids Come First
- Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe
- Guadalupe Center
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Project HOPE
- The Alliance of Educational Leaders in Southwest Florida
- The Keys Domestic Abuse Shelter

## From the Field: Your Support is Appreciated

Child-care providers in Florida are grateful for your contribution to our Hurricane Irma response:

“Save the Children was one of the very first that came to our doors and said, ‘How can we help?’” said Dawn Montecalvo, President of the Guadalupe Center, which provides education and social services. “Save the Children’s funding allowed us to get to work right away, and got the kids back to their normal routine and back with their friends – so there’s less emotional impact on them during a very difficult time.”

“There would have been absolutely no opportunity for our child care providers to come up with resources like this without Save the Children,” said Pamela Hollingsworth, Senior Vice President for the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe.

Barbara Demming stands in a gutted room in the Florida Keys where she ran a child-care center until Hurricane Irma. The calendar on the wall has been unchanged since September 2017, when Irma destroyed both the center and her home.

With your help, Barbara was able to rebuild her center in a new space. “We’re going to get kids on the right track, and make sure they do well,” she vows.

Barbara and her two granddaughters live in a trailer next to her home while repairs to the home continue.

Photo: Ellery Lamm/Save the Children



## The Dominican Republic: Our Team Responds to Hurricanes Irma and Maria

Areas of the Dominican Republic were battered and flooded by Hurricane Irma. Days later, the island narrowly escaped a direct hit from Hurricane Maria, which created additional hardship for children and families. Over 21,200 children and adults have benefited from our responses to these storms.



### Protecting Health and Hygiene

We distributed hygiene kits to nearly 5,000 families and helped them improve hygiene practices for better health. As part of our cleanup days in 25 communities, we educated people about eliminating mosquito breeding sites. Our teams passed out cloth covers for tanks that families use to store water to prevent mosquitos from breeding.

We also organized over 70 workshops on preventing infectious diseases such as Zika and malaria. We joined with the Ministry of Public Health to distribute oral rehydration salts to help treat children suffering from diarrhea.



### Reaching Children in Schools

Nearly 700 children attended presentations in their schools on how to prevent diseases such as dengue, Zika and cholera. Our health promoters taught good hygiene practices to over 300 children. We repaired bathrooms at schools to improve sanitation and addressed water quality issues so primary school students have clean drinking water.

We also conducted disaster risk reduction activities in schools in Miches, Santo Domingo Oeste and San Pedro de Macoris to help prepare students and teachers for future emergencies.



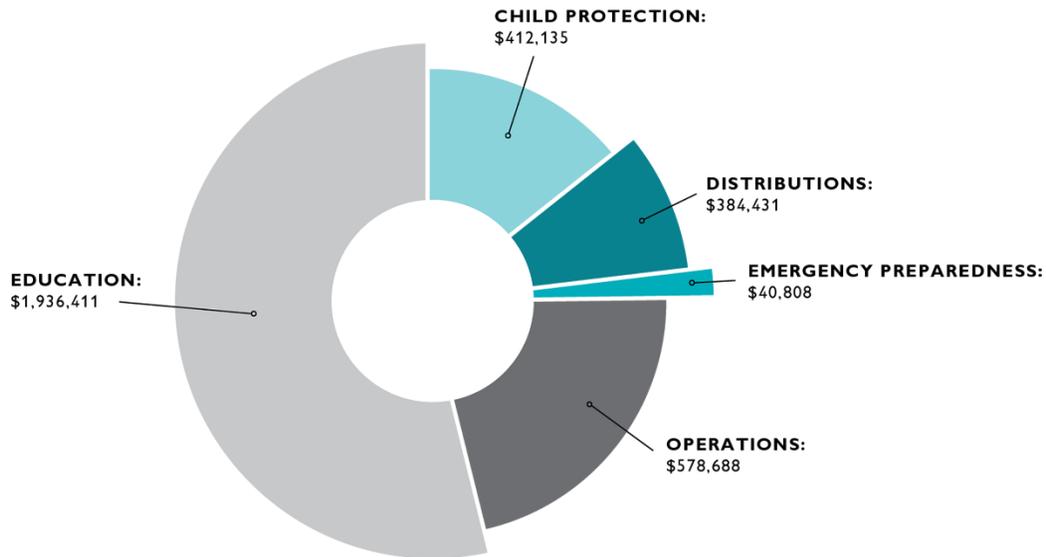
Our staff distribute hygiene kits in San Juan de la Maguana after Hurricane Maria.

Save the Children Photo

# Hurricane Irma Financial Snapshot

**Total Raised: \$5,957,755**  
(September 2017-July 2018 )

**SPEND BY SECTOR:**



**Total Expenses: \$3,352,474**

In any major emergency like Hurricane Irma, Save the Children is committed to addressing children’s immediate needs and their long-term recovery. Over the past year in Florida, your support has helped us respond to these immediate needs and transition to programs focused on children’s and families’ recovery and resilience. We will be using the balance of these funds to grow and sustain this critical this work in the coming year as families continue on the long road to recovery.

**OUR VISION** is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

**OUR MISSION** is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children, and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

**OUR VALUES** guide our behavior and are the principles by which we make decisions: Accountability, Collaboration, Integrity, Ambition and Creativity.

## OUR 2030 AMBITION



### SURVIVAL

No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday.



### EDUCATION

All children learn from a quality basic education



### PROTECTION

Violence against children is no longer tolerated

Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In the United States and around the world, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.

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**ON THE COVER:** Maribel tries on her new backpack after attending a Save the Children Prep Rally at a summer camp in southern Florida. Prep Rallies teach emergency preparedness through fun, interactive games. Each child receives a “go-bag” filled with supplies they might need in an emergency.

Photo: Ellery Lamm/Save the Children