

Hurricane Maria One-Year Report

September 2017

Hurricane Maria made landfall in Dominica on September 18, 2017, causing widespread destruction. The storm then slammed into Puerto Rico, killing thousands and knocking out power to the entire island. In total, Hurricane Maria caused more than \$90 billion dollars in damage and left hundreds of thousands without access to health care.

One year after the storm, AmeriCares continues to restore health services and meet survivors' health needs. Our recovery programming is focused in three key areas: restoring access to health care in storm-damaged communities, expanding mental health services for survivors and helping health care facilities better prepare for future storms.



Americares Health Programs Continue

Americares is committed to supporting continued recovery efforts in Puerto Rico and Dominica. To date, AmeriCares has provided more than \$40 million in aid for Maria survivors, including medicine and medical supplies, repairs for health facilities, mobile health clinics and essential mental health and psychosocial programming. Our work is accomplished in partnership with 50 local nonprofit organizations and support from more than 14,000 donors.

Restore health services

Hurricane Maria ripped roofs off health centers and flooded clinics, damaging medicines and ruining medical supplies. Struggling health care providers faced increasing demand.

Americares provided essential medicine and medical supplies to restock damaged health facilities and mobilized medical teams to treat survivors in remote communities across Puerto Rico. Our support helped clinics stay open, providing fuel for generators and other emergency needs. One year after the storm, we have provided medicines and medical supplies for survivors.

Americares continues to supply health centers throughout Puerto Rico with donated medicine and medical supplies. We are also planning long-term programming for patients with chronic diseases, such as hypertension and diabetes, that will begin after the current hurricane season. In Dominica, AmeriCares is repairing damaged health facilities and improving how the island manages its medicine and medical supplies through supply chain and inventory management.

Emergency medical teams made home visits to survivors, including this couple in Moca, Puerto Rico, in the months after Maria. (top). AmeriCares is working with partner health facilities to ensure they are ready for the next disaster (right).

1,700

survivors treated in mobile clinics

13

local community organizations receiving funding to fund repairs, maintain operations and expand hours of service

296,000*

prescriptions

*estimated

"Giving back is part of being a New York Giant, and we value that as a family. It's very meaningful for us to join AmeriCares in making a real difference in Puerto Rico."

—Gloria and Mike Thomas, New York Giants





Americares is rebuilding damaged health facilities throughout Dominica

99 shipments **50** local partners **1,100+** health workers trained **\$40M** total aid **65,000*** people reached
*estimated

Mental Health and Psychosocial Services

Many health workers and first responders are themselves survivors of Hurricane Maria. Our mental health programming arms health care providers with skills to handle stress and trauma—allowing them to care for patients affected by the storm while managing their own mental health needs.

One year after Maria, Americares has trained more than 1,000 health care providers and first responders to recognize and address common post-disaster systems. Our training, workshops and wellness sessions better equip health workers to care for themselves and their patients, building resilience and increasing local health care capacity.

1,000+ health workers trained to address stress and trauma

Preparedness and Resilience

To ensure health centers are ready for the next storm, Americares is providing disaster preparedness training for health workers who serve low-income patients. The training provides a practical approach to preparedness and addresses continuity of operations, coordination and communication. Americares emergency preparedness workshops for health facilities include training and develop an after-action report and improvement plan.

Americares is also pre-positioning critical medicines and medical supplies in advance of future disasters and providing diverse power sources, including solar, so facilities can provide health care during power outages.

160+ health workers trained in disaster planning

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Watch:

See a video on our response to Hurricane Maria:
americares.org/hurricanemaria

"I am very appreciative. I can be more relaxed because I know that you're taking care of us."

—Radames, Hurricane Maria survivor, Vieques, Puerto Rico.



"They went to the people — people who were not able to get in their car, they went to their houses. They provided what the people needed."

—Dr. Francisco Murphy, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico



"I'll use this training for the rest of my life."

—Cesar, emergency medical technician, Humacao, Puerto Rico



Americares arranged transportation for Radames so he could receive life-saving medical care (top). We partnered with Dr. Murphy to bring medical care to vulnerable communities (middle). EMT Cesar received our mental health training (bottom).