



# FLORIDA PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

In Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the six Florida Presbyteries



May 2024

## Hurricane Recovery Update



Photo: David Barnhart

With Hurricanes Ian and Nicole in 2022 and Hurricane Idalia in 2023, recovery continues across Florida. Many families and individuals who don't have the financial means to repair or rebuild their damaged homes have turned to the local Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) in their community for help. LTRGs are made up of community organizations that help to provide resources for

these homeowners, including building materials and volunteer labor. Clients go through a case management process to determine the need and what resources of their own they can bring. Funding and materials are donated by local, state, and national organizations.



Photo: David Barnhart

Volunteers come from the local community and from outside of Florida to provide labor under the guidance of the LTRG's construction staff. Many of our churches are

involved in recovery within their local communities: two churches are serving as volunteer host sites, many are scheduling mission trips or local volunteer workdays, and some have members involved with their local LTRG by serving on the LTRG board or one of its committees. FLAPDAN is involved with many of these LTRGs, providing guidance and connections to local resources and those available through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Without the work of the LTRGs, many survivors would not be able to recover

from these devastating storms. **Please consider getting involved in the recovery effort and help make a difference for those in need of safe and secure housing!**



Photo: Nell Herring

Schedule a mission work trip:  
[pda.callcenter@pcusa.org](mailto:pda.callcenter@pcusa.org) or  
866-732-6121  
Find out more about your  
local LTRG by contacting  
[fla.pdan@pcusa.org](mailto:fla.pdan@pcusa.org)

 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

*One Great Hour of Sharing dollars are at work in local communities! Through your faithful donations to OGHS and other designated giving, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been able to provide grant funding to support Long Term Recovery Groups repairing and rebuilding homes for survivors of Hurricanes Ian, Nicole and Idalia. Thank you so much for your support!*



Photo: David Barnhart

**Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, Inc.**

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[www.flapdan.org](http://www.flapdan.org)

# Time to prepare for Hurricane Season!

## Determine your risk:

Is your neighborhood prone to flooding? Storm surge? Tornado or wind damage? With soaring construction prices, do you have enough insurance coverage?

## Hurricane supplies:

Restock your family [hurricane kit](#). Don't forget your pets!

## Special Needs Registry:

If you or someone you know has needs such as oxygen, medical equipment, insulin and other refrigerated medications or other special requirements, help them to register NOW with their county's [Special Needs Registry](#). This gives officials important information to use in planning for vulnerable populations as well as allows first responders to provide special assistance during a disaster. Transportation to shelters can be provided for those in need.

### ***DID YOU KNOW?***

#### **STORM SURGE**

- Is water that is pushed onto land as a hurricane makes landfall.
- Can range from a few feet to over 30 feet.
- Impacts coastal areas first, then moves inland.
- Is fast moving, fast rising and life threatening.
- Can wash away buildings and roadways.
- Know your evacuation zone! [Know Your Zone](#)

#### **FLOOD**

- Flooding can occur anywhere that topography and drainage patterns cannot efficiently move and store water away from development or other areas.
- Can be well inland.
- Are you in a flood zone? [Flood Maps](#)

**Listen to your local authorities:** Every county will have different plans and protocols best suited to their populations, communities, and geography. Your local officials have updated hurricane plans, evacuation routes and shelter information, including which shelters are pet friendly. Listen to your local weather, emergency management and city/county officials. Heed their advice.

**Churches:** Check and update your disaster plan. If you don't have one, start [HERE](#). Make sure contact numbers for staff and others are current. Know your presbytery's disaster protocol. Review your insurance policies. Do you have enough church coverage? Assist the vulnerable people in your congregation and surrounding community by helping them gather hurricane supplies, sign up on the Special Needs Registry or by putting up their storm shutters and then checking on them after a storm.

**Churches are a vital part of a community's response and recovery!** Can you offer your building or grounds as a secondary post-storm shelter space, a point of distribution for supplies or a respite center for response workers? If so, please contact your local emergency management office and American Red Cross to let them know. They will work with you to determine if using your facility would be a possibility.

Please contact [FLAPDAN](#) with questions or if you need help creating or updating your disaster plan. We are here for you. Thank you for your continued support of FLAPDAN!

Stay safe,  
Kathy Broyard  
Executive Director / Emergency Management Specialist

***FLAPDAN's Mission***  
***To support Florida communities through disaster preparedness, response and recovery working in partnership with community, government, and faith-based organizations.***

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