Humanity Road – United States

Activation: Louisiana Floods

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As of August 17, over 30,000 people have been rescued from the flooding in Louisiana, and an estimated 40,000 homes have been damaged. Twenty parishes have been included in the federal disaster declaration and are eligible for assistance from FEMA. source

This special report includes information on:

- Urgent Needs
- Resources
- Rumors and Misinformation

For more information and links by parish, see our <u>Situation Report No 1, August 15</u> and <u>Situation Report No 2, August 16</u>.

Twitter Handles

@HumanityRoad
@DisasterAnimals
@jAidDog

Contact: support@humanityroad.org

Facebook Pages

<u>Humanity Road</u> <u>Animals in Disaster</u>

<u>About Humanity Road</u>: Founded in 2010 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, <u>Humanity Road</u> is a leader in the field of online disaster response. Through skilled and self-directed work teams, Humanity Road and its network of global volunteers aim to provide the public and disaster responders worldwide with timely and accurate aid information. Providing such information helps individuals survive, sustain, and reunite with loved ones. For more information, please visit <u>www.humanityroad.org</u> or call 1-800-931-1951. <u>Support our work</u>, CFC 28433.

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URGENT NEEDS

Food Banks & Food Providers Needing Donations

- Aug 17: <u>Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank</u>, 10600 Choctaw Dr, Baton Rouge, LA the food bank was flooded and needs volunteers and donations. <u>Source</u> They are accepting donations at temporary facility: 13112 S Choctaw, Baton Rouge. <u>source</u>
- Aug 17: <u>Food Bank of Covington</u>, 840 N. Columbia Street, Covington, LA. (985) 893-3003 - needs donations of food, water, cleaning supplies, hygiene products and monetary donations to help purchase targeted bulk items. They are delivering food and supplies to Tangipahoa, St Helena and Livingston parishes. Source
- Aug 17: <u>Second Harvest Food Bank</u> food and supplies needed. Donations can be dropped off at 700 Edwards Avenue in the Elmwood Warehouse District or Second Harvest's Lafayette location at 215 E. Pinhook.
- Aug 15: The Governor's office of Elderly Affairs needs over 500 meals a day to feed seniors citizens, in Baton Rouge. Over the next two weeks the <u>Cafe'</u> <u>Reconcile</u> catering van in New Orleans will be making runs to Baton Rouge on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to deliver refrigerated food donations. Cafe' Reconcile can receive refrigerated food donations at 1631 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd, New Orleans, LA. <u>source</u>

Shelters Needing Donations / Volunteers

- Aug 17: St John's United Methodist Church shelter, 9375 Highland Rd, Baton Rouge, LA. (225) 766-4594. Needs shelter volunteers. <u>Source</u> Needs cleaning supplies for people returning to their homes. <u>Source</u>
- Aug 17: Lamar Dixon shelter, 9039 St. Landry Road, Gonzales, LA needs volunteers, as well as pillows, blankets, towels, clothes, underwear (new in package) and Ziploc bags. <u>Source</u> Shelter also needs baby supplies and toys. <u>source</u>
- Aug 17: Baton Rouge River Center shelter, 275 S River Road, Baton Rouge, LA needs pillows, blankets, new children's clothing and new socks/underwear.
 Source
- Aug 17: <u>St Joseph Catholic Church</u> shelter, 15710 LA-16, French Settlement, LA.
 (225) 698-3110 needs needs mosquito spray and hydrogen peroxide. <u>source</u>
- Aug 17: <u>Lighthouse Fellowship Christian Church</u>, 1564 Nicholson Dr, Baton Rouge, LA - needs cleaning supplies, trash bags, linens, blankets, towels,

- volunteers. They have set up a distribution center. Call (225) 317-1849 for more information. Source
- Aug 17: St. Vincent de Paul Society, 1466 North St, Baton Rouge needs food donations. source
- Aug 17: Heymann Center shelter, 1373 S College Road, Lafayette, LA needs Large to XXXL clothing. Source
- Aug 17: Celtic Studios shelter, 10000 Celtics Drive, Baton Rouge, LA needs plus size women's clothing, bras, new men & women's underwear/socks, individual drink mix packs. Source
- Aug 15: Heymann Center is in need of phone chargers (source)

Communications

 Aug 17: Citizens in Denham Springs are wishing to know when internet services can be restored however here is a video of the roads in Denham Springs. Source Source Source

Distribution Centers and Drop Off Locations

- Aug 17: <u>Healing Place Church</u> operating a distribution point for food, supplies at Hwy 190 near Range behind Denham Springs PD. They need donations. Source
- Aug 17: Nuture Nola has collaborated with <u>Louisana Birth</u> to help distribute needed items for families in the flooded areas and is also working with the LASPCA. Supplies needed include menstrual and breastfeeding supplies, baby supplies, and pet supplies. Source
- Aug 17: List of donation drop off sites and needs: <u>Source</u>
- Aug 17: <u>United Way of Southeast Louisiana</u>, Tangipahoa Regional Office, 411 W Coleman Ave., Hammond, LA - needs baby supplies, toiletries, pet supplies, cleaning kits, school supplies, and more.
- Aug 16: Christ Community Church, 26574 Juban Rd, Denham Springs, LA shelter for people and pets in need of donations, including food for people and pets and supplies for pets. source, source
- Aug 16 Denham Springs New Covenant Church operating feeding and distribution - is requesting if Red Cross has any bottled water source

Response and Recovery Help Needed

 Aug 17: Attorney volunteers are needed for the Louisiana Civil Justice Center, FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers, and local pro-bono organizations. <u>source</u>

- Aug 16: <u>Healing Place Church</u> needs volunteers to gut houses, work supplies, people who can house displaced people.
- Aug 16: St James Parish officials need sandbagging volunteers daily from 9am-9pm to prepare for backwater flooding. <u>Source</u>

Blood Donations

 Aug 16: Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, 7777 Hennessy Blvd, Baton Rouge - needs blood, especially types O and B, and platelets. If you are able to safely reach the hospital, please visit our Blood Donor Center, located on the first floor, source

Schools

 Aug 17: Mayor of Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, said every school there took on water, estimated 3-4 months before they can reopen. <u>source</u>

Animal Needs

- Aug 17: <u>Animal Helper</u>, 2630 Edenborn Ave, Metairie, LA needs old towels, plastic grocery bags, old blankets and leashes (big and small). <u>Source</u>
- Aug 16: <u>St Tammany Humane Society</u>, 20384 Harrison Ave, Covington, LA,
 (985) 892-7387 has taken in many displaced pets and needs fosters. <u>source</u>
- Aug 15: <u>Animal Rescue of New Orleans</u>, 271 Plauche St, New Orleans, LA took in pets from Denham Springs. Needs help all week caring for pets and fostering animals. <u>source</u>

RESOURCES

Public Health / Medical Resources

Statewide:

 Planned Parenthood - providing immediate care and birth control replacement for people affected by floods. Call 225-387-1167. <u>source</u>

Baton Rouge:

- Aug 17: <u>Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center</u>, 7777 Hennessy Blvd, Baton Rouge - supporting a community disaster response. <u>Source</u>
- Aug 17: Our Lady of the Lake Physician Group operating a temporary walk-in clinic with adult and pediatric services. The clinic is in a mobile health unit parked

- at the Essen entrance to Mary Bird Perkins Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center, 4950 Essen Ln, Baton Rouge. No appointments are necessary. <u>Source</u>
- Aug 17: <u>DaVita East Baton Rouge Dialysis</u> (on O'Neal Lane) and DaVita Mid City Dialysis (on Florida Blvd.) are currently closed due to flooding. All Baton Rouge DaVita dialysis patients should call 1-800-400-8331 to reschedule treatment. Dialysis patients will be accepted Monday beginning at 6:30 a.m. at the following centers in Baton Rouge: DaVita Essen Lane Dialysis, 7703 Picardy Ave.; DaVita Scotlandville Dialysis, 7797 Howell Boulevard. <u>source</u>
- Aug 17: <u>Fresenius Kidney Care</u> Individuals needing help with emergency plans or more information about arranging dialysis treatment should call Fresenius Kidney Care's toll-free Patient Emergency Hotline at 1-800-626-1297. This service is available for all patients, regardless of dialysis provider. <u>Source</u>
- Aug 17: The <u>Baton Rouge Treatment Center</u> is closed due to flooding. BRTC patients can receive their doses at the following clinics:
 - Choices of Louisiana LaPlace at 128 Woodland Drive
 - Choices of Louisiana Hammond at 615 Pride Drive
 - Opiate Replacement Therapy in Breaux Bridge at 648 Latiolais Drive
 Patients can also call the Methadone Authority at 225-342-8732. Source

Mental Health

- The Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-985-5990 provides immediate crisis counseling or text TalkWithUs to 66746. The helpline can also be accessed at http://disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/(link is external) and TTY for deaf and hearing impaired: 1-800-846-8517. Spanish speakers: call 1-800-985-5990 and press "2", From the U.S., text Hablanos to 66746.
- Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Hotline: 1-800-985-5990

Community Response Efforts

Facebook Groups:

- <u>Louisiana Flood: Meet the Need</u> Purpose: Connect the needs of communities with the resources ready & waiting.
- <u>Louisiana Flood Rescue August 2016</u> has changed from rescue group to relief and recovery group.
- unBRoken Louisiana Flood Victims
- 2016 Louisiana Flooding Community Resources
- Livingston Parish Flood and Debris Cleanup
- Emergency Flood Aid & Rescue Greater Baton Rouge Area

- Greater Baton Rouge Area Flood Needs and Donations
- Baton Rouge and Surrounding Areas Flood Relief Donations

WebSites:

- Volunteer Louisiana The Volunteer Louisiana Commission manages the statewide online volunteer portal: VolunteerLouisiana.gov. The online network connects Louisiana's citizens and out-of-state volunteers with volunteer service opportunities available in all communities throughout the state. (FaceBook, Twitter)
- Louisiana Flood Purpose: To help organize efforts to assist victims of the August 2016 flooding in South Central Louisiana. (FaceBook)
- <u>Lafayette Volunteer Laundry</u> Form to request unaffected residents to share personal laundry facilities.

Telephone Helplines

- 225-342-7015 call center for people needing help.
- 225-772-1428 patients who need dialysis
- 225-578-6383 evacuees who need to go to a medical / special needs shelter
- 225-925-4594 stranded motorists who need help.
- 211 anyone needing assistance (clothing, food, shelter, etc). Also see website.
- *LSP (*577) drivers who see damaged roads or hazardous conditions.
- 800-360-9660 Updates on state office closures
- 985-748-3211 Tangipahoa Parish EOC (assistance, road closures, damage assessments)
- 1-866-927-2476 Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry 24hr hotline open during disasters
- 225-922-0444 or 225-922-0447 find your vehicle if towed from I-12. source

Disaster Assistance

- <u>FEMA Disaster Assistance</u> -- 1-800-621-3362, or web enabled mobile device: m.fema.gov. Speech disability / hearing loss TTY: 1-800-462-7585; 711 or VRS 1-800-621-3362 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. M-F. Be prepared to provide basic information (name, permanent address, phone number), insurance coverage and any other information to help substantiate losses.
 - Myths and Facts about FEMA registration and assistance
- United Way of Southeast Louisiana. Citizens in need of services should dial 211, which is a hotline operating 24/7.

Food Assistance

- DSNAP DCFS encourages residents affected by flooding to pre-register for DSNAP benefits. Pre-register online at www.dcfs.la.gov/preregister or call 1-888-LAHELP-U (888-524-3578). If you have already pre-registered, you do not have to pre-register again.
- <u>Second Harvest Food Bank</u> They are distributing thousands of pounds of food, water and supplies to flood victims. Public assistance helpline: 1-855-392-9338.

Assistance for Senior Citizens and Special Needs Populations

- Office of Aging and Adult Services 225-219-1917
- <u>Louisiana Council on Aging</u> assistance to seniors including meal delivery, caregiver resources, and legal help. Website includes links to parish councils on aging.
- <u>East Baton Rouge Council on Aging</u>, 5790 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA.
 225-923-8000 can help with medical supplies, utility bills, legal matters, insurance counseling, home-delivered meals, and more.
- Special Needs Helpline Please CALL (504) 430-3604 for assistance with special needs, disabilities, and medical assistance if you are affected by the flooding disaster in Louisiana. This is a SPECIAL NEEDS HELP LINE that will connect your information to GOHSEP working special needs assistance. <u>Source</u>
- <u>Deaf Focus</u> offering support and Resources for Louisiana flood victims who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing. For more information: V: 225-319-5586, VP: 225-341-6398, Fax: 225-308-4025, Email: <u>Paula@deaffocus.org</u>. <u>Source</u>
- Volunteer Interpreter for the Deaf Scott Huffman will volunteer his services for Deaf persons in immediate need of communication access. He has VP, Skype, FaceTime, and Google chat that can be used if flooding prohibits travel to assist. He can be reached via Text at (225) 305-3957. <u>Source</u>

Housing

- <u>FEMA Housing Portal</u> helps individuals and families who are displaced by a disaster find a place to rent. For more information, please call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for people with hearing or speech disabilities.
- Individuals and Households Program helps people affected by a disaster take
 care of necessary expenses and serious needs related to housing that cannot be
 met through other forms of disaster assistance or insurance. Forms of housing
 assistance under IHP include temporary housing, repair, replacement, and

semi-permanent/permanent housing construction. For more information, please call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for people with hearing or speech disabilities.

- Shelter List by Parish (Aug 17, 10:45am)
- Shelter Rights for People with Disabilities:
 - o Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) forbids discrimination against people with disabilities in state and local government services, which includes emergency planning, response and recovery services provided by state and local government agencies.
 - Laws Protecting the Rights of People with Disabilities: Emergency Services and Facilities

Other Resources

- How to salvage documents and photos, via State Archives.
- 2016 Louisiana Flood Resource Center website

Resources for Animals

- St. Tammany Humane Society 20384 Harrison Ave, Covington, LA (985) 892-7387 Website Facebook
- Louisiana State Animal Rescue Team
 - We are monitoring current flooding conditions and putting together teams. If you still have issues at this time, please call your local OPE. If you cannot reach anyone, please email us at lsartinfo@gmail.com
- Facebook Community Help Groups:
 - Louisiana Flood Animals in Need
- Lost and Found Pets:
 - MissingPetsLA.com
 - Louisiana Flood Lost and Found Animals
 - Lost found animals Louisiana 2016 flood
 - Lost and Found Pets of Southern Louisiana
 - Lost Dogs Louisiana
 - Lost Pets of Baton Rouge
 - East Baton Rouge Lost and Found Pets
 - Acadia Parish Lost / Found Pets
 - Found Pets from the Greater Flood Denham Springs and Baton Rouge
 - Lost Pets of Ascension Parish
 - Lost Pets of Iberville Parish
 - Lafayette Parish Lost and Found Pets

Legal Help

- Access to Justice Community it has activated its disaster relief plan. This is a combined effort of the LSBA Access to Justice Committee, the Legal Services Corporations, pro bono providers across the state, the LSBA Young Lawyers Division, and the Louisiana Civil Justice Center. source
- Louisiana Civil Justice Center it provides pro bono and low-fee legal services to low-income, elderly, or disaster-affected persons in Louisiana. Callers can receive answers to legal questions and how to get aid, as well as referrals to attorneys. Call 504-355-0970 or 1-800-310-7029. source
- Emergency Suspension of Deadlines in Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Proceedings
 - Governor John Bel Edwards has signed an executive order for the emergency suspension of deadlines in legal, administrative and regulatory proceedings. Review the executive order here.

Financial Services, Home Inspections, Insurance

- HOPE Coalition America (call 888-388-4673) free financial services:
 - home inspections and repair contracts
 - o insurance claims assistance
 - managing mortgage payments on destroyed home
 - obtaining copies of destroyed documents
- <u>US Small Business Administration (SBA)</u> Low-interest disaster loans to businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners, and renters. Call Disaster Loans: 800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or email: <u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u>.
- <u>Louisiana Workforce Commission</u> to file for Disaster Unemployment Assistance, applicants should apply online by visiting www.laworks.net and filing an application through the LWC's HiRE (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) portal or by calling the Benefits Analysis Team at 1-866-783-5567 Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CDT. <u>source</u>
- <u>Tips for Filing a Flood Insurance Claim</u> For general flood insurance questions, call your insurance company or agent or contact the NFIP at 800-638-6620 directly or through 711-Relay.

Transportation

Medical Transportation for Medicaid recipients

Maps

- <u>City of Baton Rouge Map</u> published by City/Parish of Baton Rouge Department of Information Services listing roads closed, shelters (non-red cross - unverified), sandbags.
- Entergy Power Outage Map (verified)
- Red Cross Shelter Map (verified)
- Google Crisis Map (verified)
- NOAA Forecast Flood Map (verified)
- Louisiana DOTD 511 Travel Map (verified) Closures, Alerts, Detours.
- FEMA Louisiana Flood Zones (verified)
- Louisiana DOTD Flood Map (verified) Interactive map to help determine flood zones.
- HeroFarm Donations Map (verified) Private Marketing & PR firm in New Orleans. Lists sites accepting donations and urgent needs.
- Open Pharmacies Map (verified) Rx Open find nearby open pharmacies in an area impacted by disaster. Using Google Maps, Rx Open displays open pharmacies, closed pharmacies, and those whose status is unknown.
- The following maps are unverified information and published in conjunction with the Louisiana Flood Rescue - August 2016 Public Group and LA Flood Boat Launch Sites - August 2016 Public Group
 - South Louisiana Stranded Map (unverified source)
 - South Louisiana Flood Boat Launch Sites (unverified source)

RUMORS AND MISINFORMATION

Unrelated Use of Event Hashtag

• Hashtag #laflood being used for some comments about the oil industry. source, source source

Rumor Control

 Aug 17: Alligator Bayou is not breached "We are hearing RUMORS that the Alligator Bayou Levee has breached. Our crews have verified water is still...Source

- Aug 17: "Contrary to some reports, the North Landfill is NOT closed. It is currently open and available for garbage drop-off." <u>source</u>
- Aug 17: "Contrary to some reports we've heard, BR Fire Dept stations are NOT currently serving as @FEMA registration or supply distribution centers." source
- Aug 17: "#laflood #LouisianaFlood RT American Red Cross moves to quash Baton Rouge voucher rumor." source
- Aug 17: "You may have seen this floating around already, but be careful with your donations. There are reports of known (and heretofore unknown) scammers taking advantage of the outpouring of kindness and generosity South Louisiana so badly needs. Give to people you know directly if you can, and research the GoFundMe's, et cetera. NOLA.com has a running list of reputable options ---->" source
- Aug 17: "Attn All: Do NOT give to any GoFundMe or similar fund raising page under the name of Cajun Navy or to help the Cajun Navy fix their boats, to get equipment, or reimbursed for fuel. We put our boats in knowing they would get messed up, fuel would get burned, and we wouldn't have all the right equipment. We do not want anything in return and we will fix our boats ourselves. There is no official group that represents us. If you want to give anything find a legitimate way to donate to the flood victims. Please spread the word." source Facebook post includes an example of a Gofundme site that may or may not be a scam.

Questions

- Aug 17: "Is Baton Rouge on curfew again tonight?" source
- Aug 17: "Getting secondhand information that Livingston Parish is in desperate need of drinking water. Can anyone confirm/help?" source
- Aug 17: "Livingston parish schools not expected to start for 2-3 months? Would hate to be a senior [right now]!" source