AIA Florida Members Provide Hurricane Michael Aid

Members of AIA Florida are providing support for those affected by Hurricane Michael. In the days following the storm’s landfall, 2018 AIA Florida President Kim Headland, AIA, issued a bulletin communicating ways in which members could help in the relief effort. Since Headland’s message, AIA Florida headquarters has been the repository of supplies and monetary donations from chapters and AIA Florida members across the state.

Staff organizes donations received at AIA Florida Headquarters.

Participating in a “fill your truck” challenge issued by 2019 AIA Florida President-elect Pat Hoy, AIA, members of AIA Gainesville delivered supplies for future distribution. Monetary donations including $2,000 from the AIA Tampa Bay board, $500 from AIA Illinois, $2,000 from Jon Thornton on behalf of AIA Florida allied member Specified Architectural Systems and $2,500 contributed from AIA Florida’s disaster relief fund, have increased the relief coffers to over $7,000. These and other donated funds will be used in the Florida Panhandle to purchase appropriate supplies as the needs change.
“We have been overwhelmed by the first wave of donations. The support that AIA Florida chapters and their members have provided is a great start in helping people on Florida’s Forgotten Coast,” said Headland. “But there is still a long way to go in the Hurricane Michael recovery effort. It is my hope that AIA Florida members and the public will remember this and continue to donate.”

Members of AIA Florida Northwest and AIA Tallahassee reached out to all architectural firms in the affected areas to see what types of support were most needed and to ensure everyone was safe. A virtual “architect to architect” forum has been set up for those offering and in need of office spaces, supplies or other resources.

AIA Tallahassee delivered member-donated supplies directly to the Blountstown collection and distribution center. AIA Florida Northwest filled two cars with supplies gathered during component luncheons, which were distributed to affected areas.
Outside of Florida, a truckload of supplies from Robert Bruner, AIA, an Alabama-based architect was delivered Saturday. These donations were all provided through employees of CCR Architecture & Interiors firm in Birmingham. Several state chapters are researching how they can best support recovery efforts while local chapters are continuously encouraged to “fill a truck” and make the trek to Tallahassee.
Robert Bruner, AIA and volunteers spent their Saturday morning unloading supplies donated by CCR Architects in Birmingham, Ala.

Get the latest information on AIA Florida's Hurricane Michael relief efforts and find ways to help by clicking here.

To make a monetary donation, click on the link below or send relief supplies directly to AIA Florida Headquarters at 104 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

Make a Donation