



AIA
Florida

BREAKING NEWS: HURRICANE MICHAEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

To: AIA Florida Presidents and Presidents-elect
From: Kim Headland, AIA, 2018 AIA Florida President
Date: October 17, 2018
Subject: Hurricane Michael Disaster Assistance Updates

The American Institute of Architects

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Hurricane Michael produced devastating destruction across much of the Florida Panhandle. It has produced the most widespread and severe damage experienced in recent memory in the northwest region of Florida. At this time officials are in the early assessment period and crews are continuing the difficult task of clearing debris to access major roadways and restore power. AIA Florida is working with the Building Officials Association of Florida (BOAF), state and local officials to identify ways that architects can assist with Safety Assessment Program needs. This will be a very, very lengthy period of assessing damages and ultimately, recovery. We will keep members notified of any opportunities going forward.

In addition, AIA Northwest and AIA Tallahassee, working cooperatively, have established a virtual forum for architects and architectural firms to provide aid to architects and their firms affected by Hurricane Michael. Firm needs may be posted, as well as general offerings of resources to those impacted. This “architect to architect forum” can be found [HERE](#). Please share with your membership.

Some components have indicated an interest in helping by loading up supplies that are rapidly becoming scarce in the panhandle and delivering them to AIA Florida headquarters. Others have indicated a preference to ship materials. Either way, I have authorized the use of AIA Florida headquarters as a collection point for physical donations to be stored. From there, these supplies will be taken by volunteers to designated distribution centers to ensure they are fairly allocated among the severely impacted.

Should your component want to participate in a “fill the truck” campaign and deliver goods directly to AIA Florida headquarters, please be aware that you will be

responsible for unloading and advance notice is required to ensure access. Deliveries may be sent to AIA Florida, 104 E. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, 32301.

As another option, components may decide the best and most efficient method to help is to send a cash donation. Components may do so by making checks payable to AIA Florida and designated to Hurricane Michael Relief Efforts. Leadership from the impacted components will then purchase the supplies needed based on real time information and as needs shift. If preferred, components may make an online donation [HERE](#).

All the above is applicable to firms as well as components. We welcome all participation.

Again, this will be a months-long rather than weeks-long crisis. Just today, one of the smaller jurisdictions impacted in the Panhandle was advised not to expect power until December. In other areas, there are no “places” in which to route power.

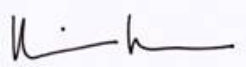
For those choosing the hands-on approach, items needed include:

- Tarps +++
- Chain saws
- Chain replacements
- Water
- Meals Ready to Eat (MREs)
- Batteries
- Cleaning supplies, bleach
- Garbage bags
- Blankets, tents, tarps, etc.
- Towels
- Paper Goods
- Hygiene items and toiletries (diapers-child and adult, wipes, pads, tampons, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, etc.)

A more comprehensive list can be found [HERE](#).

On behalf of the entire membership, we stand with our fellow architects and the citizens we all serve in this time of need. Please give now.

Sincerely,



Kim Headland, AIA
2018 AIA Florida President