



One-Year Emergency Response Progress Report

On Oct. 4, 2016, Hurricane Matthew slammed into southwest Haiti.

The category 4 storm packed 145-mph winds and delivered more than 30 inches of rain, leaving hundreds dead, tens of thousands homeless and 1.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance.

An Americares emergency response team in Haiti immediately began delivering critical medicine and relief supplies to communities in the hardest hit areas.

Within days of the storm, Americares deployed mobile medical teams staffed by Haitian physicians and nurses to treat survivors cut off from health services. Operating in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Americares medical teams traveled daily to remote communities to care for patients; the teams treated storm injuries, infected wounds and respiratory illnesses exacerbated by lack of shelter. With flood water increasing the risk of cholera, Americares also staffed and equipped two cholera treatment units and provided training on cholera prevention.

Americares delivered nearly \$18 million in medicine and medical supplies for survivors of Hurricane Matthew in Haiti.

Our medical teams provided more than 32,000 patient consultations. Americares also successfully rehabilitated four local health facilities damaged in the storm.



Americares provided medicine, medical supplies and mobile medical teams in the hardest hit region of Haiti.

Americares continues to operate out of its field office in Haiti and remains committed to improving health outcomes for the nation's most vulnerable.

"Thanks to Americares, and in particular its mobile clinics, my patients were always happy and satisfied."

– Dr. Joel Marcelin, Americares mobile medical team physician



In the year after Hurricane Matthew, Americares medical teams conducted more than 32,000 patient consultations.



Dr. Joel Marcelin worked with Americares mobile medical teams to provide Hurricane Matthew survivors with quality health care.

Helping Survivors in the U.S.

After leaving the Caribbean, Hurricane Matthew progressed slowly up the East Coast of the United States.

The strongest storm in nearly a decade, it downed powerlines, flooded businesses and homes and pushed rivers to record-high levels. In the U.S., Hurricane Matthew left more than 40 people dead and 2.5 million without power.

An AmeriCares emergency response team prepositioned in Florida quickly began assessing health needs and coordinating distribution of aid as soon as the storm cleared. Within a week of the storm, AmeriCares sent ten shipments of relief supplies to partners across multiple states.

AmeriCares provided more than \$600,000 in aid to families affected by Hurricane Matthew in the southeastern U.S. Our relief supplies included bottled water, hygiene kits and chronic disease medicine for survivors forced to flee without their medications.



In the United States, AmeriCares close collaboration with local partners allowed us to immediately distribute relief supplies.

Voices from the Field

By JP Fisher
Senior Associate,
Emergency Response

Just days after Hurricane Matthew struck, I boarded a plane loaded with AmeriCares medicine and medical supplies destined for Haiti.

After the plane touched down, I traveled south towards Les Cayes. I saw the damage grow worse and worse—flattened trees lined the roads, tin roofs were torn from homes, and survivors sifted through debris piles, searching for their belongings.

Over the next five months, I stayed in Haiti to help manage AmeriCares warehouse operations, facilitate the delivery of medicines to health providers and make sure our mobile medical teams were equipped to treat survivors. Dedicated and deeply concerned for their communities, AmeriCares local health staff worked tirelessly to provide quality care.

The storm destroyed roads and bridges, making rural communities hard to reach. Conditions caused flat tires and took hours of travel, but our mobile medical teams were determined to treat survivors.



Emergency Responder JP Fisher helped AmeriCares deliver its first shipment from Connecticut to Haiti on October 6.

So, one weekend, the team traveled as far as roads would take them, loaded backpacks onto their backs and hiked hours up mountains to reach the most remote communities in the commune of Coteaux. There, they provided urgent care and planned for a full medical clinic the following day. Delivering on that promise, as the team hiked up the mountain the next day, they saw

dozens of survivors from those remote communities walking down, headed their way to seek care.

Now, more than a year after the storm, AmeriCares remains in Haiti. We are committed to creating pathways to health and opportunity for families throughout the country.

AmeriCares saves lives and improves health for people affected by poverty or disaster so they can reach their full potential.

To learn more about our comprehensive response to Hurricane Matthew, please visit americares.org/hurricanemattew