



Hurricane Dorian

External Situation Report #3

September 13, 2019

Project HOPE's emergency response team (ERT) is responding to health needs of hurricane survivors at shelter clinics on New Providence. The ERT is continuing to distribute medicines, hygiene kits and supplies to the Ministry of Health and local partners. Project HOPE continues to scale up response efforts to meet immediate needs over the next week with the arrival of additional medical and WASH volunteers.

Hurricane Dorian Situation Update

The official death toll for Hurricane Dorian has risen to 50; however, this number is still suspected to be grossly underestimated. More than 2,500 people are registered missing although the list still needs to be cross-checked with individuals living in shelters! The Bahamas is currently preparing for a possible tropical storm ("Humberto"), which is projected to move across central and northwest Bahamas today and bring one to six inches of rain and winds, according to Pacific Disaster Center.

By September 11, more than 5,500 people had evacuated to New Providence although demands for evacuation are decreasing, according to the Bahamian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Between September 8 and September 11, the

HOPE Updates

- Project HOPE's first wave of medical volunteers received approval from the Ministry of Health (MOH) to provide medical care in the Bahamas.
- Project HOPE's volunteer nurse practitioner assisted in the treatment of patients at Fox Hill Community Center shelter on Sep. 12.
- Five additional medical volunteers will be joining the ERT next week: two doctors, two nurses and one pharmacist.
- Project HOPE has a donation agreement in place with the MOH for the provision of medicines and supplies.
- Today, Project HOPE delivered 21 pallets of hygiene kits, medicines and supplies to the MOH.

number of evacuees sheltering in Nassau had more than doubled. More than 2,000 evacuees are living across 10 shelters in Nassau while an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 people remain in Abaco.

Approximately one-third of assessed health facilities across Abaco are fully operational while the remaining are either partially operational, not functioning or status unknown.ⁱⁱ As more health facilities and clinics are assessed and re-opened, there is a need for continued health facility support through surge staff and medical supplies, both on Abaco and in New Providence, in addition to ensuring access to health care and medicines for displaced hurricane survivors.

The government continues to lead emergency response efforts from the National Emergency Operations Centre and through NEMA. As of last week, there were 13 emergency support function groups, each of which have their own lead government ministries and departments paired with U.N. agencies. The International Organization for Migration has taken the lead with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in supporting the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Renewal with shelter coordination and management.ⁱⁱⁱ

Project HOPE in the Bahamas

Since Sep. 9, Project HOPE's emergency response team has been focusing on the following activities.

Responding to Health Needs of Hurricane Survivors in Shelters

Project HOPE is helping to ensure access to health care for survivors living in shelters on New Providence. On Sep. 12, Project HOPE's ERT set up a triage and exam area at the shelter clinic in Fox Hill Community Center, currently home to approximately 236 displaced survivors. The shelter clinic is staffed by two nurses and one doctor from Elizabeth Estates Hospital, who see 15 to 20 patients a day. Project HOPE helped the clinic expand its capacity yesterday by providing wellness checks and exams to patients.

At the clinic, Project HOPE's volunteer nurse practitioner assisted in the treatment of patients for health concerns such as UTIs, wound infections, chest pains, hyperglycemia, GERD and asthma. Two patients were referred to the Elizabeth Estates hospital for follow-up care. Additional medical issues observed at the shelter were primarily related to heart disease, hypertension and diabetes. The team was also able to donate supplies for a glucometer to a patient in need.

Project HOPE is scaling up its efforts to continue addressing health needs at shelters on New Providence and is currently coordinating with partners to identify needs and sites for clinics going forward. As of Sep. 13, Project HOPE has permission from the Ministry of Health (MOH) for its first wave of medical volunteers to provide direct care and treatment to survivors. Project

HOPE has 48 volunteers on standby, including both medical professionals and WASH (water and sanitation) engineers, who have either received permission or are in the process of obtaining appropriate MOH permissions. **Six additional volunteers are on standby to join the ERT this coming week**, including two medical doctors, two registered nurses, one pharmacist and a WASH engineer.



A Project HOPE volunteer nurse practitioner evaluates a patient at the Fox Hill Community Center shelter clinic. Photo credit: James Buck for Project HOPE.

Procurement and Distribution of Medicines and Supplies

As of Sep. 13, Project HOPE has a **donation agreement in place with the MOH** for the provision of medicines and supplies in support of survivor needs.

Today, Project HOPE received **21 pallets of medicines and supplies** in Nassau donated by MAP International. The shipment was released to the MOH and included 3,150 disaster hygiene kits, pharmaceuticals and supplies such as prednisone, amoxicillin, metformin, aspirin, azithromycin, foam bandages, coveralls, safety eyewear, feminine pads, exam gloves and respirators.

Project HOPE also recently partnered with the Adventist Development & Relief Agency for the **distribution of 1,080 hygiene kits** and additional hygiene supplies. The hygiene kits and items were delivered to hurricane survivors in Freeport, Grand Bahama, as well as the shelter at Bahamas Academy Gym in Nassau.



Mom and baby receive a hygiene kit from a HOPE ERT member. Photo credit: James Buck for Project HOPE.

Inventory Management at Marsh Harbour Community Clinic

Project HOPE continued to support needs of the Marsh Harbour Community Clinic on Abaco by establishing an **inventory management system** for donated goods. The ERT ensured all donated items received by the clinic were not expired, and sorted and organized all medicines and supplies. Additionally, the team did data entry for the clinic and provided them an electronic tool to continue updating and tracking donations. Project HOPE also procured shelving units for the clinic to further support organization and efficient use of medicine and supplies.



Marsh Harbour Clinic before inventory management.



Marsh Harbour Clinic after inventory management (pending shelving units).

Sources:

ⁱ <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/11/world/americas/hurricane-dorian-missing-bahamas.html>

ⁱⁱ https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/09.12.19%20-%20USAID_DCHA%20The%20Bahamas%20Hurricane%20Dorian%20Fact%20Sheet%20%20237.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://reliefweb.int/report/bahamas/bahamas-recovery-iom-takes-lead-shelter-coordination>

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