

Hurricane Ida

Situation Report #1

August 30, 2021

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Hurricane Ida made landfall near Port Fourchon, Louisiana as a Category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 150 mph
- Project HOPE has deployed an Emergency Response Team (ERT) to the affected area, anticipated to arrive in New Orleans by tomorrow.
- Project HOPE has received a direct request for immediate assistance from the Regional New Orleans Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster (VOAD), specifically to provide medical personnel, hygiene kits, and personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Project HOPE's ERT includes a cadre of medical practitioners who will coordinate the provision of primary and emergency health services for impacted communities.
- In partnership with MAP International, Project HOPE is shipping 8,080 disaster health kits and more than 98,800 N95 masks.
- Project HOPE is engaged and ready to deploy additional Medical Teams to other affected parishes in southern Louisiana.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Hurricane Ida made landfall at 12:55pm local time near Port Fourchon, Louisiana as a category 4 hurricane. More than 1 million people are without power in Louisiana and Mississippi after Ida caused catastrophic damage to a regional power supplier. As energy providers work on restoring power, the power outages are expected to last for several weeks, especially in the worst hit areas. Power outages in New Orleans also hampered the operation of sewer pumping stations. The Sewage and Water Board of New Orleans is urging residents to limit water usage. One death has been reported thus far, but the Governor of Louisiana anticipates the number will rise.

Ida, now a tropical storm centered in south eastern Mississippi, has significantly weakened; however, the storm is expected to produce heavy rainfall and life threatening impacts today such as flooding, high winds, and storm surge. At least one hospital in Louisiana will need to be evacuated after Ida caused flooding, roof damage and generator failures. President

Quick Facts

- On August 30th, Hurricane Ida made landfall in Fourchon, LA as a Category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 150mph
- Impact assessments of Hurricane Ida are still ongoing
- 1+ million residents are without power in Louisiana and Mississippi
- Power outages affecting sewer pumping stations in Louisiana
- 1 reported death but reports are expected to rise
- Search and rescue efforts underway

Biden has issued a Major Disaster Declaration for Louisiana, and has offered federal assistance to facilitate immediate recovery efforts.

COVID-19 continues to be a concern in the affected areas as hospitals and their intensive care units are at capacity with patients with COVID-19. More than 2,400 COVID-19 patients are currently hospitalized across the state. Before the storm, the number of infections was beginning to decrease after a wave of infections that peaked in mid-August. Transmission is expected to increase following the storm, causing a spike in infections, as people are displaced and sheltering in crowded settings or with others outside their household.

PROJECT HOPE'S RESPONSE

Project HOPE deployed an ERT, including a team of medical practitioners, which will arrive tomorrow. The ERT will conduct a rapid needs assessment while providing immediate relief through health services.

Project HOPE is working with the Regional New Orleans VOAD and Disaster and the New Orleans Ready Office to support an evacuation center with first aid, health screenings, and other medical services. Project HOPE medical teams will be deployed with local responders into communities and special needs shelters to check on residents and provide the necessary support.

In partnership with MAP International, Project HOPE is sending an initial shipment of 8,080 Disaster Health Kits (each kit includes a washcloth, first aid kit, shampoo, soap, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, sports bag, and zip bag) along with more than 98,800 N95 masks to be distributed to hurricane-affected communities. Project HOPE is preparing shipments of additional hygiene kits and masks for distribution to shelter locations.

Project HOPE is working with Sol Relief to provide Project HOPE's ERT with air transport to currently inaccessible areas.

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