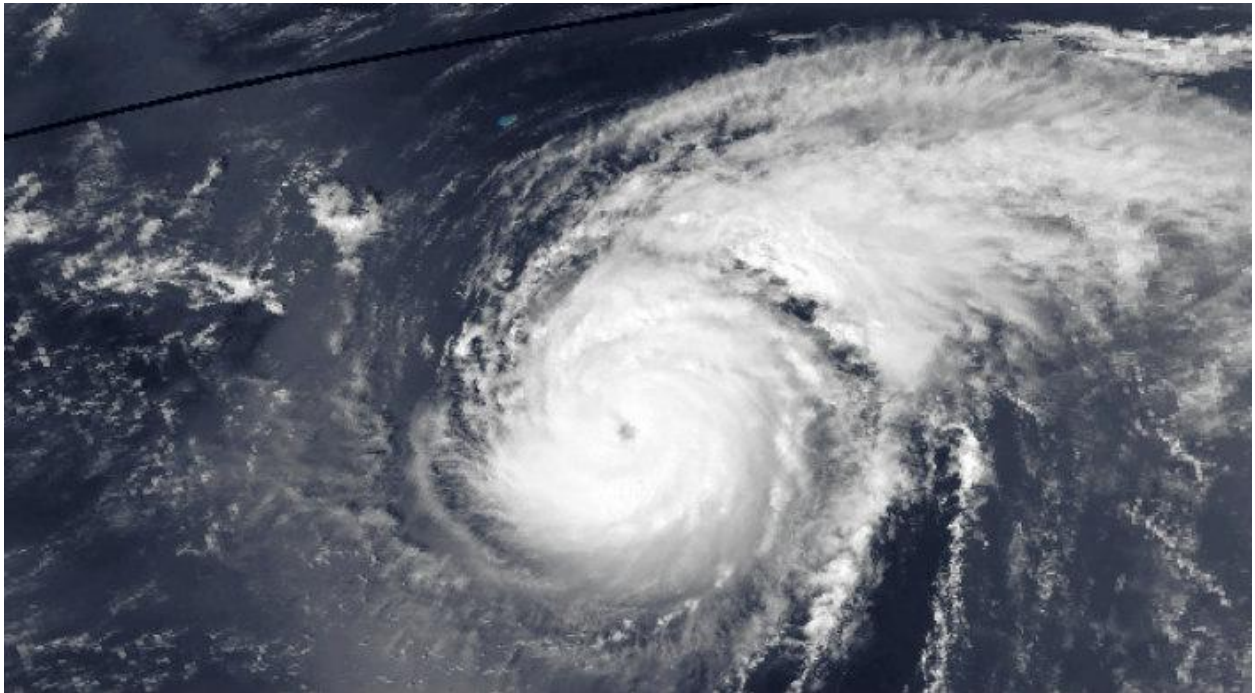


# Prayers and Actions for Houston After Hurricane Harvey



God of earth and sea,

Of ocean and shore,

Source of All,

This storm is relentless and unyielding,

Bringing destruction and chaos.

Who will suffer? Who will stay secure?

God of mystery and awe,  
Grant us safety as the waters engulf our homes and our lives.  
Protect us. Shield us. Guard us.  
Grant peace to those in fear.  
Grant food and clothing,  
Warmth and shelter to those in need.  
Bless emergency and rescue workers with the tools and skills they need  
As they risk their lives for the sake of our families, communities and friends.  
Grant healing to those who are sick or injured,  
And solace to the bereaved.  
Bless us with common sense throughout the squall  
And with kinship and cooperation when the storm passes.

God of awe and wonder,  
Our Rock and our Refuge,  
See us through the torrent.  
Watch us through the days and nights,  
For comfort, security and well-being,  
So that we may serve You  
And each other,  
In love.

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As we learn more about Hurricane Harvey's devastating impact on Houston and surrounding areas, we like many of you are feeling the urge to do something to aid those who are experiencing displacement, trauma, and harm from this natural disaster.

In the words of a fellow Repair the World board member of Rabbi Gropper's who lives in Houston, "I was finally able to leave my street today to start helping some of our friends. The damage is incomprehensible. Currently, my home is serving as a supply drop-off staging area because access to the Federation and JCC is not possible and people need things for remediation like gloves, garbage bags, masks cleaning supplies, etc.

*The Jewish community once again got slammed. 71% of the community lives in the area hardest hit. At least 3 of the synagogues took in several feet, JFS, the day schools, the JCC - almost no building was spared...."*

With destruction this intense, we can assume that recovery is going to take a long time, and a lot of support. We encourage you put a note in your calendar, one month, six months, one year from now to find opportunities to support recovery efforts.

Below are a compilation of national and local organizations giving direct aid to those directly affected by the Hurricane. Take a moment to look these over with members of your household. Additionally, we will be accepting donations of gift cards through September to stores such as Target, Home Depot, Walmart, Bed and Bath, etc to help these families with basic necessities. Gift cards will be sent directly to Rabbi Oren Hayon at Congregation Emanuel in Houston where they will be distributed in whatever capacity he sees fit as needs develop.

Once again, those of us who live with so many blessings can share some of those blessings with others in need.

## NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

[Hebrew Free Loan Society](#)

[UJA-Federation of New York Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund](#)

[Red Cross Hurricane Harvey Response Information](#)

[INCA Relief \(Muslims for Humanity\)](#)

[Catholic Charities USA](#)

## TEXAS ORGANIZATIONS

### General Disaster Relief:

[Hurricane Harvey Community Relief Fund](#)

*Coalition of local organizing and advocacy organizations including the Texas Organizing Project, SEIU, and Workers Defense Project.*

[Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund](#)

*Disaster relief fund housed at the Greater Houston Community Foundation that was established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner*

[Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund](#)

### Children:

[The Texas Diaper Bank](#)

[Driscoll Children's Hospital](#)

## **LGBTQIA Community:**

[Trans Disaster Relief Fund](#)

## **Food:**

[Feeding Texas](#)

[The Houston Food Bank](#)

[Houston Food Bank](#)

[Galveston Food Bank](#)

[Food Bank of the Golden Crescent](#) (Victoria)

[Corpus Christi Food Bank](#)

[Southeast Texas Food Bank](#) (Beaumont)

[Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley](#) (Pharr)

[Brazos Valley Food Bank](#) (Bryan)

[Central Texas Food Bank](#) (Austin)

[San Antonio Food Bank](#)

## **Homeless Community:**

[The Houston Coalition for the Homeless](#)

[The Homeless Period Project ATX](#)

## **Pet Rescue:**

[Austin Pets Alive!](#)

[SPCA of Texas](#)

## **People with Disabilities**

[Portlight Inclusive Disaster Strategies](#)

## **Housing people who are displaced**

URJ Greene Family Camp, a Reform Jewish summer camp in Bruceville, TX, has opened its doors to provide housing, meals, and some programming for an

indefinite period of time. If you are able to [make a donation to support this special effort by the Greene Family Camp](#).