



## The Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Relief Fund: Ways YOU can Help!



On Wednesday, September 20, 2017 catastrophic, category 4 Hurricane Maria, one of the strongest to hit the island since 1928, made direct impact across the entire Island of Puerto Rico causing massive devastation. It left 100% of the island without electricity and knocked down cell towers, stopping all communications. With an already massive economic crisis, the storm has left Puerto Rico completely paralyzed and its residents extremely vulnerable. Many had gone days without water before this storm due to the impact of Hurricane Irma. With Buffalo having one of the largest Puerto Rican communities outside the island, it has personally affected many of our residents, who have struggled through hours, and now days, of not knowing if their loved ones are safe.

**Western New York Latino Leaders and their partners** have established **The Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Relief Fund** to help provide both immediate and on-going support to the residents of Puerto Rico. To aid in our efforts we need an array of resources and support from our community. Please see below for **ways YOU can help**:

**Where you can donate-** We have set up three donation centers to collect emergency relief items from **Monday, September 25 to Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> .:**

- In **Buffalo-**
  - **City Hall 8:30am-4pm** and
  - **The Belle Center** at 104 Maryland St. Buffalo, NY 14207. **7am-7pm**
  - **Erie County Buildings** (Information to follow)
- In the **Southtowns-**
  - **St. Anthony's Church** at 306 Ingham Ave. Lackawanna, NY 14218. **10am-12pm & 2-4pm**

Once these desperately needed items have been collected, we will ship them directly to a collection center located in Puerto Rico.

**What you can donate-** We are looking for **sponsors!! We will also accept donations** of:

water,	manual can openers	diapers
batteries,	canned food (with meat,	baby formula,
flashlights,	fruits and vegetables)	pet food
candles	dry foods (cereal, raisins,	personal care items (including
paper products	protein bars, crackers...)	feminine supplies, hygiene, etc.).
matches, lighters		sanitizer/disinfectant/cleaning supplies

**NO CLOTHING, PLEASE!**

**Monetary Donations:** A bank account, managed through the Belle Center, has been established at M & T Bank. *Tax-deductible donation checks/wire transfers/deposits may be made payable to :*

***The Belle Center, in the memo line: Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Relief Fund***

**M&T Bank Account Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Relief Fund**

**For Wire Transfer Use Routing # 022000046 For Direct Deposits: Acct # 9873254693**

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**Go-Fund-Me** <https://www.gofundme.com/4gwz9kw>

**"Like" us on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/Puerto-Rican-Hurricane-Maria-Relief-Fund](http://www.facebook.com/Puerto-Rican-Hurricane-Maria-Relief-Fund)

Your donation, whether material or monetary, will be greatly appreciated. If anyone feels more comfortable donating to the Red Cross they can, also do so by writing "Hurricane Maria/PR" in the memo line.

**Contact:** For more information, please contact Wilmer Olivencia at (716) 578-6254 or [wolivencia716@yahoo.com](mailto:wolivencia716@yahoo.com)

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