

Disaster Response and Preparedness Organizations in the United States

Philanthropy often serves as a lifeline for communities devastated by climate- and weather-related disasters.

Disasters are continuing to grow in size, frequency, and complexity, resulting in more needs, especially related to long-term recovery.¹ In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, communities often face multiple challenges simultaneously, including the need for housing, food insecurity, mental health impacts, and economic instability. Sometimes, entire local economies are devastated by a disaster, and it can take months or years to rebuild. Additionally, when disasters are not imminent, it can be easy to overlook preparations that could help reduce the loss of life, property, and natural ecosystems when the next disaster hits.

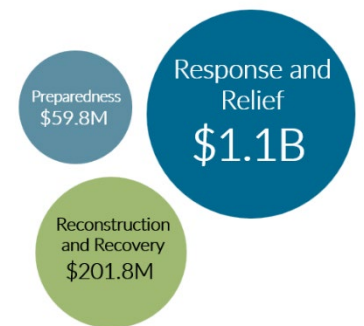
How to help: Proven and promising approaches

In the wake of a disaster, funders can make a significant impact by channeling resources to support the immediate emergency response while also investing in longer-term recovery efforts. Here are several proven and promising approaches to consider:

- **Support direct services to residents in the immediate aftermath of a disaster.** Organizations such as [World Central Kitchen](#) mobilize quickly to provide fresh meals to people in affected communities by activating a network of local restaurants, food trucks, and emergency kitchens.
- **Invest in long-term recovery needs.** In addition to attending to immediate needs post-disaster, organizations also need flexible support to help communities fully recover over the long term. These efforts can include physical reconstruction, economic recovery efforts, resilience planning, and mental health support, among others. Organizations such as [All Hands and Hearts](#) help communities rebuild disaster-resilient homes.
- **Invest in disaster mitigation and preparedness efforts.** Organizations such as the [Land Trust Alliance](#) are using innovative approaches to buffer communities and ecosystems from disasters—for example, protecting and managing wetlands to reduce coastal flooding from storms.

The following are examples of 501(c)(3) public charities that are providing disaster response services to individuals and communities across the United States. Please note that this list is not exhaustive, and other nonprofits are working on the same issue in impactful ways.²










Philanthropic support for disaster recovery and preparedness remains underfunded











According to the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, the majority of philanthropic support goes toward disaster response and relief efforts, while support for reconstruction and recovery efforts, and disaster preparedness, remain underfunded.

Source: [Center for Disaster Philanthropy](#)

Examples of disaster response and preparedness organizations

| Organization | Description | Approaches and areas of impact | Annual revenue | Ratings* |
|--|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| All Hands and Hearts Tax ID: 20-3414952 | <p>All Hands and Hearts is a volunteer-powered nonprofit that shows up when a natural disaster hits, addresses the immediate and long-term needs of affected communities, and then works with local residents to rebuild disaster-resilient schools, homes, and community centers. Projects are led by experienced staff and completed by dedicated volunteers. The organization has served in 27 countries, including the U.S. Current U.S.-based programs include Hurricanes Helene and Milton Relief and California Wildfire Relief. Learn more.</p> | Immediate response and relief, long-term reconstruction and recovery, and preparedness Human services  | \$16.4M | Charity Navigator:  GuideStar seal:  |
| Global Empowerment Mission Tax ID: 45-3782061 | <p>Global Empowerment Mission (GEM) is focused on swift recovery efforts in the aftermath of disasters. GEM has deployed over 355 disaster relief missions in 57 countries and all 50 U.S. states. Its support services range from rapid response food and water provision to rental assistance and small business support. For example, GEM’s Small Business & Artisan Grant program is helping to boost economic recovery among communities impacted by Hurricane Helene by providing small grants to local artisans and entrepreneurs. GEM also engages in long-term recovery efforts, such as helping to rebuild homes and schools. Learn more.</p> | Immediate response and relief and long-term reconstruction and recovery Human services  | \$139.2M | Charity Navigator:  GuideStar seal:  |
| Land Trust Alliance Tax ID: 04-2751357 | <p>The Land Trust Alliance is a national organization that supports the work of local and regional land trusts and conservation organizations across the country. It works to protect and manage land with climate impacts in mind to help buffer communities from disasters. For example, it helps land trusts protect and manage wetlands—which can help reduce coastal flooding from storms. It also provides training and resources to help regional land trusts lessen the impact of natural disasters in their communities. Learn more: Annual Report.</p> | Disaster preparedness Land stewardship – climate resiliency  | \$15.9M | Charity Navigator:  GuideStar seal:  |

| Organization | Description | Approaches and areas of impact | Annual revenue | Ratings* |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| <p>Team Rubicon</p> <p>Tax ID: 27-1720480</p> | <p>Team Rubicon is a veteran-led humanitarian organization that serves communities before, during, and after disasters and crises. It was founded during the Haiti earthquake in 2010, and since then it has grown to include more than 160,000 volunteers across the United States. Team Rubicon has launched more than 1,100 operations domestically and internationally. Its disaster services range from mitigation to immediate response to recovery. It also works with communities to rebuild and provides communities with ongoing medical services and training, water, sanitation, and hygiene, as well as disaster risk reduction strategies. Learn more.</p> | <p>Immediate response and relief, long-term reconstruction and recovery, and preparedness</p> <p>Human services, workforce development</p>  | <p>\$40.3M</p> | <p>Charity Navigator: </p> <p>GuideStar seal: Platinum</p> |
| <p>The Nature Conservancy</p> <p>Tax ID: 53-0242652</p> | <p>The Nature Conservancy is a global environmental nonprofit that works to implement innovative conservation strategies in over 80 countries and the U.S. In response to the growing impact of climate change, it is working to integrate natural ecosystems into disaster prevention and preparation efforts. For example, it supports the protection and restoration of coral reefs, floodplains, and mangrove forests as a cost-effective strategy to protect people and property from flood and storm damage. It is also using technology to help decision-makers assess the risks and cost effectiveness of different natural solutions. Learn more: Annual Report.</p> | <p>Disaster preparedness</p> <p>Land stewardship – climate resiliency</p>  | <p>\$1.1B</p> | <p>Charity Navigator: </p> <p>GuideStar seal: Gold</p> |
| <p>The Salvation Army</p> <p>Tax ID: 22-2406433</p> | <p>The Salvation Army is a global nonprofit that provides humanitarian aid and social services around the world and in the U.S. Its disaster response operations include immediate disaster relief, such as providing food, water, shelter, and emotional care. It also engages in long-term relief and disaster recovery, helping with case management, reconstruction, and job training for disaster survivors. In addition, the Salvation Army offers disaster preparedness trainings to help individuals and communities prepare for the next disaster. In 2024, it provided disaster assistance to more than 420,000 people in the United States. Learn more: Annual Report.</p> | <p>Immediate response and relief, long-term reconstruction and recovery, and preparedness</p> <p>Human services, workforce development</p>  | <p>\$4.7B</p> | <p>Charity Navigator: None</p> <p>GuideStar seal: Gold</p> |

| Organization | Description | Approaches and areas of impact | Annual revenue | Ratings* |
|---|---|--|--------------------------|---|
| World Central Kitchen Tax ID: 27-3521132 | Founded by chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen (WCK) works on the frontlines, providing fresh meals to communities in response to crises. WCK is known for its fast response and leverages local resources, partnering with organizations on the ground and activating a network of local restaurants, food trucks, and emergency kitchens. It has served more than 350 million meals around the world and makes an effort to support regional economies by prioritizing the purchase of local ingredients to cook with and distribute when possible. Learn more about its impact . | Immediate response and relief Human services  | \$519.1M | Charity Navigator:  GuideStar seal:  |

Potential next steps:

- Learn more about opportunities to support disaster relief efforts through the Fidelity Charitable[®] [disaster relief guidance](#) page.
- Explore the Center for Disaster Philanthropy’s guidance on innovative [disaster funding strategies and practices](#).
- Meet with your Fidelity Charitable[®] Philanthropic Strategist to further explore these funding opportunities.

¹ [Center for Disaster Recovery. "Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy 2024." published 2024. Accessed April 2025.](#)

² In compiling this information, Fidelity Charitable has relied on publicly available information, including the websites of nonprofit organizations, with links provided in this document. Nonprofit and foundation practitioners were also consulted. Fidelity Charitable is not responsible for the accuracy of such information or the ability of any organization to achieve specific goals. In this report, Fidelity Charitable provides research that donors may use to inform their philanthropy. Fidelity Charitable makes no recommendation or endorsement, however, with respect to any particular organization. Donors are encouraged to research organizations using tools such as GuideStar and Charity Navigator and by contacting a nonprofit’s leadership to evaluate the organization’s effectiveness, financial standing, and governance.

*We have provided organizations’ Charity Navigator ratings and GuideStar seals for convenience. Please note that these are helpful tools, but donors are encouraged to consider the full picture of a charity’s performance and management. For example, overhead costs often include important investments charities make to improve their work and sustain themselves. Please also note that GuideStar is not a charity watchdog organization or rating service and its seals of transparency are based on the amount of information a nonprofit provides in its GuideStar profile.

Fidelity Charitable is the brand name for the Fidelity Investments[®] Charitable Gift Fund, an independent public charity with a donor-advised fund program. Various Fidelity companies provide services to Fidelity Charitable. The Fidelity Charitable name and logo and Fidelity are registered service marks of FMR LLC, used by Fidelity Charitable under license. Giving Account is a registered service mark of the Trustees of Fidelity Charitable. 1202071.1.0