

MEASURING THE STATE OF DISASTER PHILANTHROPY | 2021

DATA TO DRIVE DECISIONS



Candid.



Center for Disaster Philanthropy
The when, where and how of informed disaster giving



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A kangaroo rushes past a burning house in Lake Conjola, Australia.
Photo: Matthew Abbot, The New York Times

Executive Summary

Disasters and humanitarian crises affected millions of people globally in 2019. Hurricane Dorian, one of the most powerful hurricanes recorded in the Atlantic Ocean, caused catastrophic damage in the Bahamas and parts of the eastern U.S., including Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Puerto Rico. Wildfires raged across California, Australia, and the Amazon, and Cyclone Idai led to flooding and mass destruction in Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. The Rohingya crisis continued, further increasing the number of refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people in Bangladesh and other countries.

Although the number of disaster events continued to increase in 2019, there is evidence that their impact on people's lives was less severe. The Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) reported in *2019 Natural Disasters* that compared to the annual average over the previous decade, in 2019, there were fewer deaths, fewer numbers of people affected, and lower economic losses.

Each year, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) and Candid analyze global disaster-related funding from foundations, bilateral and multilateral donors, the U.S. federal government, corporations, and donations through donor-advised funds (DAFs) and online platforms. We analyze funding according to a taxonomy that classifies giving by type of disaster and disaster assistance strategy, allowing us to identify funding gaps and areas of opportunity so that crisis-affected communities have resources for immediate relief and to build back stronger than before.

This year's report focuses on funding in FY 2019. Institutional philanthropy data is sourced from funders that report their grantmaking directly to Candid; published media, including English-language news and press releases; and publicly available data sources, including IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF. Due to *IRS processing delays*, however, this form data for 2019 is incomplete, and data collection is still underway. Therefore, all institutional philanthropy analyses in this report are presented as funding "to date."

What lessons can we take from the philanthropic response to disasters in 2019 and apply to the current COVID-19 pandemic?

Key findings from our analysis of 2019 data include:

- Drawing upon 12 data sources, we documented almost \$30 billion in disaster-related giving in 2019. Funding across most data sources declined in 2019 compared to 2018.
- Based on Candid's database, we identified \$352 million in funding to date by foundations and public charities for disasters and humanitarian crises.
 - Natural hazards and severe weather events accounted for 55 percent of disaster funding.
 - Among disaster assistance strategies, 51 percent of dollars were for response and relief efforts. Six percent went toward reconstruction and recovery and 4 percent supported resilience measures. Seventeen percent of funding went toward disaster preparedness. The two largest preparedness grants came from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to prevent and manage outbreaks through vaccines.
 - Comparing a matched set of 324 foundations, disaster-related funding in 2019 held relatively steady compared to 2018, though fewer grants were awarded.
- Official development assistance by 30 government members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) totaled \$22 billion for disasters and humanitarian crises in 2019. Non-DAC government donors and multilateral organizations contributed an additional \$2.8 billion.
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) distributed \$3.2 billion for U.S. disasters in 2019, an \$8 billion decrease from 2018. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated \$1 billion in recovery efforts in 2019 for disasters that took place in 2017—a substantial \$33.5 billion decrease from 2018 funding for disasters that took place in 2017 and 2016. In 2019, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) invested approximately \$381.7 million in 156 projects for disasters that took place from 2017 to 2019, which was a \$256.1 million increase from 2018. This is just a sampling of government contributions that make up the bulk of disaster funds in the U.S.
- Based on data from Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose (CECP), the world's largest companies committed about \$150 million to disasters and humanitarian crises.
- Among individual donors:

- Individual donors contributed \$20.5 million through donor-advised funds managed by Fidelity Charitable and \$6 million through donor-advised funds managed by Vanguard Charitable. These numbers provide a snapshot of contributions made through donor-advised funds, as Fidelity Charitable and Vanguard Charitable are just two of many donor-advised fund management entities.
- Many individual donors also gave through online platforms, including Network for Good and GlobalGiving. Network for Good helped direct \$11.3 million in donations to disaster-specific nonprofits in 2019. GlobalGiving raised \$5.1 million for disasters, supporting 184 projects in 2019.

Many of the organizations that received grants from CDP in 2019 also received grants for future disasters or to respond to COVID-19 during 2020 and 2021. For example, Global Emergency

Relief, Recovery & Reconstruction (GER3) received funding to support reconstruction in Honduras after hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020, and the organization is working in St. Vincent after the La Soufrière volcano explosion in 2021. Corazón Healdsburg used the cash assistance model developed for wildfire relief to support immigrant and migrant families during COVID-19.

Philanthropy plays a crucial role in supporting the long-term recovery of individuals and communities affected by disasters. This year, and moving forward, the *Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy* annual report offers specific, actionable takeaways for how donors can maximize their disaster-related giving. These insights are based on findings from the data and the latest recommendations from CDP about effective disaster funding.

To learn more about *Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy* and to explore the data behind this analysis on our interactive funding map, visit disasterphilanthropy.candid.org.

Philanthropy and COVID-19

Although this report examines disaster giving in 2019, we cannot ignore the ongoing crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time that funders and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are still trying to rebuild communities impacted by disasters in 2019, they are being hindered by the restrictions that COVID-19 imposes.

In March 2021, Candid and CDP explored trends in philanthropic giving related to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. We documented more than \$20 billion in global philanthropy for COVID-19, and we are continuing to track the funding flows. The report, *Philanthropy and COVID-19: Measuring one year of giving*, revealed that foundations, corporations, public charities, and individual donors quickly stepped up to meet immediate needs arising from the pandemic. Human service organizations received the most support, followed by health organizations. Thirty-five percent of U.S. funding was designated for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities.

Funding for the pandemic has been greater than anything CDP and Candid have seen since we began collecting real-time data about disasters and humanitarian crises. We have also seen COVID-19 philanthropy continue in 2021. We will share what we are learning in a new COVID-19 report, to be released in 2022. If you are a funder and would like your work to be included in this update, visit Candid's website to find out more about [contributing to the global database of COVID-19-related philanthropy](#).



Data Sources

Philanthropic funding for disasters and humanitarian crises is situated within a large ecosystem of global aid. Assistance from governments far surpasses funding from private philanthropy, but foundations, corporations, grantmaking public charities, and individual donors still play important roles. This report documents foundation support and places it in context with other sources of national and global aid to provide the fullest possible financial picture of disaster-related funding.

We acknowledge there are far more disaster contributions than those we currently document. We invite donors, government agencies, and other data-gathering organizations to partner with us to include their giving data in our annual analysis: disasterphilanthropy.candid.org/get-involved.

DATA SOURCES	DESCRIPTION
CANDID	Comprehensive source of data on U.S. foundation giving with a growing database of global foundations
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD) CREDITOR REPORTING SYSTEM (CRS)	Central database for official development assistance from the 30 OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) member states. Data for this project was collected based on project descriptions and CRS purpose codes. DAC donors' contributions to the regular budgets of multilateral institutions have been excluded.
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (UN OCHA) FINANCIAL TRACKING SERVICE (FTS)	Comprehensive source of real-time humanitarian aid contributions. Data used in this analysis excludes contributions from DAC donors and U.S. foundations (to avoid double counting across data sources), unspecified private contributions, and in-kind donations without a dollar value.
U.S. FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)	Detailed information on domestic grants by this U.S. government agency for disasters. Data was accessed in July 2021 from fema.gov and excludes grants related to weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)	Aggregated data on disbursements made by this U.S. government agency for disasters
U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)	Aggregated data on disbursements made by this U.S. government agency for disasters
CHIEF EXECUTIVES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSE (CECP)	Aggregated data on contributions made by corporations, based on CECP's <i>Giving in Numbers</i> report
U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP CENTER DISASTER CORPORATE AID TRACKER	Key source of data on corporate giving for disasters
FIDELITY CHARITABLE	Aggregated data on contributions collected through donor-advised funds
VANGUARD CHARITABLE	Aggregated data on contributions collected through donor-advised funds
NETWORK FOR GOOD	Aggregated data on disaster-designated contributions collected through its software platform
GLOBALGIVING	Disaster-related contributions collected through the organization's online giving platform. Data was collected based on descriptions for projects with a 2019 approved date and excludes projects by U.S. foundations (to avoid double counting across data sources).

Disaster Taxonomy

COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY

MAN-MADE ACCIDENT

GENERAL

DISASTER TYPES

NATURAL HAZARD AND SEVERE WEATHER EVENT*

Drought

Extreme Temperature

Storm

Earthquake/Tsunami

Flood

Volcano

Epidemic

Mass Movement

Wildfire

DISASTER ASSISTANCE STRATEGIES



RESILIENCE,
RISK REDUCTION,
AND MITIGATION



PREPAREDNESS



RESPONSE
AND RELIEF



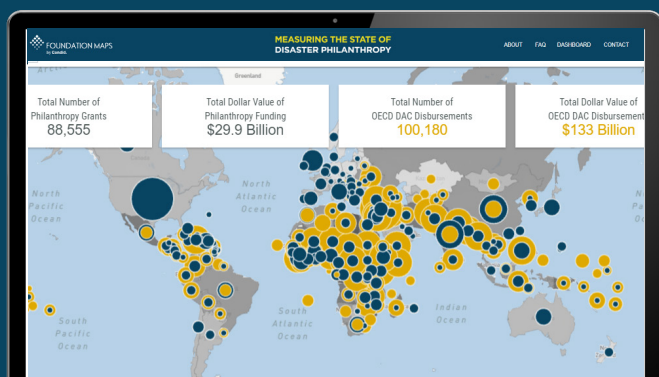
RECONSTRUCTION
AND RECOVERY

*We have renamed this category “natural hazard and severe weather event” to acknowledge that human activity has contributed to weather events that we formerly characterized as natural disasters.

About This Project

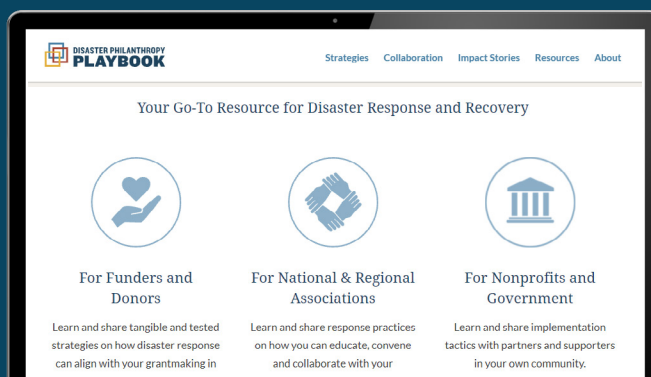
Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy is an annual analysis of funding for global disasters and humanitarian crises. See these other tools to help inform disaster-related philanthropy:

MEASURING THE STATE OF DISASTER PHILANTHROPY MAPPING PLATFORM



Dig deeper into grant- and project-level data from 2011 to the present: disasterphilanthropy.candid.org/map.

DISASTER PHILANTHROPY PLAYBOOK



Learn about the best ways to allocate resources for disasters: disasterplaybook.org

For more information about this report, or to learn how to increase the effectiveness of your philanthropic dollars, please contact tanya.gulliver-garcia@disasterphilanthropy.org.

Institutional Philanthropy

PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING BY DISASTER TYPE, 2019 TO DATE

41%
DISASTERS—GENERAL
\$144,031,656
1,321 transactions

4%
COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES
\$13,640,271
134 transactions

<1%
MAN-MADE ACCIDENTS
\$227,943
8 transactions

55%
NATURAL HAZARDS/SEVERE WEATHER
\$194,133,410
1,760 transactions

53 transactions went toward the Ebola virus; 32 addressed COVID-19.

TOTAL GIVING
\$352M
3,223 transactions
967 donors

Funding for storms addressed Hurricane Dorian and Cyclone Idai as well as continued support for Hurricanes Harvey (2017), Florence (2018), and Michael (2018).

EPIDEMIC	\$72,396,308	99 transactions
STORM	\$59,764,608	763 transactions
FLOOD	\$20,255,173	210 transactions
WILDFIRE	\$17,708,646	398 transactions
NATURAL HAZARD—GENERAL*	\$16,033,416	197 transactions
EARTHQUAKE	\$3,610,109	47 transactions
VOLCANO	\$2,517,932	6 transactions
DROUGHT	\$917,363	26 transactions
EXTREME TEMPERATURE	\$600,000	1 transaction
MASS MOVEMENT	\$329,855	13 transactions

*Includes awards for general or multiple natural hazards and severe weather events.

About the Data

This analysis is based on Candid's database as of October 5, 2021. The data is sourced from funders that report their grantmaking directly to Candid; published media, including English-language news and press releases; and publicly available data sources, including IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF.

The data set includes grants, foundation-administered programs, and program-related investments from FY 2019. Grantmakers include U.S. and non-U.S. donors. For U.S. community foundations, discretionary grants are included as well as donor-advised grants when provided by the foundation. To avoid double-

counting transactions, grants to grantmakers in the data set are excluded, except in the lists of top grantmakers and recipients.

Some transactions included in the analysis may be pledges (announced intentions to award funding) rather than grants (contributions that have been paid or authorized). In 2020, Candid introduced the ability to distinguish between a pledge and a grant, and future reports will analyze these separately. The data set includes funding that totaled \$2.3 million, largely dedicated to Hurricane Dorian relief, which was awarded by five high-net-worth individuals and celebrities.

COVID-19's Impact on 2019 Data Collection

In early 2020, COVID-19 became a global crisis, and much of philanthropy turned toward helping communities survive the most significant global disaster of our time. But what does this mean for this report, which focuses on data from 2019? Ironically, one of COVID-19's many impacts was to adversely affect data collection on disasters that predated the pandemic.

Candid gathers data about institutional philanthropy from multiple sources, including IRS 990 and 990-PF filings. The pace at which the IRS releases data often means it can take up to two years before Candid receives filing data. In early 2021, however, we realized that COVID-19 had further slowed the IRS timeline due, in part, to pandemic restrictions and the issuing of COVID-19 stimulus payments. Candid explained the impact of these delays in the blog post [Where are the 2019 \(and 2020\) 990s? On filling the gaps in Candid's grants data.](#)

By late August 2021, the situation had not improved. The chart below illustrates that the rate at which Candid has received 2019 990-PF filings has been far slower than in previous years. In preparation for this year's annual disaster analysis, Candid collected 32,138 990-PF filings, 70 percent fewer than what was available at the same point last year for 2018 filings and less than a third of what is expected for 2019 overall.

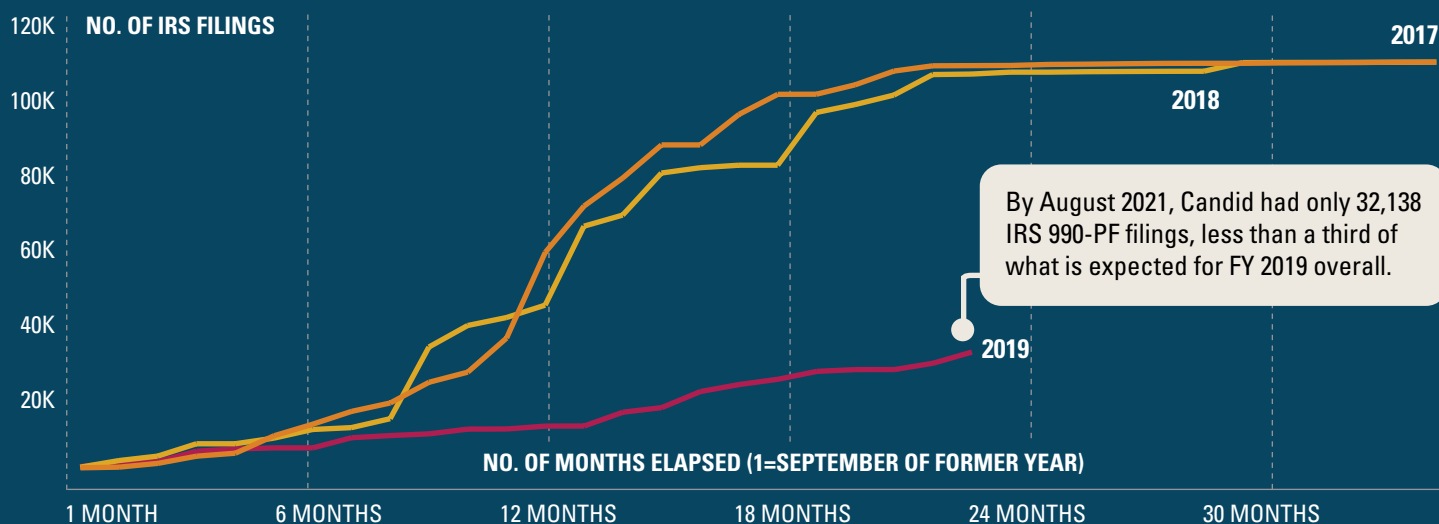
To address this data gap, we introduced two changes to how we compiled this year's report:

- 1) We present 2019 institutional philanthropy data as funding "to date," and analyze what is in Candid's database as of October 5, 2021.
- 2) Five-year trends in disaster giving by institutional donors is represented by a matched set of 324 foundations rather than the Foundation 1000 research set.

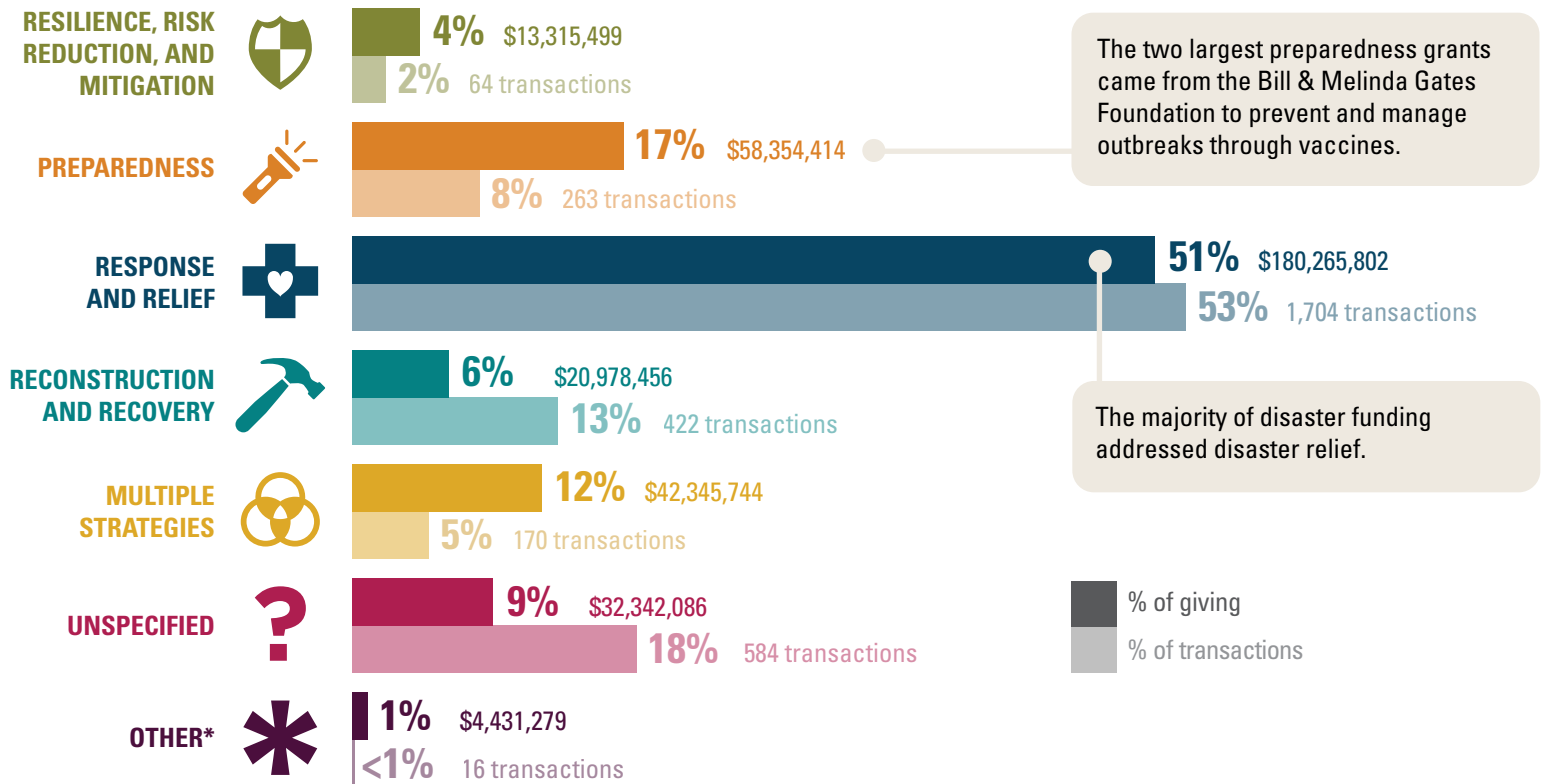
A final note on an unexpected impact of COVID-19 on this year's analysis: Interestingly, philanthropic actions in response to the pandemic in 2020 appear in 2019 data. Specifically, this year's institutional philanthropy data set includes 32 transactions totaling \$6.1 million with descriptions referencing COVID-19. How can that be when COVID-19 was a crisis that largely began in 2020?

One reason is that Candid's database is continually updated as new grantmaking information becomes available. Therefore, when funders shifted the original purpose of a 2019 grant to allow it to be used however was needed in response to the pandemic, this change was noted in Candid's database as a coronavirus-related grant. This is evident from grant descriptions like "unrestricted (release of previous restriction...due to COVID-19)." This may also be likely for multi-year, authorized grants that started before the pandemic. In addition, data in this analysis may be based on funders' fiscal years, and calendar year 2020 awards may be included in a fiscal year 2019 data file. These COVID-19 grants have been included in the overall 2019 analysis. They account for 8 percent of the funding for epidemics.

CUMULATIVE IRS 990-PF FILINGS LOADED BY MONTH

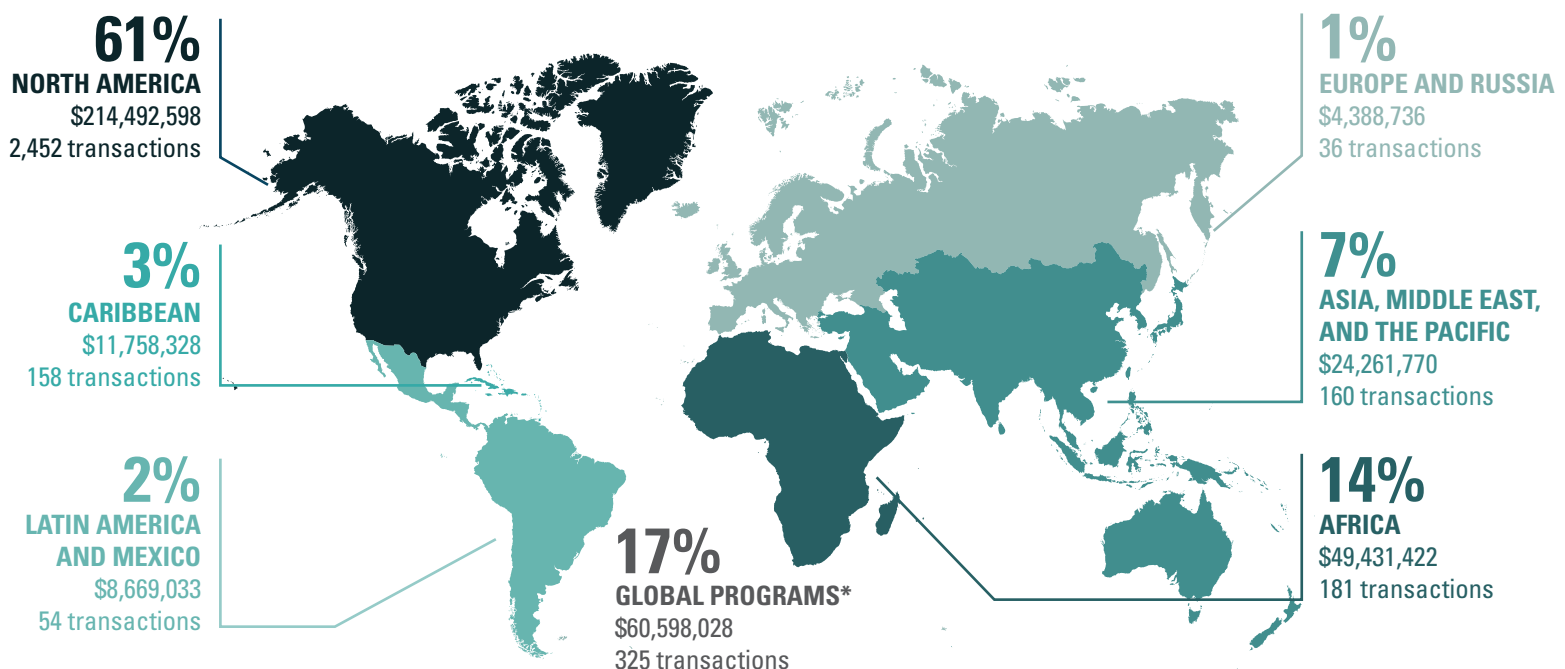


PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING BY DISASTER ASSISTANCE STRATEGY, 2019 TO DATE



*Includes transactions for research, convenings, and other work that could not be categorized with any other assistance strategy.

PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING DISTRIBUTIONS BY REGION, 2019 TO DATE



*Funding that is not directed for a specific region but rather provides a global benefit.

Transactions may benefit multiple regions and would therefore be counted more than once. As a result, figures add up to more than 100 percent. North America includes Puerto Rico.

TOP 10 INSTITUTIONAL DONORS, 2019 TO DATE

DONOR	TYPE*	\$	# OF TRANSACTIONS
1 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	IN	72,631,387	34
2 OneStar Foundation	PC	31,967,474	72
3 United Way of Greater Houston	PC	31,570,878	18
4 Wal-Mart Foundation	CS	20,136,932	7
5 California Community Foundation	CM	18,452,203	46
6 Margaret A. Cargill Foundation	IN	15,771,575	26
7 Triumph Gulf Coast	PC	14,999,999	2
8 Anne Ray Foundation	IN	13,730,827	16
9 UPS Foundation	CS	11,240,860	444
10 Direct Relief	PC	9,493,352	45

The Margaret A. Cargill Foundation supported a number of disaster preparedness and resilience projects.

Triumph Gulf Coast oversees funds for damages from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. In 2019, it awarded grants to Florida communities affected by Hurricane Michael.

* CM=Community Foundation; CS=Corporate Foundation; IN=Independent Foundation; PC=Public Charity

TOP 10 RECIPIENTS OF PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING, 2019 TO DATE

RECIPIENT	LOCATION	\$	# OF TRANSACTIONS
1 American National Red Cross	DC	36,375,230	87
2 World Health Organization	Switzerland	25,000,000	2
3 BakerRipley	TX	22,765,032	1
4 PATH	WA	14,533,228	2
5 United Way of Greater Los Angeles	CA	12,454,212	2
6 Batavia Biosciences BV	Netherlands	11,080,623	1
7 Bay County Board of County Commissioners	FL	10,728,764	1
8 North Valley Community Foundation	CA	8,288,480	62
9 Team Rubicon	CA	5,873,539	96
10 Center for Disaster Philanthropy	DC	5,295,569	38

Grants supported outbreak response strategies.

Donations were directed to the Camp Fire Relief Fund.

Team Rubicon mobilizes veterans, leveraging their skills and experience to support communities affected by disasters and humanitarian crises.

Includes recipients who are also funders in the data set.

Global Emergency Relief, Recovery & Reconstruction

Global Emergency Relief, Recovery & Reconstruction (GER3) received two grants from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy for recovery work related to Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. The first grant, worth \$100,000, was issued in partnership with Google in October 2019 to support debris removal. The second, for \$500,000, was funded in June 2020 and allowed GER3 to rehabilitate homes and shelters on Abaco Island.

Langdon Greenhalgh, president and founder of GER3, said that CDP's first grant was essential and, when combined with a smaller grant from UNICEF, jumpstarted their work to respond to Hurricane Dorian. One of the longest lasting Atlantic hurricanes, Dorian is the strongest hurricane to hit the Bahamas. The storm made a total of five landfalls, including three in the Bahamas (as a Category 5 on September 1, 2019). The slow movement of the storm meant that Dorian remained atop the northern Bahamas for more than 48 hours, devastating several islands in the country.

Greenhalgh explained that the \$100,000 grant was leveraged into \$4 million. "It demonstrated to other donors, the community, and the government that we were there on a more significant basis than otherwise possible. It was transformational for us as an organization. Our budgets had always been much smaller. This allowed us to go from emergency relief all the way into reconstruction. It allowed us to function in multiple locations at once." (CDP also provided GER3 grants in 2020 and 2021 to respond to Hurricanes Eta/Iota in Honduras and the volcano eruption in St. Vincent.)

He added, "We are still in Abaco today [October 2021]. We have a team there every day working in the community, led primarily by Bahamians. They continue to carry out rehabilitation of the homes based on needs identified by the community."

GER3 uses an intensive process to determine which homes they will rebuild. While they have criteria in terms of vulnerability—elderly, people with disabilities, female head of household, etc.—there is great need. Their team spends significant time talking with the communities to identify who those people are, going from house to house to ensure those connections.

With the funding from both grants, GER3 employed a cash-for-work model as a defining characteristic of their program. Greenhalgh said, "We hire men and women from the affected



The start of recovery efforts in East Grand Bahama after Hurricane Dorian. Photo: GER3

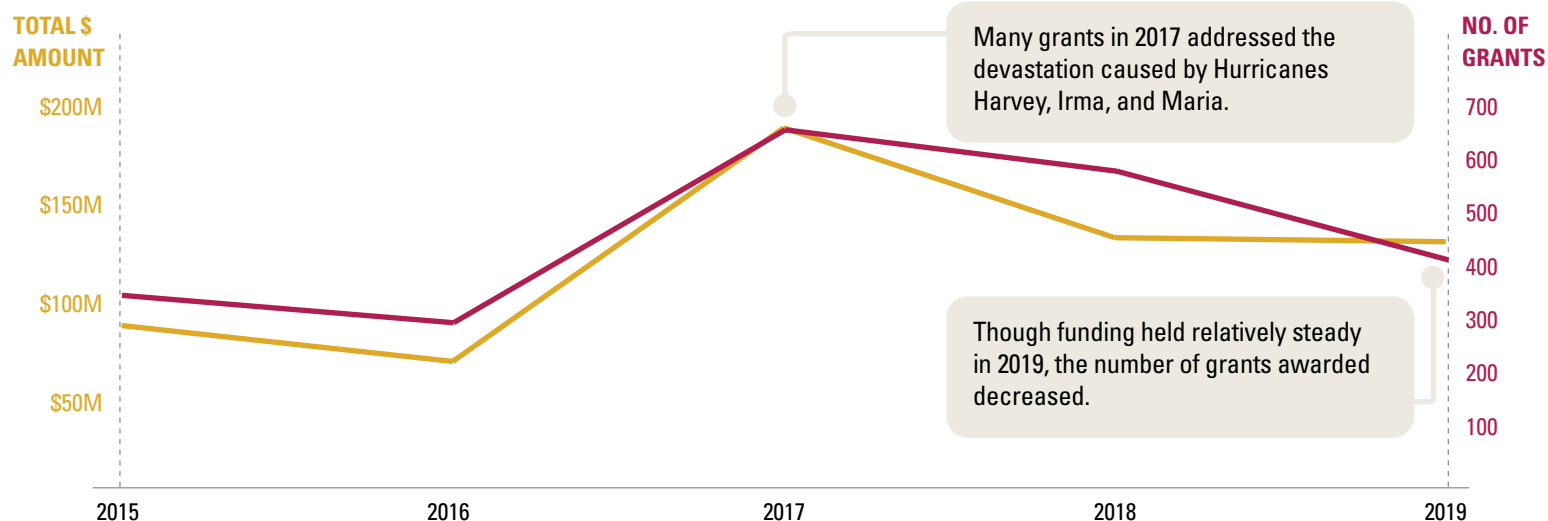
communities to be involved in the recovery of their own community. We provide training and an income. The process inserts dignity and the capacity to help themselves and their community recover."

This is part of the building resilience approach GER3 uses in their work. The second grant provided support to rebuild and stock hurricane shelters. But the additional funding leveraged by CDP's investment allowed them to focus on their typical area of response: rebuilding homes, schools, health centers, and other community infrastructure. They rebuilt the Central Abaco Primary School (CAPS), the largest school on the island, with CDP funding paying for the emergency shelter component of that building, while other funding supported the school side. CDP also supported a partnership, initiated by GER3, with Rocky Mountain Institute, to install solar panels on the roof to increase sustainability.

Greenhalgh said, "That builds upon one of the pillars of our work: 'How do we build back better and create green recovery?' Now CAPS is functioning at the highest operational level as a school, with alternative energy and a more robust disaster shelter."

"Having people from CDP who really understand the context and the environment that we're working in is a huge boost to the relationship and to the work that we're doing," Greenhalgh added. "CDP is leading and showing that there is a better way to fund this kind of work. Most of the funding is used in the early relief needs but there are even bigger needs in the longer-term recovery phase. CDP is essential because there aren't many donors in the space."

LARGE U.S. FOUNDATION FUNDING TRENDS, 2015–2019



Funding trends are based on grantmaking by 324 foundations. See About the Data for more information.

About the Data

Analysis of institutional philanthropy on page 7 is based on Candid’s entire database. The data offers the broadest picture of Candid’s information on philanthropic giving, but data availability varies from year to year, and it does not represent a scientific sample.

For this five-year analysis, we used a subset of grants awarded by 324 U.S. foundations for which Candid has comprehensive data for each year. This “matched set” controls for annual variations and provides a reasonable and reliable measure of actual change. The data set includes grants of \$10,000 or more. It excludes grants to individuals as well as loans and program-related investments.



CORE’s Cash for Work program in the Bahamas. Photo: CORE

Fremont Area United Way

The Fremont Area United Way received a grant from CDP's [Midwest Early Recovery Fund](#) in 2019 for \$58,300. This was topped up by \$55,000 to continue the work in 2020.

March 2019 began like it did most years in Fremont, Nebraska. A town of approximately 25,000, Fremont is about 30 to 45 minutes from Omaha. Most people work in agriculture or the meat processing industry. It had been a cold winter with record amounts of late winter snow. Residents rejoiced at the hints of spring.

Christy Fiala, executive director of the Fremont Area United Way, said that while she and others had heard about flooding in nearby communities, they didn't understand that 2019 was going to be different. Heavy rains and unseasonably warm temperatures from March 11-13 melted snow on previously saturated soil. The warm weather broke up the ice on the Platt and Elk Horn rivers, which led to high water overtopping banks, breaching dams, and flooding fields and towns across Nebraska, including Fremont. By the third day, the pressure dropped so low it was classified as a 'bomb cyclone.'

"The next day and the next day and the next day, the water kept rising and kept rising," Fiala said. "There reached a point where you were either going to be stuck in the community or you needed to get out. Every road system leaving the community was underwater; Fremont became an island."

Those who stayed jumped in to help, but Fiala said, "We didn't know what we were doing. This was before anyone had arrived. The Red Cross doesn't have a local chapter and the nearest one couldn't get in because of the water." So the community responded: Local churches and Fremont Middle School sheltered people and the community sourced supplies and sandbagged buildings. As the water levels went down, help came in from the outside world in the form of rescue teams, the Red Cross, FEMA, and Tide's Loads of Hopes (washer and dryer trucks). But in assessing the damage, Fremont realized the extent was significant, with more than 1,500 structures in the county damaged and 247 uninhabitable.

Following the disaster, Fremont recognized its need to build an internal response structure. Community leaders came together to work with the response groups to figure out how best to move forward. CDP was one of the first calls.

Fiala said, "I am biased, but I really like how we used the CDP grants. There were three positions [funded by CDP]: disaster case manager, disaster construction manager, and disaster volunteer manager. Each position went to a different agency at the direction of the long-term recovery group (LTRG)."

While the United Way managed the volunteer manager, Lutheran Family Services directed the case manager and Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity oversaw the construction manager. The three staff reported to the LTRG, acting as a team themselves, while reporting to their own chain of command within their host organizations. This allowed each position's manager to direct additional staff and volunteers from their own agency while also jointly coordinating responses in the community.

Fiala said, "There is so much to sort through still from 2019. Three years later, 35 homes are on the case load still to be repaired. The work is still not done, but when I pause and look at the hundreds of families that have received help, the funds that have gone out, the families that have been relocated, I can see that we have done a lot. We are proud of what we have accomplished. And we continue to work toward recovery."



March 2019 Flood, Fremont, NE. Photo: Fremont United Way

Funding From Other Data Sources

OECD DAC DONORS, 2019

61% COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES
\$13,503,730,869
6,307 disbursements

31% DISASTERS—GENERAL
\$6,796,856,898
6,441 disbursements

<1% MAN-MADE ACCIDENTS
\$6,786,144
21 disbursements

8% NATURAL HAZARDS/ SEVERE WEATHER
\$1,665,113,056
2,054 disbursements

The top donors were the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany.

TOTAL GIVING
\$22B
14,826 disbursements

Syria was the top recipient country of funding, followed by Yemen, Turkey, and Iraq.

EPIDEMIC	\$493,509,931	402 disbursements
FLOOD	\$288,469,291	190 disbursements
NATURAL HAZARD—GENERAL*	\$231,073,926	473 disbursements
STORM	\$226,706,901	410 disbursements
EARTHQUAKE	\$205,650,502	245 disbursements
DROUGHT	\$152,001,337	243 disbursements
MASS MOVEMENT	\$39,856,996	26 disbursements
WILDFIRE	\$15,646,768	43 disbursements

*Includes disbursements for general or multiple natural hazards and severe weather events.

NON-OECD DAC DONORS, 2019

18% DISASTERS—GENERAL
\$519,460,290
758 disbursements

4% NATURAL HAZARDS/ SEVERE WEATHER
\$113,429,941
113 disbursements

78% COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES
\$2,198,142,122
1,200 disbursements

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait were the top donor countries.

TOTAL GIVING
\$2.8B
2,071 disbursements

Top Emergencies, 2019

1. Yemen	\$1,256,534,254
2. Syria Humanitarian & Refugee Response	\$165,960,903
3. Bangladesh—Rohingya Refugee Crisis	\$76,457,113
4. Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$56,216,935
5. South Sudan	\$45,826,159

FEMA, 2019



The top recipient locations were Nebraska, California, and Iowa.

FLOOD	\$1,053,575,165	11,693 contributions
STORM	\$825,390,721	9,067 contributions
WILDFIRE	\$746,122,412	2,247 contributions
NATURAL HAZARD—GENERAL*	\$490,578,369	159 contributions
EARTHQUAKE	\$108,798,798	415 contributions

*Includes grants for general or multiple natural hazards and severe weather events.

Data was accessed in July 2021 from [fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov). FEMA and the federal government cannot vouch for the data or analyses derived from the data after it has been retrieved from the agency's websites.

EDA, 2019



The 156 projects supported a variety of activities, including infrastructure, planning, research, technical assistance, and access to capital, to help communities and regions recovering from Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, Irma, Nate, wildfires, and other major disasters in 2017-2019, build the capacity for economic development. Projects were funded through both regular EDA appropriations as well as through Disaster Supplemental appropriations.

The EDA data should be viewed as a snapshot of the data available at the time of the data request and is subject to any changes or updates as reflected within future reports and data requests. They include, but are not limited to, revisions to the number, dollar amount, program classification, and estimated impacts of specific grant awards.

HUD, 2019



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) distributed \$1 billion in 2019 to states and local governments to recover from 2017 disasters, which included Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, among other events. Grantees directed that money toward eligible disaster recovery activities, including housing rehabilitation, public improvements, and economic development.



Acre Fire in the São Bernardo Community in Rio Branco in the Amazon. Photo: Katie Maehler, Mídia NINJA

CORPORATE GIVING TRENDS, 2019

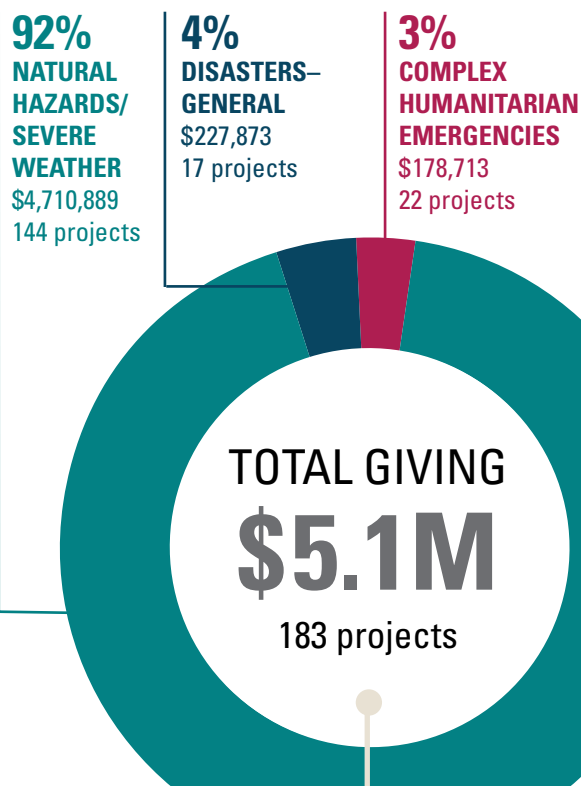
Disaster Giving by Industry, 2019

Health care	\$91,452,600
Financials	\$13,224,000
Consumer discretionary	\$10,372,800
Consumer staples	\$9,732,000
Industrials	\$7,394,400
Energy	\$6,370,000
Technology	\$4,192,200
Materials	\$3,796,800
Utilities	\$3,768,000

APPROXIMATELY \$150M

According to survey data in *Giving in Numbers: 2019 Edition*, published by the Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose (CECP), 157 of the world's largest companies directed an estimated \$150 million toward disaster relief in 2019. Although 70 percent of companies reported that disaster response was highly important, disaster relief experienced the greatest decrease in median cash giving from 2017 to 2019. Since 2017, disaster relief cash giving has slowed, decreasing by 66 percent in 2019.

GLOBALGIVING, 2019



The top funded disasters were Hurricane Dorian, flooding in South Asia, Cyclone Idai, and Hurricane Michael.

The data set includes six projects (totaling about \$62,000) that began in 2019 and were later re-allocated for COVID-19 efforts.



An aerial view of the flooding at Camp Ashland, Nebraska on March 17, 2019. The levee to the north of the camp broke and the swollen Platte River poured thousands of gallons of water into the area.
Photo: Staff Sgt. Herschel Talley, Nebraska National Guard

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS, 2019

This section provides a snapshot of money flowing to disasters from donor-advised funds, as Fidelity Charitable and Vanguard Charitable are just two of the many donor-advised fund management entities.

FIDELITY

\$20.5M

6,518 grants

\$12.1 million (more than 5,400 grants) went toward Hurricane Dorian; more than \$6.5 million (more than 500 grants) went toward the global refugee crisis.

VANGUARD

\$6M

1,424 grants

\$2.9 million (746 grants) went toward storms.

NETWORK FOR GOOD, 2019



Of the \$519 million in donations made through Network for Good's online platform in 2019, \$11.3 million (2 percent of total giving on the platform) went to disaster-serving organizations.

Corazón Healdsburg

Corazón Healdsburg (originally Scopa Has A Dream) received a grant from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy's 2019 [California Wildfires Recovery Fund](#) for \$250,000. This grant to the group's Unity and Community Fund was to financially support people who experienced losses during the Kincade Fire.

The Kincade Fire, which burned from October 23 to November 6, 2019, was the largest fire of California's 2019 wildfire season and affected 77,758 acres. Started by a Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) transmission line failure, the fire caused about \$600 million in damage but did not receive a FEMA disaster declaration. At its height, it threatened more than 90,000 structures, led to the evacuations of nearly 200,000 people in Sonoma County, and resulted in several days of power shut offs by PG&E.

Healdsburg, CA, was one of those communities at risk. A picturesque community with an official population of just over 11,000, Healdsburg has repeatedly been selected as one of the best small towns in the U.S. It is home to more than 80 vineyards and dozens of tasting rooms are located in the downtown area.

Officially, a third of the population is Hispanic, but the real number is much higher as evidenced by the fact that 72 percent of students in the school district identify as Latin American. Glaydon de Freitas, Corazón's chief executive officer, explained that many in the community are undocumented. "They do not show up on the census. They are three to four families living in a two-bedroom apartment. They work in agriculture, hospitality, or the restaurant industry. Many of the agricultural workers are

contracted through third-party employers, rather than being employed directly by a winery, leaving them outside of union protections."

Corazón's clientele is made up of about 3,400–3,500 individuals who reside long term in the community. About 60 percent of the clientele are first-generation immigrants. Of that group, 60–70 percent are undocumented (including DACA recipients). The other 30–40 percent of clients are multi-generational immigrants who have been in the U.S. for three or four generations.

De Freitas explained that CDP's funding had a big impact on the work of Corazón. "The grant gave us some room to breathe. And it leveraged a lot of other opportunities, in particular, a large amount of funding from the Red Cross." The grant also allowed Corazón to become a service hub. "This money helped us create deeper relationships with our clients. Our staff members are part of the community themselves. This helped us provide a holistic experience."

When someone completes an intake with Corazón, the application for money is just one piece. Placing the individual or family at the center, they assess both needs and assets.

But the money—emergency assistance for unmet needs due to damages or lost income during the fire—is critical. The application process is simple, with checks and balances included to ensure legitimacy. Further removing barriers to these crucial funds, a partnership with Summit Bank allows recipients to cash their check with the bank at no cost, regardless of their banking status.

De Freitas said, "The population we serve doesn't have a safety net. They don't get any support from the government or other institutions that respond quickly in disasters. They cannot access any social benefits. Only grassroots organizations like ours are going to meet their needs. They are living in the shadows of the community."

He added, "What's difficult, and on our mind, is how to humanize direct assistance. We want to help the clients but don't want to hurt their self-esteem or hope. We don't want to dehumanize a population that is already marginalized. How we dignify the human being is what we are about and what we are doing every day."



Volunteers at the Corazón Healdsburg's Free Store.
Photo: Corazón Healdsburg.

Maximize Your Impact

This annual research report aims to provide a holistic picture of disaster and humanitarian aid, enabling donors to be strategic in their future disaster-related giving. Disaster philanthropy may be small in comparison to government funding, but it has flexibility and nimbleness that allows it to play an essential role in helping communities prepare for, and respond to, global disasters and humanitarian crises. Additionally, as the world continues to cope with COVID-19, while also facing an increase in extreme weather events, it is important that donors consider how they can best maximize their disaster-related giving.

As the only full-time resource dedicated to helping donors make more intentional disaster-related giving decisions, CDP recommends the following steps that funders can take to maximize philanthropic impact:

- **Support underfunded areas of the disaster lifecycle.** The data makes clear that the majority of disaster funding supports immediate response and relief efforts. Far fewer donations are directed toward preparedness and mitigation, activities which help reduce the impact of disasters. Additionally, and critically, communities need sustained funding to support the long road to recovery.
- **Enable advocacy and community organizing efforts.** Nonprofit organizations need support to engage in activities to influence disaster-related policies. Additionally, the root causes of marginalization that are exacerbated by disasters are often mired in systems and structures that are historically racist and exploitative. Funding community organizing efforts can help residents activate and engage to affect systemic change.
- **Provide quick, unrestricted, and flexible multi-year financial support.** Disasters are not static events. Nonprofits responding to a disaster require flexibility and unrestricted funds to navigate emerging challenges and changes. Applications for funding should be simple and direct, allowing for coordinated submissions and joint reporting with other funders.
- **Support local nonprofits and knowledge in the U.S. and internationally.** Fund organizations that focus on Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities as well as other historically marginalized populations, such as women and girls, LGBTQ+ individuals, children and youth, older adults, and people with disabilities. Local knowledge is crucial, so provide support for community leaders and organizations on the ground

to develop programming as needs arise. This includes local hiring with fair wages, shifting power from funders to grantee partners, and listening to residents to determine program and funding priorities.

- **Report your data to Candid.** This will ensure that your grants are represented in the annual disaster analysis. Candid makes it easy to [share your data](#). Your grants management system may already offer an [easy export](#). Alternatively, you can prepare your grants information using this [template](#). Check out Candid's [how-to guide](#) for sharing data.
- **When sharing data, ensure that grant descriptions are clear and explicit.** What is the main objective of the grant? What geographic areas does the grant serve? Who are the specifically intended beneficiaries? Descriptive data will improve the quality of the research and enable analysis that identifies gaps in funding and critical needs.

For more granular grants information, we invite you to visit our online funding map at disasterphilanthropy.candid.org. To learn about the best ways to allocate resources for disasters, visit disasterphilanthropy.org.



Women in the refugee settlement of Balukhali in Bangladesh.
Photo: Allison Joyce, UN Women

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Cover photo: Aftermath of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique. Photo: Denis Onyodi, IFRC/DRK/Climate Centre

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