

# Office and Professional Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC



**Richard Lanigan**  
President

**Mary Mahoney**  
Secretary-Treasurer

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** OPEIU Local Unions, Guilds and Directly Affiliated Groups

**FROM:** Richard Lanigan

**DATE:** September 24, 2018

**RE:** Help for OPEIU Families Affected by Recent Natural Disasters

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OPEIU local unions and members are always there to help our sisters and brothers in need. From the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria last year, we are proud, yet unsurprised, that OPEIU local unions and members came forward and did all they could to help those affected.

This year, it is our sisters and brothers in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia that need our help. Hurricane Florence has unleashed monumental destruction in both coastal and inland areas. The resulting downpours have caused untold damage in affected areas.

OPEIU members in Boston also have experienced property loss following the gas explosions of a few weeks ago. And some of our California sisters and brothers have seen loss due to recent wildfires.

OPEIU local unions and members have been extremely generous in the past and we're asking you to be equally generous now to help our sisters and brothers in the Carolinas, Virginia, Boston and California. Although we won't be able to fully compensate them for everything they've lost, we can provide them with some relief and, hopefully, the strength to meet the challenges that lay ahead. This message of solidarity will let them know their union stands strongly behind them in these most difficult times.

We are asking OPEIU local unions to make a small contribution to the OPEIU Relief Fund. Please be as generous as you can. We appreciate if you could also help solicit contributions from your members for this worthy cause.

**OPEIU will be making an initial contribution of \$10,000 to the OPEIU Relief Fund and will match dollar for dollar all local union and member contributions, up to an additional \$50,000.**

[MORE]

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Checks can be sent as follows:

Mary Mahoney  
Secretary-Treasurer  
OPEIU  
80 Eighth Avenue, 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10011  
RE: OPEIU Relief Fund

I have appointed a committee to help oversee the OPEIU's relief effort and to help evaluate whether members in need will receive a flat relief amount, or whether donations will be distributed based on specific need. We are looking to our local unions to help identify those OPEIU members in need, verify their standing as members, and provide specifics on their circumstances to the International by emailing [frontdesk@opeiu.org](mailto:frontdesk@opeiu.org).

Updates will be provided to local unions and posted on the OPEIU website at [opeiu.org](http://opeiu.org). Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

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