

Good Afternoon Providers,

As I'm sure you all know, Hurricane Florence is looking like it will hit the coast of North Carolina later this week and continue inland towards us. The Governor has already declared a state of emergency and preparedness activities have begun across the state. They are anticipating a large impact to our area and shelter preparation is underway. Some communities are opening shelters as early as Wednesday.

A great resource is the [Ready NC website](#) and app. We strongly recommend that everyone download the app and also review the wealth of information provided by the American Red Cross in their [hurricane preparedness strategies](#).

At Alliance we are starting our internal preparedness activities. We ask for all of you to join us in community preparedness to insure those we serve are well taken care of. We ask that everyone revisit their agency emergency plan and encourage your staff to begin preparing as well. The state has requested that we pay particular attention preparedness for residential serves and those individuals who are medically fragile.

Please make sure to let us know if your agency services are impacted/interrupted. You can reach out to Alliance at DisasterResponse@alliancebhc.org or our customer service line (919) 651-8401 to provide us that update in addition to working with local emergency management. When you email or call us please be sure to provide the following information:

- Agency name
- Service provided/impacted
- Estimated # of individuals impacted
- A brief description of what action is being taken: like evacuating group home to another location.

In anticipation of wide spread power outages and difficult travel conditions, the State is asking everyone to proactively reach out to those they serve to insure prescriptions are made available for individuals and people have at least two weeks of medicine on hand, preferable 30 days. A state of emergency has been declared so many of the rules that governing things like picking up prescription early are lifted or modified. In case of a shelter evacuation, please remind people to bring medications to the shelter in labeled prescription bottle.

We have added some resource links at the bottom of this announcement to assist in dealing with the stress and trauma natural disasters can bring to individuals we serve. We also want to make everyone aware that there are American Red Cross Just-in-Time training. You can go on the ARC website and register as a volunteer. After you are registered you can sign up to attend one of the JIT trainings. We want to encourage people to sign up.

Just-in-Time Training

Do you want to help with disaster relief operations for Hurricane Florence? Whether you are a current Disaster Cycle Services Volunteer who needs a refresher or fellow Red Crosser from another service area, we invite you to join us for Just-in-Time Shelter Training. We will be offering trainings around the region in preparation for approaching Hurricane Florence and need your help.

You can access upcoming trainings on the [Disaster Services Training and Event Calendar](#) in Volunteer Connection (under **My Shifts**)

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
Wilmington-JIT Shelter Training	9/10/2018	10:00 AM	12:00 PM
Fayetteville-JIT Shelter Training	9/10/2018	5:30 PM	7:30 PM
Durham-JIT Shelter Training	9/10/2018	6:00 PM	8:00 PM
Wilmington-JIT Shelter Training	9/11/2018	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
Jacksonville-JIT Shelter Training	9/11/2018	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Raleigh-JIT Shelter Training	9/11/2018	2:00 PM	4:00 PM
Greenville-JIT Shelter Training	9/11/2018	2:00 PM	4:00 PM
Rocky Mount-JIT Shelter Training	9/12/2018	10:00 AM	12:00 PM

Additional Resources (courtesy NC Disaster Response Network)

Managing traumatic stress: after the hurricanes
<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/hurricane-stress.aspx>

Tornadoes, Hurricanes and Children
<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/tornadoes-kids.aspx>

Managing traumatic stress: dealing with the hurricanes from afar
<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/hurricane-afar.aspx>

Manage flood-related distress by building resilience
<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/flood-distress.aspx>

What psychologists do on disaster relief operations
<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/disaster-site.aspx>