

PRESS RELEASE



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HEARTS WITH HANDS DISASTER RELIEF RESPONDS AFTER HURRICANE IDALIA

Steinhatchee, FL / September 2, 2023: 11:00 PM EST. II Hearts With Hands partnered with Victory Baptist Church in Valdosta, Georgia. The church provided 56 volunteers who dedicated a total of 382 hours of service. From 11:00AM to 4:00PM, people from the community were gifted hot barbeque meals along with the traditional Hearts With Hands supplies — bottled waters, Box of Hope non-perishable food boxes, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, baby diapers, and more. The 229 cars poured into the church parking lot as volunteers were happy to efficiently guide them through the distribution line. Over 1,017 individuals received natural disaster relief items and hearts were encouraged through prayer and conversation with our volunteers.

Perry, FL & Steinhatchee, FL / August 31-September 1, 2023: 10:00 PM EST. II Collaboration of the Hearts With Hands team and Faith Baptist Church allowed for relief outreach in Perry, Florida. Relief supplies were unloaded at the church and distributed to 28 households, about 129 people. After the touchdown at Perry, Hearts With Hands drove an hour to Steinhatchee, Florida. Here the team set up a distribution line and cooked hot meals at the Steinhatchee Elementary School—a total of 41 households and 177 people were served. Both Perry and Steinhatchee received bottled waters, Box of Hope non-perishable food boxes, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, baby diapers, and more. On September 1, the team left Greg Lentz Ministries' Venture of Faith Camp at 8:30AM en route to these same locations. On September 1, there were 55 households and 211 people that came through the distribution line. Over the span of two days a total of 11 volunteers and 78 hours were spent uplifting these devastated communities in Florida.

Swannanoa, NC / September 1, 2023: 8:00AM EST. II A tractor-trailer loaded with supplies from the warehouse will arrive to Lake Park, GA later this evening. Additional Boxes of Hope, non-perishable food items, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, water, baby diapers, and paper products will be used to replenish the supplies distributed in Perry and Steinhatchee, Florida. The tractor-trailer will also transport 2 tilt skillet tanks for the grill that is being used to cook hot meals.

Lake Park, GA, August 30, 2023: 7:45 AM EST. II The Hearts with Hands team was stationed at Greg Lentz Ministries' Venture of Faith Camp during Hurricane Idalia. The team prepared the camp as a shelter-in-place during the storm, which lasted from 8:45 AM to 11:00 PM. Category 1 winds and rain resulted in debris and minor damages to the camp—45 trees down, two metal roofs off, gutters and awnings torn, and power lines down. Cleanup of the grounds began when the storm passed as we waited for the rest of our supplies to arrive. The team plans to assist residents of Perry, Florida, where severe damages have been reported in the wake of Hurricane Idalia. On Thursday afternoon, August 31, 2023, Hearts with Hands staff and volunteers, in partnership with Faith Baptist Church in Perry, will unload and distribute 42,196lbs of relief supplies to those in the area.

Supplies include bottled water, Box of Hope, non-perishable food boxes, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, baby diapers, and more.

Swannanoa, NC, August 27, 2023: 11:15 PM EST. II Hurricane Idalia was publicly reported, and Hearts with Hands immediately began preparations for disaster relief in the most affected areas—Florida and Georgia. Trailers were prepared and loaded with machinery, Box of Hope, non-perishable food items, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, water, baby diapers, and paper products. On Tuesday, August 29, the flatbed equipment trailer left the warehouse to meet Hearts With Hands staff in Lake Park, GA. The Refer Tractor-Trailer was loaded with 29,423 lbs, and the box truck with 12,773 lbs—all supplies arrived to Lake Park by 8:30 AM on August 31.

Hearts With Hands was founded following Hurricane Andrew in 1992 by Dr. Ralph Sexton, Jr. in Asheville, North Carolina. Hearts With Hands is currently directed by Evangelist Greg Lentz (Greg Lentz Ministries) and is a Christian, nondenominational, humanitarian, non-profit 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. Hearts With Hands provides physical, spiritual, medical, economic and other necessary aid to victims of poverty, natural disaster, or famine. “But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?” I John 3:17