

# First wave of TBM disaster relief volunteers headed to N.C.

September 20, 2018

Texas Baptist Men crews left Dallas Sept. 20 on their way to North Carolina as the first wave of long-term volunteer disaster relief and recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Florence.

Thirteen volunteers—including a field kitchen team prepared for mass feeding, a chainsaw crew from Collin Baptist Association and leaders to staff an incident management center—will be housed and operate from Bayboro Baptist Church in Bayboro, N.C.



TBM disaster relief volunteers prepare for deployment to North Carolina after Hurricane Florence. (TBM Photo / Rand Jenkins)

The TBM team also will deliver a self-contained shower unit, generators and water purification equipment to the Bayboro area, east of New Bern, N.C.

Two days earlier, TBM sent a tractor-trailer loaded with 460 insulated food containers to assist mass feeding efforts in the multi-state Baptist disaster relief response. By mid-week, Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers

from Virginia, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri already were working alongside North Carolina Baptist Men, and additional teams from Florida and Mississippi were on their way.

In addition to preparing meals and clearing fallen trees, the TBM volunteers also will work with other emergency management personnel to assess needs and determine where flood recovery teams can begin work when water recedes.

The first group of TBM mud-out volunteers—who will remove soaked drywall, discard damaged floor covering and disinfect surfaces to mitigate mold—likely will leave Texas by late next week.

By mid-October, between 50 and 100 TBM volunteers may be at work in North Carolina, said Rand Jenkins, communications officer for the statewide missions organization.

TBM is responding to needs prompted by Hurricane Florence at the invitation of North Carolina Baptist Men, a group that sent multiple volunteer teams to Texas after Hurricane Harvey flooded communities along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Meanwhile, a regional TBM crew went to work in South Texas to provide flood recovery north of Rockport—an area hit hard by Hurricane Harvey last year that sustained additional flooding in recent days.

To contribute financially, send a check designated “disaster relief” to Texas Baptist Men, 5351 Catron, Dallas, TX 75227, call (214) 275-1116 or click [here](#).