



OFFICE OF MAYOR VIRG BERNERO
124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE – NINTH FLOOR
LANSING, MI 48933

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Randy Hannan
517/483-4147

Lansing Leaders Launch Texas Relief Campaign

(LANSING) -- Mayor Virg Bernero announced tonight that the City of Lansing will join forces with Dean Transportation CEO Kellie Dean, MSU football head coach Mark Dantonio, the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross, Meijer's and the Metro Lansing faith community to launch the **Lansing Strong for Texas** flood relief campaign.

Community leaders and partner organizations will hold a press conference tomorrow, **Wednesday, September 6 at 11:30 a.m.**, to kick off the effort to provide financial and material assistance to communities devastated by flooding across eastern Texas. The press conference will be held at Dean Transportation headquarters, located at 4600 N. Aurelius Road in Lansing.

"We've got a heart as big as Texas here in Michigan, and we're going to send some Metro Lansing love to the folks who have been hit hardest by these horrific floods," said Mayor Bernero.

The **#LansingStrong4TX** campaign has set an initial fundraising goal of \$10,000 in cash contributions to the American Red Cross and will accept donations of specific items that are most needed in affected Texas communities, especially the following:

- Cleaning Supplies
- Toiletries
- Diapers and Infant Needs

Cash donations can be made online by visiting the American Red Cross Lansing campaign page at <https://www.redcross.org/cityoflansing-pub>.

Donations of listed goods can be delivered to the following locations:

Meijer's
Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing

[more]

Grace Tabernacle Church

1819 W. Willow, Lansing
Pastor Robert Nicholson

Union Missionary Baptist Church

500 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Lansing
Pastor Rev. Dr. Melvin T. Jones

Friendship House of Prayer Baptist Church

4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing
Pastor David Ford

Motor coach services provided by Dean Transportation will transport donated relief supplies to Texas next week and MSU's Coach Dantonio plans to send a contingent of MSU football players to Texas to help with unloading and distribution of the donated goods and other charitable assistance as may be needed.

Organizers said they are in the process of contacting several communities outside the Houston area that were equally devastated by the storm and may not be receiving as much attention and direct aid as the larger city.

"We're reaching out to some of the smaller cities in Texas who are hurting as bad or worse than Houston to provide them with some desperately needed relief," said Dr. Joan Jackson Johnson, director of Lansing's Department of Human Relations and Community Services. "Thousands of families lost everything they had in the floods, so we're going to do everything we can to help them get back on their feet."

Executive Director Kelly King of the American Red Cross - Mid-Michigan Chapter notes that volunteers are still needed for relief efforts in Texas, especially health professionals. Interested parties can use the links below for more information.

Health professional volunteers:

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/lp/hurricane-harvey-health-professionals>

New volunteers:

<https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer>

Corporate donors interested in supporting the campaign through a cash gift or with a donation of products or services are encouraged to contact Renee Freeman in Mayor Bernero's office at renee.freeman@lansingmi.gov or 483-4141 to discuss the details.

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