

How Austinites can help hurricane victims in Puerto Ric

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(Photo: Joe Raedle, 2017 Getty Images)

AUSTIN - After Hurricane Maria's devastating wrath, the island of Puerto Rico is living off the grid, with many people going days without basic necessities, [according to USA Today \(http://www.kvue.com/news/nation-world/hurricane-season-roars-as-tropical-storm-lee-forms-jose-threatens-east-coast/475480465\)](http://www.kvue.com/news/nation-world/hurricane-season-roars-as-tropical-storm-lee-forms-jose-threatens-east-coast/475480465).

The government said the storm that struck Sept. 20 is the [worst they've seen in 80 years](http://www.kvue.com/ext/news/nation-now/in-puerto-rico-a-desperate-search-for-loved-ones-power-may-be-out-36-months/269/nationnow/5XahK3SI0gWC8cuWu40GWQ)

[\(http://www.kvue.com/ext/news/nation-now/in-puerto-rico-a-desperate-search-for-loved-ones-power-may-be-out-36-months/269/nationnow/5XahK3SI0gWC8cuWu40GWQ\)](http://www.kvue.com/ext/news/nation-now/in-puerto-rico-a-desperate-search-for-loved-ones-power-may-be-out-36-months/269/nationnow/5XahK3SI0gWC8cuWu40GWQ).

In Austin, the [Puerto Rican Cultural Center \(http://www.prfdance.org/\)](http://www.prfdance.org/) is accepting donations for Hurricane Maria victims Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 6-8 30 p.m.

The Center said some of the emergency items they're collecting include baby and adult diapers, baby food and formula, female hygiene items, mosquito repellent, batteries and first aid items.

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Water, canned foods (with ring openers), snacks, non-perishables (ready to eat), blankets, towels, men/women/children underwear, general hygiene items (shampoo, soap, toothpaste) are also needed, [according to the Center's Facebook page \(https://www.facebook.com/prfdance/posts/10155533842245731\)](https://www.facebook.com/prfdance/posts/10155533842245731).

A truck is expected to transport items to San Antonio Thursday, representatives said.

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center is located in the 701 block of Tillery Street.

Officials said [Chago's Caribbean Cuisine \(https://www.facebook.com/ChagosATX/\)](https://www.facebook.com/ChagosATX/) is also collecting supplies until Oct. 23. They are open during normal business hours, but are closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

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