

Dear Leadership NC and Rural Economic Development Institute Alumni,

Did you know that alumni from Leadership NC (LNC) and the Rural Economic Development Institute (REDI) make up over 2,200 leaders across the state? That is a tremendous amount of leadership capacity! Now is the perfect time to demonstrate your committed leadership and willingness to serve through the Hurricane Florence recovery. We have heard from many of you that you are looking for ways to help provide relief to the communities and individuals that have been impacted by Hurricane Florence. Leadership NC and the Rural Center’s REDI (Rural Economic Development Institute) are partnering to connect interested alumni with opportunities to provide leadership through community service, donation of goods, and/or financial support. The following is a list of vetted opportunities for your consideration:

* East Carolina University is assisting the region by responding to both immediate needs and also looking ahead to long-term opportunities for service in the recovery process. Please visit <https://florencerecovery.ecu.edu> to find ways to help others, donate your time, or receive help during the recovery process.
* The NC Hurricane Florence Relief Fund activated by Governor Cooper and administered by the Golden Leaf Foundation to respond to unmet needs of survivors including housing, food, clothing, and other expenses. All funding will be used for grants to support local governments and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations providing direct assistance to survivors. Please visit <https://governor.nc.gov/donate-florence-recovery> to donate.
* NC Community Foundation has established a Disaster Relief Fund to support nonprofits serving the needs of local individuals and communities in the impacted areas of NC. <https://www.nccommunityfoundation.org/news/help-after-florence-give-to-the-nccf-disaster-relief-fund>
* NC Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) <https://www.ncvoad.org/cms/florenceopportunities> visit for a list of community volunteer opportunities.

We thank you in advance for your leadership during this difficult time. If you are interested in organizing your REDI or LNC Class for a service project or a combined class donation, please let us know. Additionally, if you are interested in connecting with a local Eastern NC organization and would like some suggestions on who to reach out to and how, please let us know, and we will try to help. Unfortunately, this won’t be the last disaster to wreak havoc on our state and these communities need ongoing support to help build and sustain the necessary infrastructure to withstand future disasters.

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Alumni Director Director of Leadership

Leadership NC NC Rural Center