

Ada Monzón Named 2018 Weatherperson of the Year

On February 2, FLASH named Ada Monzón as [2018 National Weatherperson of the Year](#). The FLASH Board of Directors chose Ada for her contributions to the disaster safety movement and dedicated service to her home of Puerto Rico.

Ada is the Chief Meteorologist at WIPR-TV, Noticias 24/7, and Univision Radio (WKAQ 580 am). She was selected from a group of 74 nominees, which included finalists Paul Goodloe, *The Weather Channel*; Bill Read, former National Hurricane Center Director; and Tim Smith, KRGV Weslaco, TX.

Ada is the first female American Meteorological Society (AMS) Fellow and Certified Broadcast Meteorologist in Puerto Rico. Her standout service during 2017 provided invaluable reassurance as the commonwealth prepared for the most devastating disaster in the island's modern history. She closely followed Irma as it passed through the Caribbean and then helped the population prepare and remain calm throughout Hurricane Maria, one of the deadliest and costliest natural disasters on record.

She recently recounted her experience [\(watch video here\)](#) during Hurricane Maria with a presentation at the 2017 AMS annual meeting. Her presentation inspired a standing ovation.

“Ada is a strong advocate of hurricane preparedness and mitigation and has dedicated her career to public education, awareness, and safety,” said FLASH President and CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson. “Her commitment during Hurricanes Irma and Maria brought not only essential weather information, but much-needed calm as Puerto Rico braced for the worst. We are honored to name her as 2018 National Weatherperson of the Year.”

The award package includes an all-expense trip to speak at the [2018 National Disaster Resilience Conference](#) in Clearwater, FL.