



## Partners in Prevention

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### Partners Soar during the Hurricane Awareness Tour

On Monday, May 6, FLASH team members joined 2019 National Hurricane Resilience Initiative - [#HurricaneStrong](#) National Sponsors and *Legacy Partners* BASF Corporation, ISO/Verisk, Lowe's, Simpson Strong-Tie, and USAA for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual NOAA Hurricane Awareness Tour (HAT).

The high-profile, weeklong, annual HAT serves as the signature event of the presidentially-declared [National Hurricane Preparedness Week](#) and National Hurricane Resilience Initiative - [#HurricaneStrong](#). The 2019 event delivered safety and home protection information to more than 10,000 attendees along the Atlantic Coast in Providence, Harrisburg, Roanoke, Charlotte, and Brunswick. [#HurricaneStrong](#) is a collaboration with Legacy Partners FEMA, NOAA, multiple national sponsors, and national media partner *The Weather Channel*.

Each day of the tour brought partners and team members together with emergency managers, hurricane hunters, leaders, local officials, meteorologists, and VIP guests, including FEMA Acting Administrator Pete Gaynor, FEMA Deputy Administrator for Resilience Daniel Kaniewski, NHC Director Ken Graham, National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Prediction Center Director David Novak, and NWS Eastern Region Director Dr. Jason Tuell.

The FLASH team did interviews and distributed USAA backpacks filled with the [2019 #HurricaneStrong Program Guide](#). Schoolchildren and public toured the NOAA Aircraft Operations Command P3 and USAF 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron WC-130J Hurricane Hunter aircraft, and all enjoyed meeting and learning from the pilots, flight crew, forecasters, and NWS meteorologists.

"Here's the thing about the Hurricane Awareness Tour, you can read about preparedness in a brochure but it's another thing to come out here, live it and meet the people behind the scenes that are flying into hurricanes and doing the forecast," said NHC Director Ken Graham. "A big part about being ready for the next hurricane is about being resilient, having your home ready and having insurance. We work with FLASH all the time and it's a partnership that we value, if you think about all the disasters we've been through I really can't use the partner word, they're really the family behind the scenes getting everyone ready."

In addition to in-person attendees, nearly 46,000 schoolchildren from across the U.S. participated in the HAT online through a live webinar presented by University of Rhode Island and National Hurricane Center team members on Monday, May 6 in Providence and Thursday, May 9 in Charlotte.

Visit [hurricanestrong.org](http://hurricanestrong.org) for HAT information, photos, and videos.