



# A.B.S.A.R.

**Antigua and Barbuda Search and Rescue**

Antigua Yacht Club Marina

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*"So that others may live"*



September 13, 2018

## ABSAR's Dominica Hurricane Relief Fund Summary

As most of you know, the island of Dominica was hit by Hurricane Maria on September 18, 2018 and suffered severe damage to nearly 98% of all structures on the island. The final death toll reached 65 persons, including 34 who remain missing and are presumed dead. Shortly after the hurricane hit, many people contacted ABSAR, interested in contributing to a hurricane relief fund to aid in rescue and recovery efforts. Within days, we sent our first shipment of relief supplies down by boat and our efforts continued through the end of May, 2018 when our funds were depleted.



Aerial photo of extensive damage.

Between our relief efforts in both Barbuda and Dominica, ABSAR essentially became a hurricane relief agency overnight. It was truly a team effort and we can't thank everyone enough for their donations (both monetary and relief supplies), their services and their hard work to ensure the fastest and most effective response to this devastating natural disaster. The yachting community was instrumental in sending a considerable amount of supplies which kept our storage warehouse full for several months as we sent down our various shipments. Captains and crewmembers of our relief shipments donated their time and effort to the cause. Jeff Coopee from AllSource Supply in Fort Lauderdale, FL kept the containers of supplies in transit to us, all at cost. Cobra, owner of Cobra Tours and Yacht Services in Portsmouth, received the majority of our supplies and ensured that they were distributed to the residents who needed them the most. It was inspiring to see so many people come together to assist. We can assure you that every dollar raised went directly to helping the people who truly needed it.

Thank you to all who assisted us in our efforts!

Julie Esty - ABSAR Director

## Relief Fund Stats

- US\$274,191.76 was raised in total, with 92% donated by one anonymous donor.
- 48% of the funds were allocated to immediate emergency relief supplies that were sent down from Antigua on four boats within the first few weeks of the storm. Most of this included water, food and sanitary/medical supplies.
- 34% of the funds were allocated to rebuilding supplies sent down in four containers from Florida. Supplies included lumber, nails, screws, galvanized, tarps, water pumps, generators, electrical/plumbing supplies etc.
- 16% of the funds went down to Cobra to cover his expenses incurred from customs/duty charges, transportation costs, labour costs and supplies purchased on the island.
- 2% of the funds were used to purchase 1000 solar lights that were distributed to students at three schools on the island.



M/V Flying Buzzard loading supplies in Falmouth



M/V Exile Explorer unloading supplies in Portsmouth



Cobra delivering solar lamps to a local school



One of our home rebuilding projects underway

