Hurricane Impacts & Disparities

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Hurricane Impacts

- Hurricanes can create strong winds, storm surge flooding, and heavy rainfall that can lead to inland flooding, tornadoes, and rip currents especially on the coasts.

- Hurricanes may also destroy energy and chemical production facilities, gas stations, and other businesses, causing the release of toxic chemicals and pollutants into the environment.

- Vulnerability of infrastructures such as houses, roads and power grids can be damaged from hurricanes; and these weather events can cause or exacerbate social inequalities.
What does hurricane devastation look like?

Hurricane Florence NC 2018
Hurricane Recovery

- American Red Cross
- United Way
- Salvation Army
- World Central Kitchen
- Habitat for Humanity
- Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina
- Good Shepherd Ministries of Wilmington
What about Vulnerable Communities?

Hurricane Florence NC 2018
The After Effects

- Hurricanes disproportionately impact marginalized communities, including Black, Native American, Latinx, and low-income communities.

- Climate disaster from hurricanes will only exacerbate inequalities in communities that are already facing severe crises.

- Hurricanes can lead to environmental pollution, toxic pollution, bad water quality, mold.

- Systemic economic inequities, less access to health care, disaster insurance, resources needed for a safe evacuation, lack of storm-proof infrastructure resistant to flooding and hurricane-force winds.
Bridging the Gap

- The Latinx community residing in Pender County were unable to access resources due to lack of transportation, language barrier, & fear.

- UNCW Centro Hispano & Latino Alliance worked with hurricane relief organizations to bring the resources to the trailer parks in Pender County

- Through bilingual volunteers, community outreach and access to resources this community received help to recover from Hurricane Florence
Uplifting the Community

- Volunteers served as Spanish translators
- Did home assessments of the damage caused by Hurricane Florence
- Cleaned out / Mucked damaged homes
- Delivered nonperishable foods, cleaning supplies and winter clothing to families in need
- An estimated 5,000 structures had flooded in Pender County as a result of the storm.

*Hurricane Florence NC 2018 Relief Efforts*
Thank you!