

Pidamos ayuda de nuestras instituciones en respuesta a María ^[1]

Enviado por [Giovanna Guerrero-Medina](#) ^[2] el 22 septiembre 2017 - 3:28pm



^[2]



Estimados/as miembros de la comunidad de CienciaPR,

Muchos de ustedes se han comunicado con nosotros para saber de qué manera pueden pedirle a sus instituciones en los Estados Unidos sobre cómo apoyar a los miembros de la comunidad universitaria que han sido afectados directa e indirectamente por el huracán María, al igual que apoyar esfuerzos de ayuda en el Caribe. Sin duda, esta semana ha sido estresante y para muchos de nosotros ha sido casi imposible concentrarse en el trabajo, lo académico o en hacer ciencia.

Abajo compartimos una plantilla que puedes utilizar para comunicar con líderes en tu institución y con organizaciones estudiantiles para sugerirles que se comuniquen con la comunidad universitaria sobre la devastación causada por el huracán María y qué pueden hacer. Si estás en una universidad, recomendamos que envíes el mensaje al Presidente y Decano/a de Asuntos Estudiantiles. **Al final hay una sección específica para científicos.**

De corazón, esperamos que tú y tus seres queridos estén a salvo.

En solidaridad,

Equipo CienciaPR

TEMPLADO

Dear [NAME],

This past Tuesday and Wednesday, the Caribbean was obliterated for a second time by a powerful hurricane. In Puerto Rico alone, 3.5 million Americans are without power, water and communication in the archipelago. Puerto Rico received 36 inches of water in 24 hours—to put it in perspective, during Harvey, Houston received 32 inches in three days. This destroyed bridges and roads to the towns. The USVI and BVI, recuperating from Irma, were destroyed a second time.

It has been a stressful week, and especially agonizing for those of us waiting to hear news about our loved ones in the affected areas. Many of us have been trying to keep with their daily work, while agonizing about not having any news from their families and friends.

I am proud to be in an institution that will acknowledge the devastation and the sorrow of our community. I have yet to receive an official communication (or any kind of communication) from the University about how to support students, faculty and community here that have been unable to connect with family members after these crises. I have been underwhelmed and wished to nudge about the urgency of a response from our University to our community.

With the goal of constructively contributing to this, I offer below a few suggestions.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

1) Acknowledge the crisis

- Members of our community have been directly and indirectly impacted by the devastation caused by Maria. Many people have loved ones and collaborators who are in the midst of the crisis.
- Hurricane Maria has killed at least 31 people in the Caribbean and has left 3.4 million people in Puerto Rico alone in a massive humanitarian crisis. Almost 100% of the population of Puerto Rico has no power and 75% doesn't have water service. Approximately 80% of the population does not have communication, as landlines, cell towers and internet access have been severely affected.

2) Provide support

- Provide a specific list of resources that our institution could offer to support members of its community that have been directly or indirectly impacted by Hurricane Maria (e.g. counseling services).
- Waive graduate or professional school application fees to students and/or applicants from Puerto Rico and extend the application deadlines for these applicants.

3) Provide suggestions of outside support (Below links our partners at [CenadoresPR](#) [3] and [CienciaPR](#) [4] collected and vetted)

- If people need to find information about family, friends or community in Puerto Rico, email the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (PRFAA) at maria1@prfaa.pr.gov [5] or contact them at 202-800-3133 or 202-800-3134.
- Another organization providing assistance to PRFAA is the Puerto Rico Family Institute at 212-414-7895.
- Google has also activated its [Google Person Finder](#) [6]
- The American Red Cross has a [Safe and Well](#) [7] page, where survivors can register and post messages, and loved ones can search for registrants.
- Those worried about missing friends or relatives with a serious health condition are encouraged to call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 so volunteers on the ground can follow-up.

4) Provide the community with ways to contribute to the recovery now (All of these have also been vetted)

- Donations to vetted organizations
 - Here is a vetted list of donation campaigns and drives across the United States: <http://www.losambulantes.com/help-puerto-rico/> [8].
 - People can donate to [USVI Hurricane Recovery](#) [9] to help rebuild the battered US Virgin Islands, or to the [Red Cross](#) [10] the help island nations recovering from the hurricanes in the Caribbean
 - [AmeriCares](#) [11] is a relief and development organization which provides health services to those in need, and is working with officials in Puerto Rico and USVI to stock emergency shelters with medical supplies.
- [CienciaPR](#) [4] (the largest community of Puerto Rican scientists in the world) has created this [registration form](#) [12] (bit.ly/CienciaPRMaria [13]) to help coordinate and disseminate offers of aid to scientists and students in Puerto Rico and other areas of the Caribbean, whose work has been affected by Hurricane Maria. As communication with Puerto Rico re-establishes, CienciaPR will work with scientists in Puerto Rico to channel offers and requests for aid. CienciaPR also published this list with more information that is relevant to the scientific community (<https://goo.gl/5jSDVS> [14]).
- Advocate that the NIH and NSF to provides assistance and deadline extensions for researchers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands impacted by hurricane Maria. Nothing has been updated on their websites with regards to hurricane Maria ([NSF](#) [15], [NIH](#) [16])

5) Future outlook:

- Our institution should commit to keeping a close eye on how events unfold and be ready to lead in assistance to academic colleagues and students in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Caribbean impacted by Maria, and use its expertise in a collaborative way in future rebuilding efforts.

Source URL: <https://www.cienciapr.org/es/blogs/equipo-informa/pidamos-ayuda-de-nuestras-instituciones-en-respuesta-maria>

Links

[1] <https://www.cienciapr.org/es/blogs/equipo-informa/pidamos-ayuda-de-nuestras-instituciones-en-respuesta-maria> [2] <https://www.cienciapr.org/es/user/gguerre> [3] <https://cenadorespr.org/> [4] <http://www.cienciapr.org/en> [5] <mailto:maria1@prfaa.pr.gov> [6] <https://google.org/personfinder/2017-maria/> [7] <https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php> [8] <http://www.losambulantes.com/help-puerto-rico/> [9] <https://www.usvirecovery.org/> [10] https://www.redcross.org/donate/disaster-relief?scode=RSG00000E017&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI663HkoW_1gIVTbXtCh1R2AI-

EAAYAyAAEgLIR_D_BwE&gclid=CLXH_ZWFv9YCFQdHDAod8qICDw [11]
https://secure.americares.org/site/Donation2?df_id=22510&mfc_pref=T&22510.donation=form1 [12]
https://yalesurvey.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6YigLXts7kTr2YJ [13] <http://bit.ly/CienciaPRMaria> [14]
<https://goo.gl/5jSDVS> [15] <https://www.nsf.gov/naturaldisasters/> [16]
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural_disastersfaq.htm