East Carolina University is an institution in which all North Carolinians take great pride - none more so than those of us living in this part of the state. Our university is made up of people who have great experience, resources, expertise, energy and a willingness to step up and share whatever we have with our friends and neighbors.

Chancellor Cecil Staton

ECU has a unique and special bond with the people and communities of eastern North Carolina. This is again evident after the incredible devastation of Hurricane Florence. While ECU, Greenville and our Integrated Coastal Programs campus in the Outer Banks escaped the major impacts of the storm, many members of our Pirate family and region were not so fortunate.

As an institution, we are harnessing the energy and expertise of our faculty, students, staff and alumni to help those in need. Immediately after the hurricane, we activated our Hurricane Recovery Operations Center to coordinate and facilitate an ECU response. The box below helps explain the activities the center is undertaking. One of the key ways that ECU will be different than others who are aiding our communities is that it’s in it for the long haul. The impacts of Hurricane Florence will be felt for a long time and the people in this great part of our state know that they can rely on ECU to be there to help.

While there is no way we can capture and report on all the impactful activities being done every day, this newsletter will highlight some of Pirate Nation’s undertakings. We will continue to publish this newsletter to keep you informed and to encourage you to find ways to assist. Please visit our website at FlorenceRecovery.ecu.edu to learn more on how you can help. Together, I am confident we will help eastern North Carolina emerge even stronger than before.

Thank you for making a difference in people’s lives.

Dr. Jay Golden, Vice Chancellor

OPERATIONS CENTER ACTIVATED

In addition to activities to prepare our campus for Hurricane Florence, ECU established a Hurricane Recovery Operations Center to coordinate relief and recovery efforts that support our region. Requests for assistance are managed out of the operations center, as well as coordinating volunteering efforts. You can access the operations center at FlorenceRecovery.ecu.edu.

HEALTH SCIENCES

The Brody School of Medicine and Health Sciences Campus have been working to aid communities in the line of Hurricane Florence both before and after the storm. Among the many individuals who volunteered for hurricane relief and recovery efforts are John Hurley, MS4 and other student volunteers from the Health Sciences Campus who worked to staff emergency shelters in Pitt County. Dr. Bobby Portela provided physician oversight for these students. Drs. David Collier and Jaleeka Rudd led and delivered a supply and food drive to shelters in Robeson County. They are now working to organize groups to provide needed medical care to this area.

ECU Athletics will be collecting non-perishable food donations at ALL home events from Sept. 25-30. Admission is FREE to volleyball and soccer games with a donation.

FOOTBALL: SEPT. 29 @ 3:30 P.M.  
VOLLEYBALL: SEPT. 25 @ 4 P.M. // SEPT. 28 @ 7 P.M. // SEPT. 30 @ 1 P.M.  
SOCCER: SEPT. 27 @ 7 P.M. // SEPT. 30 @ 1 P.M.

To volunteer or donate go to: FlorenceRecovery.ecu.edu
ECU physicians, Brody medical students and nursing students deployed at regional shelters to provide health care assistance

**PHASE 2: IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH**
- ECU Hurricane Recovery Operations Center activated
- ECU's FlorenceRecovery.ecu.edu website launched
- Communicated with government and community leaders on recovery assistance
- Partnered with UNC system schools to assist with their recovery needs
- Food drives for region launched
- Created recovery funds for impacted students and regional recovery needs

**PHASE 3: NEAR-TERM RECOVERY**
- Establish regional Business Recovery and Continuity Assistance Center
- Deploy clean-up volunteer teams
- Host food drives at ECU athletic events
- Coordinate requests for assistance with appropriate agencies
- Researchers begin monitoring post-flooding impacts

**PHASE 4: MID-RANGE RECOVERY**
- Provide counseling and public health assistance to impacted communities
- Connect ECU faculty experts with communities for technical assistance needs
- Continue clean-ups and small business assistance

**PHASE 5: LONG-TERM RECOVERY**
- Assist individual communities in creating redevelopment plans
- Work with stakeholders to re-envision regional economic development post hurricane
- Continue to monitor community needs

**PIRATES IN ACTION**
Thirty-four members of the ECU baseball team volunteered with Hurricane Florence recovery efforts on Sept. 22 in New Bern. Peter Buscaino, director of baseball operations, helped organize and lead the work day. During the volunteer effort, the team removed interior debris and tore out drywall, insulation, and flood-soaked contents from three homes. “We were proud to be a very small part of helping out a group of people going through some tough times,” head coach Cliff Godwin said.

**BUSINESS RECOVERY CENTER**
ECU’s Small Business Technology & Development Center (SBTDC) joined forces with the U.S. Small Business Administration to open a Business Recovery Center in eastern North Carolina. This is the only such center currently operating in the region. This center provides critical support to help businesses in obtaining federal assistance, while connecting companies to additional ECU resources, including student talent, which can be of significant assistance.

**PIRATE IMPACT TO DATE**
- **VOLUNTEERS:** 526 // **VOLUNTEER HOURS:** 658 // **DONATED MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT:** $10,100
- **FOOD, WATER, HYGIENE KITS:** 6,282 LBS. // **FINANCIAL DONATIONS:** $4,228 // **SMALL BUSINESSES ASSISTED:** 6
- **ECU STUDENTS IN MILITARY ACTIVATED FOR RELIEF:** 50 // **VISITS TO FLORENCERECOVERY.ECU.EDU:** 29,768

**TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE GO TO:** FlorenceRecovery.ecu.edu