

This past spring, the American Red Cross responded to devastating floods across Louisiana to help thousands of people in need, and we stand by that response. More than 1,100 Red Cross volunteers delivered vital humanitarian aid and critical relief services there over the course of 10 weeks. More than half of those volunteers are residents of the state and dedicated members of the community, and throughout this spring flooding event, were committed to alleviating the suffering of over 9,000 of their neighbors in 37 of the state's 64 parishes.

You have asked us to comment on a handful of emails and quotes from four emergency managers and three residents out of the 37 parishes and the 9,000 Louisianans we served regarding a complicated response effort spanning more than half of Louisiana. Very simply, these emails and quotes are not representative of the Red Cross response in Louisiana.

Throughout the entire Louisiana relief operation, Red Cross volunteers – funded by the generosity of donors from across the country – helped parish governments, community partners, and flood survivors meet their disaster needs through the provision of 30 shelters, 29 mobile feeding vehicles, 12 relief item distribution sites, 5 feeding sites, and 4 mobile kitchens. Red Cross volunteers also disbursed emergency cash assistance to more than 8,000 Louisianans

to assist with their immediate needs.

Every day, the Red Cross takes decisive and actionable steps with our partners across the country to improve operational readiness and relationships with emergency management officials and community leaders. We also engage in candid conversations about the capacity and capabilities of our organization to best serve disaster victims. The Red Cross, as a donor-funded, volunteer relief organization, remains committed and ready to always seek the best outcomes for the communities we proudly live in and serve.