Dear UA Community –

As our fellow citizens and friends in Texas deal with unprecedented rain, historic flooding, and brace for another landfall of Hurricane Harvey, I write to ask you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers and to consider helping if you are able. We Alaskans are no stranger to similar natural catastrophes – volcanoes, earthquakes, snow and wind storms, mud slides, floods – and we understand the vulnerability that follows such events. The goodness of others helps us through such devastation. And so I ask you to join me, if you are able, in helping the many charities and local relief agencies working around the clock on response and recovery efforts. Here are a few of the involved relief organizations accepting donations to assist those who are impacted:

- American Red Cross, at [www.americanredcross.org](http://www.americanredcross.org)
- The United Way of Greater Houston, at [www.unitedwayhouston.org/flood](http://www.unitedwayhouston.org/flood)
- Greater Houston Community Fund established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner to raise funds for local disaster relief, at [www.ghcf.org](http://www.ghcf.org)
- The SPCA of Texas, assisting animals, at [www.spca.org/](http://www.spca.org/)
- Global Giving, a crowdfunding site is attempting to raise $2 million for local relief efforts, at [www.globalgiving.org](http://www.globalgiving.org)
- The Houston Press has compiled a list of local food banks at [www.houstonpress.com/restaurants/texas-food-banks-mobilize-for-hurricane-harvey-how-you-can-help-9735249](http://www.houstonpress.com/restaurants/texas-food-banks-mobilize-for-hurricane-harvey-how-you-can-help-9735249)

You also can check [www.givewell.org/](http://www.givewell.org/) for other options as well as a checklist and tips for charitable giving.

Thank you for considering a donation and extending that big hearted Alaskan hand to those in need.

Best regards,
Jim Johnsen