

**Liberty NY Rotary Club
Operation Endeavor
CENTRAL AMERICA
DISASTER RELIEF
MISSION BASICS**



WHAT IS HAPPENING:

- Hurricanes Eta (Category 4) and Iota (Category 5) struck Central America within days of each other this November
- Over 5 million people were impacted in the region, including tens of thousands who still need shelter, food, water, and other basic necessities
- In Belize, severe flooding devastated numerous small agricultural villages where many were already living in poverty
- The Rotary Club of Belize and the Rotary-based Belize Disaster Response Team have partnered with local stakeholders, international aid organizations, and the Belizean government to provide relief to those impacted
- Crucial supplies and food are now being delivered to villages impacted by the disaster, often by boat
- The Red Cross estimates the recovery of damaged areas of Central America will take at least two years
- More help is needed, and we have been asked to provide what we can

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO HELP:

- The Liberty NY Rotary Club is leading a fundraising effort to provide immediate support including the purchase of additional supplies and food for delivery to impacted families
- Operation Endeavor is evaluating opportunities to partner with the Belize Emergency Response Team to build resiliency and preparedness for future disasters through education and the distribution of basic disaster relief and medical supplies

WHY WE CHOSE THIS MISSION:

- Scope of the disaster – The impact of this disaster is widespread, severe, and overwhelms the capacity of the local disaster response system. In developing countries, natural disasters are even more devastating to already poverty-stricken populations due to the lack of developed emergency response infrastructure or insurance programs for individuals and businesses.
- Alignment with mission – We strive to target especially vulnerable and rural populations such as those found in the Belizean countryside in our work, both domestically and abroad.
- Proven framework – The Liberty NY Rotary Club and Operation Endeavor have a proven track record for successful disaster response, including local efforts such as the recent Operation Feed and hurricane relief responses to Texas, North Carolina, and Puerto Rico.
- Reliable “Boots on the ground” – Partnering with the Rotary in Belize provides direct communication and coordination with key players in the actual disaster relief effort. This model for disaster relief has proven effective in all of our previous efforts.
- Call to action – We received a direct request for help from the Belize Emergency Response Team, and subsequently from the Rotary Club of Belize and the Rotary Club of Belize Sunrise.