

# 4 WAYS You've helped dialysis patients affected by disaster

*Harvey, Irma and now Maria. When natural disasters strike, dialysis patients can be especially vulnerable. Even while dealing with evacuations, personal losses and damage to their homes, they must continue their treatments or face dire health consequences. Thanks to generous contributions from individuals, foundations, associations and corporations, the American Kidney Fund Disaster Relief Program is able to quickly provide emergency grants to patients affected by the recent hurricanes. **Here are 4 ways you've helped:***

## 1

### Replacing lost medicines

Widespread power outages make it impossible to keep heat-sensitive medications like insulin at the right temperature. Patients who have to evacuate their homes in an emergency sometimes inadvertently leave important medications behind. The American Kidney Fund's Disaster Relief Program grants help patients in need replace these vital medications.



## 2

### Paying for transportation to treatment

Dialysis patients cannot simply defer treatments—their lives depend on it. When they are evacuated from their homes, they often have to find alternate treatment locations, which can involve additional travel. AKF's Disaster Relief Program grants can pay for transportation to and from dialysis and other medical appointments.



## 3

### Replacing renal-diet foods

Dialysis patients in a disaster zone can't typically eat the types of emergency foods offered by food banks or served at shelters – they have to maintain specialized diets as part of their treatment for kidney failure. For those who experienced power outages, replacing spoiled food for their renal diets is vitally important to their health.



## 4

### Replacing everyday essentials

During emergency evacuations, dialysis patients often have just minutes to pull together one bag with their essentials. When all of their possessions are ruined, your support of AKF's Disaster Relief Program gives them emergency funds to replace some of what they've lost.

