

**New York State Office of the Attorney General
Charities Bureau**

Hurricane Sandy Relief Information

Name of Organization: City Harvest, Inc.

1.	<p>What is the approximate dollar amount of donations and pledges that your organization has received to date in response to Hurricane Sandy?</p>
	<p>To date, City Harvest has raised \$1.99 million in funds to support our Hurricane Sandy relief, with donations from individuals, foundations, organizations, and corporations. City Harvest was also selected as a special beneficiary for the New York Times Neediest Cases Fund and we have included an estimate for a portion (\$250k) of the majority of the expected total in the above figure.</p>
2.	<p>Will these funds be used solely for Hurricane Sandy relief? If not, approximately what portion will be used for Hurricane Sandy relief and what other purposes will funds be used for?</p>
	<p>Yes, City Harvest expects to use funds raised in support of Hurricane Sandy relief for our response to the storm.</p>
3.	<p>Approximately how much has your organization spent to date on Hurricane Sandy relief?</p>
	<p>To date, City Harvest estimates that it has spent approximately \$1.77 million on our Sandy relief efforts, including emergency food distribution to affected areas and expenses to restore our truck fleet and refrigeration equipment, both of which sustained flood damage during the storm. These estimates include an indirect rate expense rate of 15% applied to our direct, Sandy-related costs. We also have an additional \$515k in projected direct expenditures that we are likely to incur in the coming months. In addition, we are also in the process of outlining a plan for extended relief efforts from mid-December to mid-February, which will be submitted to our board of directors for approval shortly.</p>
4.	<p>What services has your organization provided to those affected by Hurricane Sandy? What populations or geographical areas are being served by your organization in response to Hurricane Sandy? What services does it expect to provide in the future?</p>
	<p>City Harvest has been providing emergency food to the communities hardest hit by Hurricane Sandy, including Coney Island and Red Hook in Brooklyn, the Rockaways and Breezy Point in Queens, the Lower East Side of Manhattan, and Staten Island. Since the storm made landfall, City Harvest has delivered a total of 1.5 million pounds of food to these areas.</p> <p>These food deliveries have been in partnership with a range of organizations including community-based emergency food programs, New York City Housing Authority, hurricane relief sites, FEMA, elected officials, the New York City Office of Emergency Management, and the Red Cross. To date, City Harvest's hurricane-related deliveries have focused on providing food that required little or no preparation including items like water, coconut water, juice, shelf-stable foods (e.g. canned goods, granola bars, pasta, etc.), and fruit. City Harvest staff and more than 1,000 volunteers also have been involved in this response, helping to prepare tens of thousands of pantry bags from bulk food donations at City Harvest's Food Rescue Facility in Long Island City. In addition to delivering shelf-stable food, City Harvest has also helped provide prepared meals to impacted communities. Building upon our relationships in the restaurant community, we asked</p>

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supporters to prepare meals for distribution to those impacted by the hurricane. In total, we have delivered approximately 30,000 meals with the support of local chefs, restaurants, caterers, and other partners.

As New York City's response to the Hurricane evolves, City Harvest's work is evolving alongside it. For many of the communities we're serving, power has been restored and/or those impacted are living in homes that now have the ability to prepare food again. As a result, City Harvest's food deliveries will begin to shift back to our normal emphasis on perishable goods, specifically fresh produce. As briefly mentioned in #4, we're also in the process of outlining a plan that will see City Harvest continue hurricane relief operations for an 8-week period from mid-December to mid-February. During this period we expect to continue hurricane-specific food distributions to hard hit communities through the existing emergency food network and at special hurricane relief sites that have emerged throughout these neighborhoods. We will also assess the capacity needs of emergency food programs in these communities as part of the next phase in our relief efforts.

At the same time, we're hearing from a broad group of emergency food programs across the city that the general need for emergency food has spiked. Agencies far outside of Sandy's direct path are feeling its impact as they serve more people, operate as shelters, and/or expand their services to affected areas. This general increase in need is likely to continue throughout the holiday season and beyond, with housing a critical issue to be resolved. When many displaced by the storm find new homes, we expect that Sandy's true impact will be felt in communities throughout the city. We plan to stay in close touch with the emergency food network in the coming weeks to gather information on the demand they're experiencing.

5. Has your organization provided funding to other organizations for Hurricane Sandy relief efforts? If so, which organizations have received those funds and what is the approximate dollar amount provided to them? How does your organization determine the need for funding?

No, at this time City Harvest has not provided other organizations with funds for Hurricane Sandy relief. As the response to the storm progresses, it is likely that City Harvest will re-grant a portion of the funds we've raised to support the rebuilding and/or repair of emergency food programs in the communities hit hardest by the storm. Similar to an existing grants program that City Harvest operates on an annual basis, to identify appropriate organizations we would select grantees through a request for proposal (RFP) process. City Harvest would evaluate any proposals that we receive with a grant review committee comprised of City Harvest staff and an external representative(s). Organizations that receive a grant will be required to report on the usage of these funds.

6. Has your organization provided, or does it intend to provide, direct financial assistance to individuals, families or businesses for Hurricane Sandy relief? If so, what is the approximate dollar amount that your organization has provided to date and approximately how much direct financial assistance does it expect to provide in the future? How does your organization determine the need for assistance?

No, City Harvest has not provided direct financial assistance to individuals, families or

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	businesses nor do we expect to in the future.
7.	Does your organization have a plan in place on how to use any surplus funds not spent for Hurricane Sandy relief? If so, please describe that plan.
	City Harvest is carefully monitoring expenditures related to Hurricane Sandy. At this time, we expect to utilize all funds raised for hurricane relief to support the work described above. However, as the relief work scales back, if City Harvest has additional funds we would speak with donors about their willingness to redirect their gift to support our emergency food deliveries throughout the five boroughs.



Mary Beth Henson, Vice President, Finance

12/11/12
Date

Please email this document with your responses to sandyresponse@ag.ny.gov by December 11, 2012. You may obtain an electronic copy of this document by emailing a request to that same address.