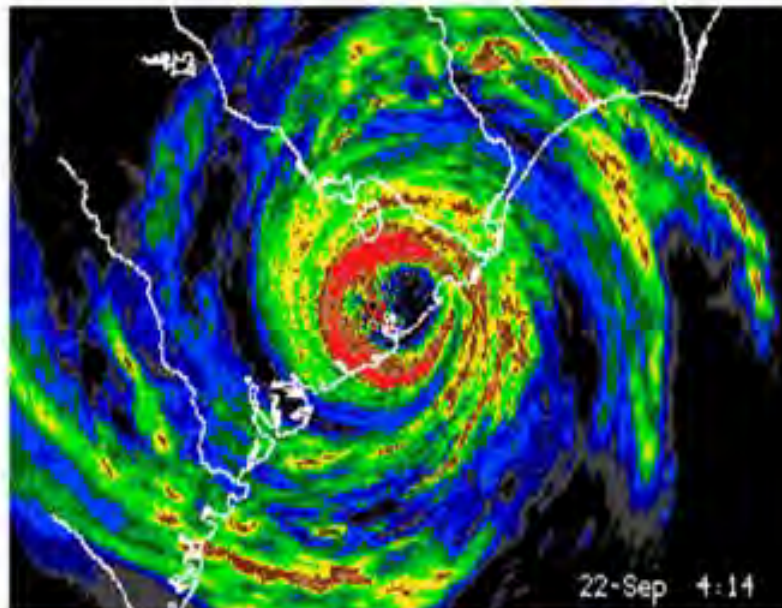


# Disaster Relief Impact

Be the Change

## Potential Roles for Citadel Volunteers in Hurricane Evacuations and Aftermath

- **Conway Saylor**, Director of Service Learning & Civic Engagement and Professor of Psychology
- **Logan Barber**, Senior in Mechanical Engineering
- **Stone Goethe**, Senior in Political Science
- **Weston Hayes**, Senior in Political Science and Intelligence and Security Studies



# A crash course in Natural Disasters – When and where can we best assist?

❖ Hurricanes different from other natural disasters in that they tend to be **regional and relatively predictable**

❖ To name a few...  
❖ 2017 –

Harvey (Houston)  
Irma (Carolinas, FL, GA)  
Maria (Puerto Rico)

❖ 2018

Florence (Carolinas+)  
Michael (Carolinas+)

❖ Phases of Disaster (vary in duration):

○ **Pre-Impact**

○ **Impact** (hours)

○ **Recoil** (hours and days immediately after; emergency rescue and assessment)


○ **Post-Impact** (weeks and months)

○ **Recovery and Reconstruction** (months and years)

# Citadel initiatives- Logan Barber

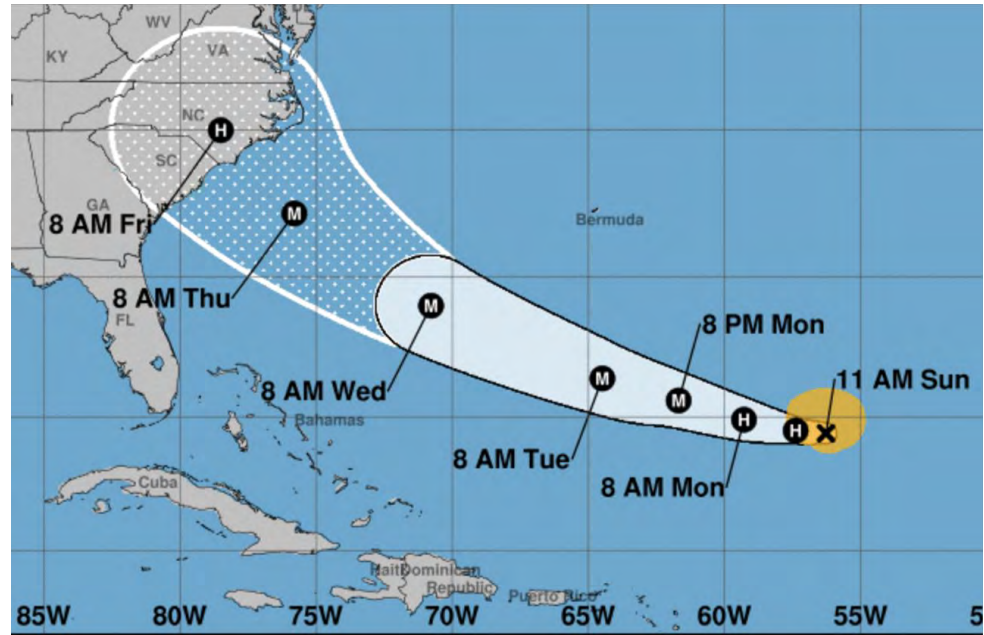
- ❖ American Red Cross (ARC) Shelter Volunteer Training (80+)
- ❖ Ten cadets staffed regional shelters during Irma evacuation
- ❖ 22 students (14 Citadel) went to Florida Dec 14-21 to do home repairs; Another 7 volunteered in Houston the same week
- ❖ 20 cadets on Semester at Sea will volunteer in Puerto Rico





**Impact**

# Initial Response



*Above: Trajectory of Hurricane Florence, 2018*



# A “Shelter” Defined

- **Safe Locations**

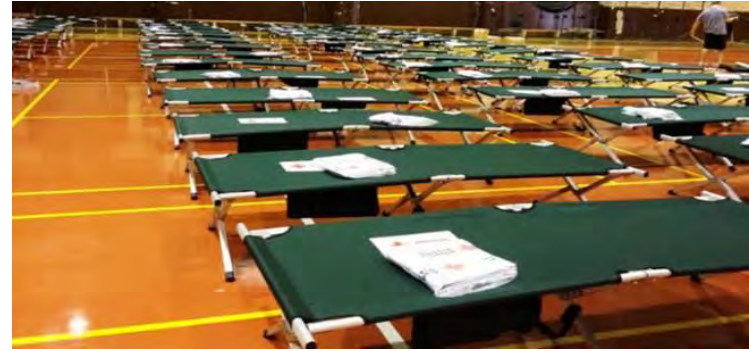
- Pre-specified locations generally safe from flooding
- Usually schools, community centers, etc.

- **Welcome to All**

- No reservation required
- Pets stored separately

- **Provisions for the Public**

- Hot meals
- Safe place to sleep
- Basic health services
- Basic hygiene (showers and bathrooms)



Before



After

# The Population of a Shelter

Predominantly Vulnerable Populations



***Families***



***Elderly***



***Low Income***



# The Citadel Team: Hurricane Irma

- Red Cross reached out to the Citadel
- 10 Volunteers
- All classes represented
- Various backgrounds, ethnicities, and religious beliefs
- **All united in one goal: to take care of the population of the Ridgeland Shelter**

# Challenges

- 24 Hour Shifts
- High Stress
- Limited Power

- Limited nutritional value
- Lack of working showers

# Lessons for the Following Year

- ***The Citadel*** reached out to the ***Red Cross*** this time
- Better accountability / record-keeping
- Ensure shifts and predetermined relationship up front

# Straight from the Frontlines

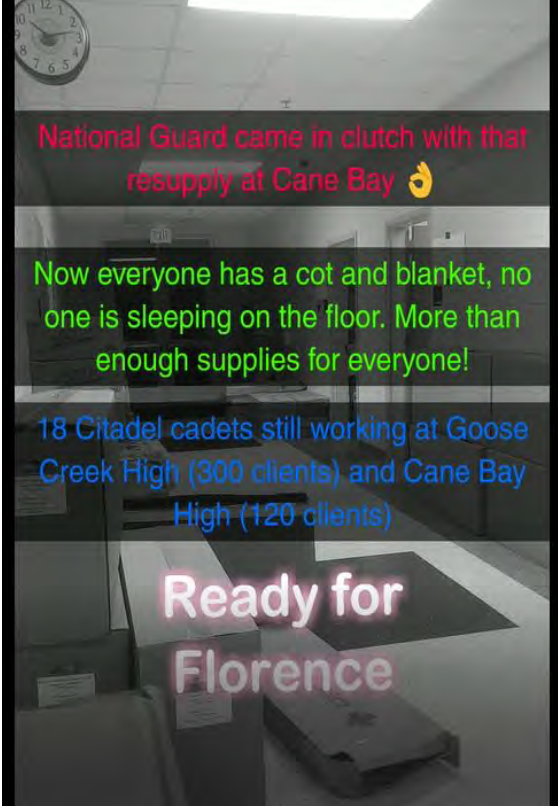


As of 1300, 12 September: 200+ people living at Goose Creek, barely 20 St. Andrews, around 30 at Cane Bay

Around 19 volunteers from the Citadel at 3 shelters.

Hurricane has changed course more towards Charleston and Lowcountry. Our staff shelter is being moved partly for this reason. They also said they saw roaches and ants; I thought about the Citadel and laughed.

Still waiting for the storm to hit! >>



National Guard came in clutch with that resupply at Cane Bay 🙌

Now everyone has a cot and blanket, no one is sleeping on the floor. More than enough supplies for everyone!

18 Citadel cadets still working at Goose Creek High (300 clients) and Cane Bay High (120 clients)

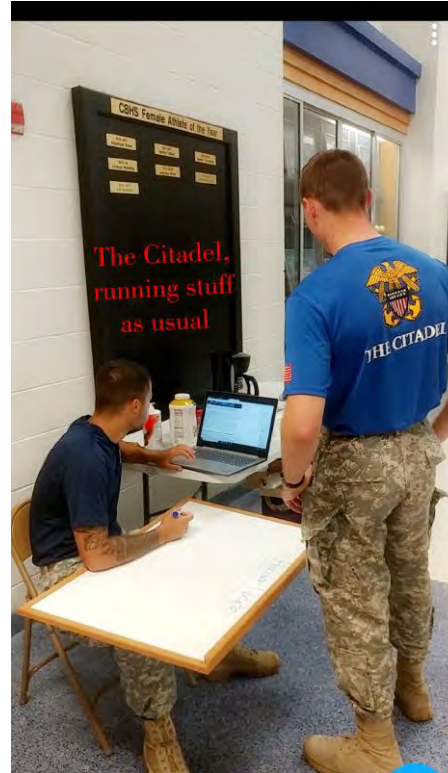
Ready for Florence

# New Challenges

- 1. Better communication within our group...**
- 2. Better shifts and time management...**
- 3. Better understanding of what to expect...**

- 1. But they split us between 3 shelters!**
- 2. But we had to take charge a lot more!**
- 3. But we had to fight a little bit to take care of the shelters!**

# Other Photos





# Conclusion

- Critical test of Citadel leadership abilities
- Ethical dilemmas
  - Sneak in cots? Sacrifice our own energy for the shelter?
- High stress... but the bonds made between the teams are eternal



# Rebuild Houston



# 5th ward















A close-up photograph of a hand holding a small, rectangular, cream-colored sign. The sign is held between the thumb and index finger, with the other fingers visible. The sign has the text "How can I help?" printed on it in a black, sans-serif font. The background is a warm, out-of-focus orange and yellow gradient.

How can I help?

Serve

# My story



Outside



Inside





# What Can We Do!



Volunteer



**American  
Red Cross**

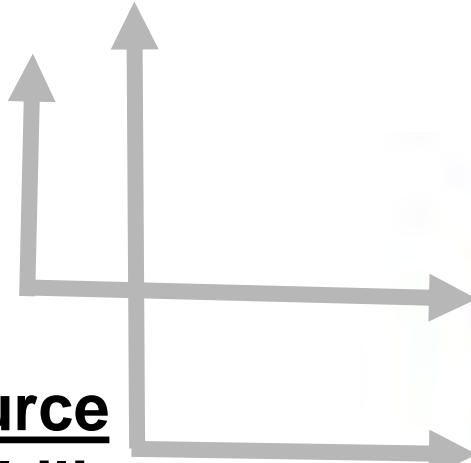


Organize

Resource  
availability

-

-





FEMA

South Carolina  
Disaster Relief

Southern Baptist Convention

