



2022 Hurricanes Ian & Nicole

After Action Report/Improvement Plan
Approved by CFDMC Board 2-21-23

EVENT OVERVIEW

Event Name	Hurricanes Ian & Nicole
Event Dates	Hurricane Ian: September 28, 2022 Hurricane Nicole: November 10, 2022
Scope	Two (2) [weather-related natural disasters], occurring during the months of September/October and November 2022.
Capabilities	Capability 1: Foundation for Healthcare and Medical Readiness Capability 2: Health Care and Medical Response Coordination Capability 3: Continuity of Health Care Service Delivery Capability 4: Medical Surge
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide situational awareness to members 2. Resource coordination
Threat or Hazard	Hurricane
Impacted Organizations	All healthcare and response partners within Region 5 were impacted.
Point of Contact	Lynne Drawdy Executive Director Central Florida Disaster Medical Coalition info@centralfladisaster.org 407/928-1288

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hurricane Ian came ashore as a Category 4 storm in Southwest Florida on September 28, 2022, with major impacts in Volusia, Brevard and Lake Counties in Region 5. Communities across the region experienced record rainfall totals, devastating flooding and historic river crests. Hurricane Ian was the deadliest hurricane to strike the state of Florida since the 1935 Labor Day hurricane. On September 24, Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency for all of Florida. By September 27, 55 public school districts across the state announced cancellations, many through the end of the week. Officials at the Kennedy Space Center delayed the launch of NASA's Artemis 1, and the rocket was returned to the Vehicle Assembly Building. President Joe Biden approved a state of emergency declaration for Florida on September 24. Many airports and ports in Tampa, Tampa Bay, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Key West, and other places announced that they would be suspending operations. Walt Disney World and Universal Orlando said that they would be closing attractions.

Hurricane Nicole made landfall south of Vero Beach as a Category 1 hurricane on November 10, 2022. This was an unusual event and the first hurricane to make landfall in November in 37 years. It brought strong winds, heavy rain and damaging coastal flooding and beach erosion just weeks after Hurricane Ian hit. The Region experienced serious flooding along the St. John's River in Astor and Sanford, parts of which were still experiencing flooding after Hurricane Ian. Those living in mobile homes, low-lying areas and on barrier islands in Martin and Volusia Counties were told to evacuate.

Regional Response:

All healthcare and response organizations within the nine counties in Region 5 were impacted by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. All of the county emergency operations centers activated, and all counties opened general and special needs shelters. There were several healthcare facilities, including hospitals and long-term care, that evacuated due to flooding and many facilities had to deal with flooding and facility impacts.

The Coalition provided situational awareness to members through daily situation reports for Hurricane Ian and targeted communications for Hurricane Nicole. These were for the first time also distributed through EMResource. The Coalition also created a hurricane page on the website including the situation reports, latest power outage reports, waivers, declarations, links to FEMA, DOH, AHCA and more. This was updated daily through the response. During both storms, monitoring of WebEOC began as soon as the county EOCs were activated. Mission requests were monitored, with over 7,000 total requests made during the activation periods. No unmet needs were identified that the Coalition could fill. However, the Coalition responded to several member specific resource requests. The Coalition also filled a state mission request by loaning two portable morgues to Lee County for two months.

Following the hurricane, the Coalition sent a survey to all members to capture strengths and lessons learned from the hurricanes, and hosted a workshop during the December conference to capture these. Below are the regional strengths and improvement opportunities identified:

Regional Strengths:

- Communication from Coalition
- Teamwork across all disciplines
- Community collaboration
- Coordination across multiple sites
- Leveraging technology
- Preparedness/Planning

Regional Improvement Opportunities:

- Continuous training on communications and event management systems
- Continued ICS trainings
- Better coordination of evacuations

Appendix A: IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This IP is developed specifically for CFDMC as a result of Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole in 2022.

Capability	Issue/Area for Improvement	Corrective Action	Capability Element	Primary Responsible Organization	Organization POC	Start Date	Completion Date
Capability 2: Healthcare and Medical Response Coordination	1. Continuous training on communications and event management systems	An EMResource Steering Committee is developing standardized protocols and training	Training	CFDMC	Matt Meyers	1/1/23	12/31/23
Capability 1: Foundation for Healthcare and Medical Readiness	2. Continue ICS trainings	ICS position-specific training videos have been posted to the website and CFDMC continues to promote and provide a variety of ICS trainings	Training	CFDMC	Lynne Drawdy		Ongoing
Capability 4: Medical Surge	3. Better coordination of evacuations	Evacuation was identified as a gap in the HVA and will be addressed as a special project in 2023.	Planning	CFDMC	Lynne Drawdy	3/1/23	12/31/23

