

Texans are facing a power failure in every respect of those words. Last week's weather conditions left families in extreme cold without heat and struggling with food and water insecurity. The result of many local and state government leaders abdicating their responsibility to prepare adequately for crises is a failure to care for those within its borders. This leadership vacuum creates deadly conditions for people living with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, undocumented immigrants, and others who are disproportionately left out of immediate aid.

UUSC has moved quickly in response to the crisis at-risk Texans are facing by sending emergency grants to support our existing partners in the region. You can bolster these efforts by making a donation today.

Our emergency grant to the **Carrizo Comecrudo Tribe of Texas** is providing water, food, and propane to members of the community who have been hardhit by the storm. The Tribe's ongoing work — including fighting for access to their ancestral lands and living with the health and environmental impacts of fracking in their backyards — creates major barriers for disaster preparedness. Their remote location also makes it less likely that they will receive necessary federal and state resources — leaving approximately 2,500 Tribal members to fend for themselves, in isolation.

In addition, UUSC provided emergency funding to the disability and immigration advocacy organization **Living Hope Wheelchair Association (LHWA)** in Houston to assist individuals with disabilities and their families to purchase food and water, replace damaged wheelchair and car batteries, and repair homes affected by bursting pipes and flooding. UUSC remains committed to LHWA's ongoing efforts to call attention to the disparities in aid distribution during times of disaster and their demands for equitable access to services during crises.

UUSC's crisis response is rooted in our long-standing partnerships like these, which allow us to quickly provide life-saving aid for survival, while continuing to support their long-term vision for justice-building and systemic reform.

If you are able, please click here to donate to UUSC today, so we can continue to respond to this disaster and ensure we will be ready for future needs that arise from the disastrous effects of climate change.



Thank you for your generosity,

Rev. Mary Katherine Morn President and CEO Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

P.S. Alongside UUSC's response, <u>the UUA's Disaster Relief Fund</u> is deploying emergency grants across Texas to support congregations, individual members, and community partners in need. Donations made to UUSC and the UUA Disaster Relief Fund will help us distribute resources quickly and make an immediate impact on the ground.