AccuWeather is responding to the extraordinary 2017 hurricane season with a community-wide effort to help people impacted by Hurricane Maria. The company has made arrangements to adopt Patillas, Puerto Rico, a remote town that has been largely cut off from relief efforts and shipments of supplies, as a focus for its “Rays of Hope” community service initiative.

The mayor of Patillas provided a list of items the community needs to endure this crisis and begin to rebuild. These supplies will help families stay clean and healthy, and protect them from diseases and other ailments that can occur after the loss of equipment, infrastructure, fresh food and access to safe water.

You can participate by purchasing and bringing items on the list to AccuWeather’s Global Weather Center in State College. Volunteers will be on hand to accept donated goods and prepare them for shipping.

Items Needed

- Soap
- Hand Sanitizer
- Toothpaste
- Water Purification Tablets
- Water Buckets with Lids
- Detergent
- Sanitary Pads
- New Twin-SizeBlankets
- New Twin-Size Sheets
- Batteries
- Flashlights
- Razors
- Crackers

- Canned Goods and/or Bulks of Canned Goods
- (preferably pull-top cans of protein-rich foods, such as tuna)
- Non-Refrigerated Milk and/or Bulk Non-Refrigerated Milk
- Packs of Dry Fruits and/or Bulks of Packs of Dry Fruits
- Rico Rice (found at Wal-Mart)
- Baby Formula
- Paper Goods (cups, plates, napkins, forks and spoons)
- Over-the-Counter Medications
- Summer Clothing for Adults and Children
- Flip-Flops and Sneakers for Adults and Children

You also can make a financial donation online at: http://bit.ly/2ylfGBS.

Checks, made out to Centre Foundation with a memo description that states “AccuWeather Rays of Hope Fund,” can be mailed to: Centre Foundation, 1377 Ridge Master Drive, State College, PA 16803

Donations may be tax-deductible.
How is AccuWeather helping the people of Patillas, Puerto Rico?

Patillas was one of the first towns affected when Hurricane Maria made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane. Because Patillas has no port access, it has been largely cut off from relief shipments, putting its more than 20,000 residents in a desperate situation with a scarcity of clean water, power, cell service, food staples and other essentials.

AccuWeather is dedicated to saving lives and keeping people out of harm’s way by providing the most accurate weather forecasts and warnings before storms happen. As a company that understands the effects of severe weather, we have an opportunity to help ease the suffering of people who have experienced an unimaginable tragedy after the storm.

As part of our Rays of Hope community service initiative, AccuWeather is filling a shipping container at our State College headquarters with life-saving staples and goods. We are asking employees, neighbors, businesses and residents of the surrounding Centre County community to donate needed items.

The container will be located in the parking lot of AccuWeather’s Global Weather Center, 385 Science Park Road, State College, through Wednesday, October 25. AccuWeather employees are volunteering to collect and package the items for shipment. Collection hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on weekends.

NEMF (New England Motor Freight) and TOTE Maritime are partnering with AccuWeather to ship the container of supplies to San Juan, Puerto Rico. The supplies will be trucked across the island to the Patillas community. From there, the goods will be distributed directly to those in need by a team that includes several employees sent by AccuWeather to help.

For more details, contact Aira Nelson ataira.nelson@accuweather.com.

You also can make a financial donation online at: http://bit.ly/2ylGBSy.
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