



#### Media Contact

Heidi May Wilson, National PTA  
[hmay@pta.org](mailto:hmay@pta.org), (703) 518-1242

Kristin McCasland, Texas PTA  
[kmccasland@txpta.org](mailto:kmccasland@txpta.org), (512) 320-9813

## National PTA and Texas PTA Support Families, Schools Impacted by Hurricane Harvey

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (Aug. 30, 2017)—National PTA President Jim Accomando and Texas PTA President Lisa Holbrook issued the following statement regarding Hurricane Harvey:

“National PTA, Texas PTA and PTAs across the country extend their thoughts and prayers to the millions impacted by Hurricane Harvey. We are deeply concerned for the children, families, teachers, schools and communities affected by this catastrophic storm.

“As the nation’s oldest and largest child advocacy association, it remains our duty to help restore learning environments and support families and educators in their efforts to rebuild and recover. Following this type of tragedy, our mission becomes that much more important. We are committed to doing everything we can to assist those affected and help children and educators transition back into the classroom.

“Texas PTA has launched a [Fill the Backpack initiative](#) and will work closely with local school districts to provide important supplies for students and teachers to be ready to learn on the first day back in the classroom. Additionally, through Sept. 30, Lone Star Statewide PTA in Texas will dedicate 100% of local membership proceeds to assist with relief efforts. To join Lone Star Statewide PTA and/or make a monetary donation to support the families and school communities affected by Hurricane Harvey, visit Texas PTA’s *Fill the Backpack* [donation page](#).

“National PTA also encourages people to donate to the association’s [Disaster Relief Fund](#), which was established to respond to tragedies that grievously disrupt a school or education system.

“When frightening incidents occur, such as Hurricane Harvey, children may experience a range of emotions, including fear, confusion, sadness and anger. National PTA offers tips to help families and educators have conversations with children to help them deal with these emotions. The tips can be accessed at [PTA.org](http://pta.org).”

#### About National PTA

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of family engagement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a

powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth. For more information, visit [PTA.org](http://PTA.org).

#### **About Texas PTA**

Texas PTA is the largest grassroots organization in Texas with half a million members - parents, teachers and others who have a special interest in children, youth, families and schools. Texas PTA is a noncommercial, nonsectarian-nonpartisan organization that does not endorse any candidate or political party. For more information on Texas PTA, visit [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org) or contact the state office at 800-TALK-PTA.