

Hurricane Sandy Response

Hurricane Sandy was the largest Atlantic storm system on record and second-costliest weather disaster in U.S. history, responsible for 159 deaths in the U.S. and more than \$65 billion in damage. The storm damaged or destroyed 650,000 homes and at its peak, forced 8.5 million people – including some in hospitals and healthcare facilities along the East Coast – to go without power.

Healthcare Ready led its largest disaster activation in response to Hurricane Sandy, working around the clock for 21 days to protect patient access to healthcare. From coordinating medicine donations to making sure supplies made it to hospitals and patients, *Healthcare Ready* provided critical response support coordinating the public and private sectors.



Patients

The devastating impacts of Sandy were felt particularly strongly by patients with chronic diseases, the elderly and vulnerable populations such as children. We provided a variety of assistance to patients during these confusing and unstable times.

- Worked with national pharmacy chains to **establish charging stations for patients dependent on battery-powered devices** after hearing some were struggling to find power sources.
- Recognizing that evacuated patients and their families were struggling to refill medications, and didn't always know where to fill them in new cities, we **advocated for and helped share activated prescription assistance programs**, including HHS's Emergency Prescription Assistance Program (EPAP).

— ASSISTANCE TO —



Healthcare

Sandy proved to be the first major test of public-private coordination since Hurricane Katrina, and we played a critical role in coordinating their response. Staff assisted government, public health, and private healthcare by:

- **Helped ensure deliveries** of critically needed healthcare supplies reached their final destination by coordinating police escorts and drafting letters of entry delivery drivers.
- Partnered with healthcare companies, the American Red Cross, Direct Relief International, and Americares in **directing medical supply donations to shelters with highest needs**.

In a rapidly evolving response environment, we were **trusted by senior officials in HHS to serve as only non-governmental representative** to provide updates on response coordination calls. We provided vital updates on behalf of the entire private sector healthcare supply chain operations to senior federal officials.

Rx Open

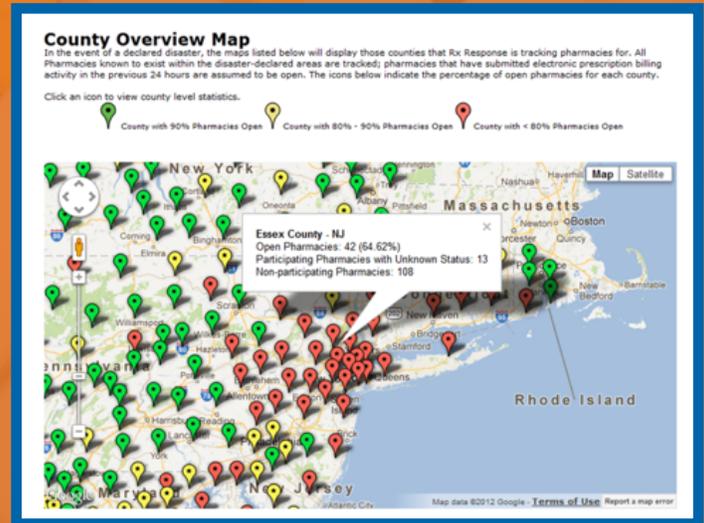
Rx Open, *Healthcare Ready's* free online map shows open pharmacies in areas impacted by disaster, and was an invaluable resource to both patients and first responders. From helping evacuated patients know where to go to refill needed medications, to assisting first responders in gauging the damage to impacted areas, Rx Open assisted patients and officials in vital ways.

10,000 +
pharmacies mapped in
impacted area

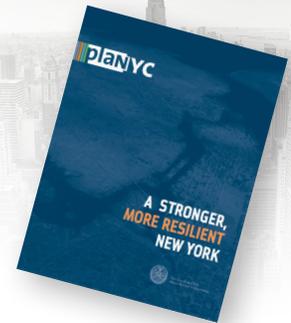
Over 500
counties covered

11 states & D.C.
covered

21 days
activated
used continuously by
patients & responders



In the aftermath of Hurricane *Healthcare Ready* Response provided recommendations to **NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg** at the request of city officials to help increase the city's pre-disaster engagement with community pharmacies in order to boost post-disaster resiliency. The recommendations were incorporated as **Initiative #10** of "A Stronger, More Resilient New York", the Mayor's post-Sandy action plan.



"THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN SETTING UP ASSISTANCE IN THE AFTERMATH OF SANDY. I THINK WE'VE ALL LEARNED AFTER KATRINA THAT GETTING ACCESS TO MEDICATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT WHERE TO GET MEDICINES IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU."

Janet Napolitano
Former Secretary, Department of Homeland Security



Healthcare Ready Hurricane Sandy efforts covered by:

