



FOR IMMEDIATE
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Florida United Methodist Children's Home Prepared For Hurricane Dorian

Enterprise, FL – Today the Florida United Methodist Children's Home completed a review of preparations for Hurricane Dorian. Preparations began earlier this week when it became possible that Dorian would make landfall somewhere along the Florida east coast. The current forecast calls for the storm to make landfall in the central portion of the state's east coast and progressing across the panhandle, affecting both the Enterprise campus and Madison Youth Ranch. Preparations continue as Dorian's landfall becomes more likely.

In accordance with its Disaster Plan, the Children's Home maintains ample supplies of food and water for emergencies. In the event that roads become impassible due to high winds, flooding, downed trees or other hazards, the campus will be adequately staffed to maintain supervisory ratios for the children with critical staff prepared to remain on campus until any danger passes. As the storm impacts the campus, all staff and children will shelter in place in accordance with the Disaster Plan and the designated "Code Brown" weather precautions. On the Enterprise campus, water filtration, sewage systems and the on campus commissary's food refrigeration are all protected by 24/7 on-demand power generators. The residential cottages will be supplied by portable generators, connected after the worst of the storm passes. The Enterprise campus has ample power generation to meet the essential needs of the children and staff, with fuel stores sufficient until resupply is available.

The Madison Youth Ranch is also staffed and supplied for the duration of the storm with power backup for its cottages and cold food storage. Cottages on both campuses are equipped with safe rooms, and can provide safety in case of high winds or tornadoes.

The Children's Home also supports foster care families in Broward, Palm Beach, Volusia and Flagler counties who may have a significant impact from the storm. The Foster Care offices have been in contact with current foster families to verify that each family's emergency plans are in place and that they have the supplies necessary for the duration of the storm.

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The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 in Enterprise, Florida on the banks of Lake Monroe. The Madison Youth Ranch, a second residential location, was added in 2014 in

North Florida. The Children's Home provides services to families and children from childhood to adulthood, and is accredited by COA (Council on Accreditation), EAGLE (a program of the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries), and is a member of the Alliance for Children and Families. Our Residential Care Program provides care and a family style home for school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, neglect or family trauma, and provides education, counseling, as well as recreation and ministry opportunities. The Children's Home also provides Foster Care, an Emergency Shelter, an Independent Living Program as well as a Montessori-based early childhood program to the public through In As Much. The Children's Home is supported through the generosity of churches with the United Methodist Florida Conference, individuals and legacy gifts. For more information, visit www.fumch.org.