

MEMORANDUM

November 18, 2020

Dear members of the university community,

As Central America endures the aftermath of Hurricane Iota, the second major hurricane to hit the region in as many weeks, our FIU family is keeping all those in harm's way in our thoughts.

Hurricane Iota made landfall on Tuesday as a Category 4 storm. Just two weeks ago, Hurricane Eta swept through the area, also as a Category 4 hurricane. Some people perished, others went missing, and many were displaced due to severe landslides and flooding.

We stand with the people of Central America, and are ready to assist in any way we can.

In the meantime, if you wish to help, you may consider making a financial contribution to a well-established aid organization. Two such organizations with a track record in the region are [Food for the Poor](#) and [World Vision](#).

Please note that, as with other disasters, financial donations are recommended instead of donations of food, clothing and other items. Financial contributions allow aid organizations to purchase exactly what is needed for a disaster relief operation. Monetary donations also allow them to purchase supplies close to the disaster site, cutting down on delays and transportation costs, as well as stimulating the affected local economy.

If you have any questions, please contact Co-chair of FIU's Interdisciplinary Disaster Task Force Amy B. Aiken at abaiken@fiu.edu. I know that, as always, I can count on our FIU family to do our part and make a difference.