

For Immediate Release

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Dial 2-1-1 for Help Cleaning Up After Hurricane Irma

Columbia, SC (September 12, 2017) – SC 2-1-1 is working in collaboration with Crisis Cleanup to connect homeowners with post-storm services. South Carolina residents who need help with debris removal, mud-out and other clean-up services due to Hurricane Irma should call 2-1-1. Homeowners are linked with reputable and vetted relief agencies that assist in chainsaw work and debris clearing, as they are available. All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to the availability of volunteer teams. These relief agencies have been involved with recovery efforts in the state assisting after the October 2015 Floods and Hurricane Matthew. As members of VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters), these organizations are committed to effective delivery of services to communities after a disaster. We encourage organizations to register with Crisis Cleanup to identify need in your local area.

Anyone needing debris removal may call 2-1-1 on weekdays between 8:00 am and 5pm to get entered into the Crisis Cleanup system. Individuals searching for other general information on disaster resources can call the three-digit telephone number, 2-1-1, from a landline or mobile phone; search the website <http://www.SC211.org>; or use the app. The SC 2-1-1 app is available for download in Google Play and the App Store. It is free to download and free to use.

Anyone interested in volunteering with Hurricane Irma clean-up, but not affiliated with an organization, should go to www.VolunteerSC.org. Organizations looking for additional help will post opportunities and seek volunteers. Most organizations require volunteers to undergo background checks and training to ensure the safety of survivors.

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The United Way Association of South Carolina works to maximize the capacity and effectiveness of local United Ways and provide leadership on issues that impact the quality of life of South Carolina residents. United Way fights for the education, financial stability and health of every person in our community. For more information, visit www.UWASC.org. SC 2-1-1 information and referral is a free, confidential service of United Way Association of South Carolina that connects individuals to health and human services 24 hours a day, seven days per week. To find 2-1-1 resources online, visit www.SC211.org.

Crisis Cleanup is a collaborative disaster work order management platform. It improves coordination, decreases duplication of efforts, enhances efficiency, and improves the volunteer

experience. Crisis Cleanup works best when a large number of voluntary organizations with a lot of volunteers, work together to help a large number of people over a wide area, all at the same time.

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