Key Cares: Hurricane Harvey Relief

As a company that works each and every day to help our residents feel safe and happy in their homes, Key is committed to lending a helping hand when disaster strikes and our neighbors are in need. As Hurricane Harvey swept across Texas, Key properties and staff immediately rallied together to lend a helping hand.

Within days of the storm, a contribution of $10,000 was made on behalf of Farnham Park Apartments in Port Arthur and Chelsea Apartments in Beaumont to [SBP](http://www.stbernardproject.org/), a nonprofit group doing amazing work to shrink the time between disaster and recovery in communities impacted by natural disaster. Since its founding in 2006 following Hurricane Katrina, SBP has rebuilt homes for more than 1,300 families with the help of 180,000 volunteers in Louisiana, Missouri, New York, New Jersey, Texas, South Carolina and West Virginia. Key is proud to see the work SBP has begun in Houston to get the community back on their feet.

As the effects of the devastation became clear, Key employees also sought ways to pitch in to the relief efforts. Thanks to the staff at Ansley Walk Apartments in Lafayette, Key partnered with Blaze Pizza in Lafayette and New Orleans to host a fundraiser to support SBP. Ansley Walk and Robley Place encouraged residents to visit Blaze for a delicious fundraising opportunity while Key Team members in the New Orleans walked down the street from the office to enjoy making a tasty contribution to our corporate giving partners.

Properties across Louisiana and Mississippi also gathered nonperishable food from residents and staff to donate to families in need across Texas. Ansley Walk, Botanica, Chapel Creek, Ivy Park, Lakeside, Mansions in the Park, River Park, and Robley Place all pitched in to fill a dozen boxes of food and water. In November, Timberlynn Platenburg (Baton Rouge Office) and Lydia Perez (Baton Rouge Office) rented a vehicle and drove to Texas to donate the items to the Beaumont Food Bank.

“It was incredible to see the SUV packed with supplies thanks to the kindness of Key residents and employees,” said Timberlynn Platenburg. “It shows how we’ve built a community culture and company culture that cares for its neighbors.”

As Houston and the surrounding areas continue on the road to recovery, Key will continue to search for opportunities to support our neighbors and strengthen our communities.

This week, Key Real Estate Company made gifts on behalf of Chelsea and Farnham Park Apartments to SBP, our charitable partner and nonprofit relief specialist. Since the storm hit, SBP and their team have been on the ground in Texas working to shrink the time between disaster and recovery. Visit [sbpusa.org](http://sbpusa.org/) to learn more about SBP and the amazing work they’ve done across the country.

As residents, neighbors, friends, and family deal with the impact of Hurricane Harvey throughout the Texas gulf coast, we are thankful that our residents, staff and properties managed to avoid the most severe damage brought on by the storm. We are so thankful for Key team members Coti Matthews, Wayne Wood, John Holmes, David Koob, Kristen Hurt, and De’Ana Plasencia at Farnham Park and Chelsea for racing back to work as soon as the water levels allowed. A special thank you also goes out to Ken McDuff, Chelsea Maintenance Supervisor, who weathered out the storm at Chelsea, assisting residents the entire time. Of course, all of these efforts were led by our amazing regionals, Jennifer Spiers and Chris Centenio, who were on call 24 hours a day.

We have received an outpouring of concern and desire to help out from employees across Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana and are working quickly to support our neighbors in Texas as they begin the long road to recovery. This week, Key Real Estate Company made gifts on behalf of Chelsea and Farnham Park Apartments to SBP, our charitable partner and nonprofit relief specialist. Since the storm hit, SBP and their team have been on the ground in Texas working to shrink the time between disaster and recovery. Visit [sbpusa.org](http://sbpusa.org/) to learn more about SBP and the amazing work they’ve done across the country.

In addition to Key’s charitable gifts, we will also be rolling out more opportunities to pitch and roll up our sleeves in the near future. Stay tuned for more information.