

To: Colleen Brown, Beta Gamma State President  
From: Gayle Hammons, Chair, EEC  
Date: Oct. 3, 2018  
RE: Donation to Texas state fund after Hurricane Harvey

Background: One of my sisters in my 2010 Golden Gift Leadership Training class emailed me soon after Hurricane Harvey devastated most of Houston, Texas. Her information was about a fund many Texas DKG members had just put together dedicated to replace lost school texts/supplies for classrooms destroyed or heavily damaged by Hurricane Harvey. They were asking other states to help as well. I simply forwarded this on to Beta Gamma State.

Of course, almost immediately after this, Hurricane Irma hit Florida.

There was much positive response to the request from Texas, and there were questions.

- One of the questions dealt with an amount of \$3000.00 being too much to send, especially in the wake of Beta Gamma's inability to fund a state convention.
- Another chapter added that they had voted to send funds to the DKG International Emergency Fund.
- Others asked if Emergency Funds could be used to replace school supplies.
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To date, no Alaska state funds for the first request have been sent to Texas.

I spoke with Dr. Mers at DKG headquarters in Austin today, to verify what I had learned:

First and foremost, the DKG International Emergency Fund is used only to help replace personal belongings lost in a home/dwelling damaged/destroyed due to a natural disaster. These funds are not for losses of school supplies, or even personal belongings/supplies lost when a school was destroyed.

An example was offered: a member applied for Emergency Funds (which are normally about \$500, or less) because her house burned down. However, an electrical short was deemed the cause of the fire by the Fire Department, and she was denied the funds. (True story)

Dr. Mers also proffered that the "wording" is going to have to be "tightened" as the membership desires, sometime in the future. For now, the rules (and past practice) are set.