

APPENDIX D

FAQ FOR IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS OF HARVEY

The following is the table of contents from HILSC's FAQ created for Hurricane Harvey first responders regarding immigration in August/September 2017. The original document was a Google Doc, easily editable in real time as the information was unfolding. When the HILSC response is triggered for future disasters, HILSC will update this FAQ with relevant questions and answers specific to the current disaster and distribute to shelters, the Immigrant Rights Hotline, and non-profit partners. The section on policy and legal updates will be updated according to the most recent issues. For a copy of the original FAQ from Harvey, please email info@houstonimmigration.org.

FAQ for Immigrant Survivors of Harvey

This guide is intended as a resource for organizations answering client questions and for volunteers answering questions via the Immigrant Rights Hotline.

This FAQ is a guide. If you don't know how to answer a question, either respond: "I'm a volunteer and while I don't know, we are updating our information regularly so please call (come) back later"; or conduct a Google search. Please add suggested additions to this FAQ via comments.

We want the immigrant community to know that they have power to make change. If you get the impression that a caller wants to get more involved, encourage them to organize with other immigrants.

Harvey: Emergency Relief Access for Immigrants

1. Is it safe for me to go to a shelter/food bank/evacuation site if I'm undocumented?
2. What is the process for working with FEMA? What can I expect?
3. Where can I get legal assistance with emergency relief paperwork (e.g. FEMA)?
4. Who is eligible, or a "qualified immigrant", for federal FEMA emergency relief purposes?
5. Will undocumented immigrants negatively impacted by asking for FEMA relief?
6. Where can I get food?
7. Is ICE conducting enforcement efforts (raids/arrests) as a part of Harvey relief?
8. Will accepting disaster relief affect my application for permanent residence or for a visa?
9. I am a foreign student whose financial support has been affected by disaster. Can I get help?
10. I have a loved one detained, I'm concerned for their safety during the hurricane and I have lost communication. How can I find out if they've been transferred or deported?

Harvey: General questions

11. How can I find out about my car or get it towed?
12. I cannot work due to the Hurricane and need unemployment - what do I do?

Immigration Courts and Documents

13. What can I do if I've lost all of my paperwork?
14. When will the immigration courts / USCIS/ ICE reopen?
15. What do I do if I missed an appointment or deadline?
16. How can I find out if my appointment will be rescheduled?
17. What about other state court closures?
18. I had to move. How do I change my address with immigration?
19. I have an ankle monitor but have not been able to charge it - what should I do?

Policy and Legal Updates (SB4 / DACA)

20. What is happening with SB4?
21. What is happening with DACA?