

J.J. Watt announces game plan for Hurricane Harvey funds

<http://www.khou.com/weather/harvey/jj-watt-names-non-profits-who-will-receive-share-of-37-m-in-harvey-funds/486336568>

Michelle Homer, KHOU 6:34 PM. CDT October 26, 2017

HOUSTON - J.J. Watt just announced on Twitter the four non-profits he will partner with for Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. **Watt raised over \$37 million dollars** in the weeks after Harvey and has been working with [his foundation](#) to decide how to distribute the money.

"What we're gonna do is we're gonna rebuild homes. We're gonna restore child care with after-school programs. We're gonna provide food for those who need food and we're gonna provide professional medical services – for both physical and mental health – for those affected by the hurricane," Watt said in a video posted on Twitter.

Watt and his foundation chose the following non-profits to receive a cut of the first \$30 million.

- [SBP](#): To rebuild homes
- [Save the Children](#): For child care and after school programs
- [Feeding America](#): To distribute food to those in need
- [Americares](#): To address health needs

He explained they were chosen because they already "have boots on the ground here in Houston and their networks reach throughout the entire affected area." **"The remaining \$7 million will be set aside for distribution in 2018 as we continue to assess and analyze the evolving relief efforts," Watt said.**

In the days after Harvey, Watt initially set out to raise \$200,000. As more than 200,000 donations poured in from around the world, the numbers quickly grew into the millions, far surpassing anyone's expectations.

"There are not enough words to thank you all for your generosity," Watt said in September. "If there is one thing that I have taken away from these last few weeks, it is the reassurance of how much good is out there in our world. When times are the toughest, humanity stands at its strongest and you have all helped to prove that emphatically."

Watt said from the beginning that they would take their time in choosing the partners because they wanted to get it right.

"With such incredible support like this comes tremendous responsibility. I have spent the greater part of the last month and a half doing my due diligence and meeting with and speaking to as many resources as possible," he said in a statement Thursday. "This \$37 million will not be able to help every single person as I so badly wish it could, I have made it my mission to ensure this money makes as large of an impact as possible."