

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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COUNCILWOMAN MARGARET CHIN'S STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH PUERTO RICO

NEW YORK – Councilwoman Margaret S. Chin released the following statement of solidarity to all those in Puerto Rico devastated by Hurricane Maria, and their families in New York City waiting to hear back from their loved ones.

"My heart goes out to Puerto Rico as the islands begin the painful process of rebuilding after Hurricane Maria. To our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico whose lives and homes were devastated by the storms, New York City stands with you, and we are ready to help.

To my fellow New Yorkers who are eager to take action now, I thank you for your compassion and initiative. Supporting local, community-based organizations remains one of the most direct, effective ways to support the relief and rehabilitation process --but always remember to take the time to research new initiatives and watch out for scams. Send donations and sign up to volunteer with reliable organizations you know and trust.

Today, I send my prayers and solidarity to the victims, survivors, and their families in New York City, and I will continue to reach out to members of our community for more ways to support those impacted by Hurricane Maria, as well as the natural disasters in Mexico and the Caribbean."

Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló declared Hurricane Maria as the "most devastating storm to hit the island this century, if not modern history." Today, major flash flood warnings are still in effect. It is reported that Puerto Rico may not fully get back power for four to six months.

Some examples of trusted charities and relief organizations include: <u>Hispanic</u> <u>Federation Relief Fund</u>, <u>Hurricane Maria Community Relief and Recovery Fund</u>, <u>United Nation's Children's Fund</u>, and <u>United for Puerto Rico</u>.