

RECENT HEAVY RAINS STRAIN RESIDENTS ALREADY SUFFERING AFTER DOLLY; ARC OPENS SHELTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EDINBURG — The American Red Cross and Catholic Charities have opened up a shelter in Hidalgo County to help families affected by the recent heavy rains. The shelter is located at the Newland Building, 1615 Kuhn St. (west of Sugar Road) in Edinburg.

Initial damage assessment by Hidalgo County Emergency Management personnel indicate that about 100 homes have been affected by the rain on Monday and Tuesday. In some cases, water has been reported inside homes, and streets are again flooded.

"At least four neighborhoods have been identified so far," said Emergency Management Coordinator and Fire Marshal Tony Peña Jr. "We are still out in the field conducting our assessments. Hidalgo County pumping crews have been dispatched to four locations at this time, and other resources will be identified and mobilized soon."

Affected areas include neighborhoods near Tower and Owassa Roads, Cesar Chavez and Alberta Roads, Tower and Minnesota Roads, and Holmes Road near Mile 17 ½.

The Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court approved a local disaster declaration on Tuesday so that general fund monies could be expended to aid in the water relocation efforts.

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For more information, visit www.co.hidalgo.tx.us