



LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

LTC No: 25-245

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*
DATE: November 21, 2025
SUBJECT: Caribbean Relief Drive Wrap-Up

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to provide a final update on the City of Fort Lauderdale's Caribbean Relief Drive, launched in partnership with Food For The Poor (FFTP) to support Jamaica and other communities affected by Hurricane Melissa.

Following the storm's devastating impact across the Caribbean, the City opened all Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue (FLFR) stations and the current Fort Lauderdale Police Headquarters as donation drop-off sites. Our residents responded with tremendous generosity. Over the course of the drive, the community donated 12 pallets of essential supplies, filling an entire box truck with food, hygiene products, baby items, flashlights, tarps, and other urgently needed goods.

On Thursday, November 13, 2025, Food For The Poor collected the donated items and transported them to its distribution center in Coconut Creek. From there, the goods will be sorted, packed, and shipped ahead of the November 30, 2025 customs deadline.

In addition to collecting supplies, Food For The Poor has extended an invitation to the City and neighboring municipalities to participate in volunteer shifts to help sort and pack donated items for shipment. Volunteer hours are available Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., with scheduling based on donation volume. Volunteer teams may contact Maricarmen Anguiano, Volunteer Program and Community Engagement Manager, at volunteers@foodforthe poor.org for available dates.

Residents and employees who still wish to support recovery efforts may also make monetary contributions directly to Food For The Poor at www.foodforthe poor.org.

The City thanks our residents, employees, and community partners for their compassion and commitment throughout this effort. Their response is a testament to Fort Lauderdale's spirit of service and solidarity.

c: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney
David R. Soloman, City Clerk
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor
City Manager's Office
Department Directors