

# SUPPORTING RELIEF EFFORTS

## PALANTIR & DIRECT RELIEF INTERNATIONAL

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### THE STORY

In October 2012, Hurricane Sandy devastated portions of the Caribbean, Mid-Atlantic, and Northeastern United States, causing more than 250 deaths and \$60 billion in damage. As a first responder, Direct Relief International (DRI) provided medical supplies and services to thousands of people affected by the hurricane. DRI used **Palantir Gotham** to help identify health needs and coordinate response efforts.

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### OUR SOLUTION

*“Palantir brought tremendous intelligence to bear on field-based humanitarian assessment and opened the promise of extending our analytic capacities more directly into events as they happen.”*

— Andrew Schroeder, DRI

In the chaotic aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, thousands of people were in need of power, basic provisions, and medical supplies. DRI deployed an assessment team to find out which communities were hit hardest and identify the community-based organizations that could lend support.

Using Palantir Gotham, DRI monitored the availability of pharmacies and health clinics, assessed their inventories of basic medical supplies, and routed the necessary medical resources. Our engineers integrated a range of relevant data sources, including pharmacy locations, weather reports, flood maps, and fuel availability charts, as well as data from New York’s 311 request system.

With all information in a single environment, DRI analysts were able to determine which areas had the highest concentration of requests and where response efforts should be targeted. For example, analysts used the Map application to identify working roads and the most efficient routes for supply vehicles. In the weeks following the storm, Palantir’s real-time dashboard capabilities helped analysts monitor infectious disease trends.

DRI also deployed **Palantir Mobile** to teams in the field for real-time collaboration and data collection. Using Palantir on commercial smartphones, DRI analysts on the ground sent information on flood zones, drug availability, and damage levels to coordinators at DRI Headquarters in Santa Barbara who adapted their response plans accordingly.

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### IMPACT & RESULTS

DRI identified the **most vulnerable communities affected by Hurricane Sandy** to provide immediate medical support.

Volunteers on the ground used Palantir Mobile to **collect and send data** back to DRI Headquarters in real time.

DRI used Palantir Gotham to **monitor infectious disease trends and route medical supplies** to the areas in greatest need.