

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BAHAMAS HURRICANE DORIAN SIX-MONTH ANNIVERSARY HUMANITARIAN AID COMMEMORATION PRESS CONFERENCE

Former Senator Katherine B. Smith to Thank Humanitarian Aid Organizations for Continued Support to Rebuild The Bahamas

Fort Lauderdale, FL – March 4, 2020 – Katherine B. Smith, Managing Director of Disaster Reconstruction Authority along with Mission Resolve Foundation Co-Founders Joseph Farrell, Jr. and Patxi Pastor will join Edward Raine, CEO of Food for the Poor, to host a press conference at the Food for the Poor Warehouse on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 10:30am. The event will commorate the six-month anniversary and thank major humanitarian aid organizations which continues to be provide support to the Bahamian recovery following Hurricane Dorian.

- WHAT: Press Conferences
- WHEN & WHERE: 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 6 Food For The Poor's Warehouse 6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073
  - **WHY:** Mission Resolve Foundation and partners talk about work to bring relief to The Bahamas and help people rebuild after Hurricane Dorian.
  - **INTERVIEWS:** Sen. Kay Forbes-Smith, Disaster Reconstruction Authority, Food For The Poor President/CEO Ed Raine & Mission Resolve Foundation Co-Founders Joe Farrell, Jr. & Patxi Pastor, along with collaborating NGO leaders.

Over 25 representatives from additional leading non-profit, private and government humanitarian aid organizations in support of the ongoing Bahamian recovery efforts will be in attendance including Abaco Chamber of Commerce, Abaco Connect, Advanced Roofing, American Red Cross, Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line, Bahamas Strong, Church By the Sea, Certified Contracting Group, Collaborative Consulting Group, Entercom, Entrepreneurs Across Borders, Entrepreneurs' Organization, Food For The Poor, Furman Insurance, Gold Aviation Services, HeadKnowles Foundation, Holy Cross Hospital, IDEA Relief, Mercy Corps, Miami Dolphins Foundation, New Providence Community Church, One Eleuthera Foundation, Optimum Consulting, Rotary International, SEACOR, The Kannico Agency, Witt O'Brien's, Young Presidents Organization, 104.3 The Shark and 25 United. "We are so grateful for the continuing outpouring of support and compassion that all of these organizations have continued to provide our Bahamian community since the devastating onset of Hurricane Dorian". Said Katherine Smith, Managing Director of Disaster Reconstruction Authority. "The damage this unprecedented Category 5 storm has inflicted on Abaco, the surrounding Cays and Grand Bahama Island have created major challenges for our community. We are so thankful of everyone's amazing ongoing support which we have heavily relied upon and will have to continue to do so. All donations of ongoing relief funding and in-kind goods and services are very much needed and greatly appreciated."

Mission Resolve Foundation, with help from numerous NGOs, continues to provide aid and assist with numerous major relief and rebuilding efforts. Most recently, American Red Cross awarded Mercy Corps and Mission Resolve Foundation, a grant to not only continue providing clean drinking water to Grand Bahama which it has from the onset of the hurricane, but now to also double production through May of 2020. Together Mercy Corps and Mission Resolve are providing 16,000 gallons of fresh water per day to the community. "We are so thrilled about the ongoing support which continues from so many amazing collaborating partner organizations for the Bahamian relief efforts." Said, Mission Resolve Foundation Co-Founder Joseph Farrell, Jr. "It is truly incredible what can be accomplished when so many selfless and compassionate people get together to support one another to aid our Bahamian neighbors".

Food For The Poor President/CEO Ed Raine said the charity is committed to The Bahamas' long-term recovery. "We know that the goods we've sent have meant the world to those suffering, but the longer-term needs are great. Mass numbers of people have been displaced," Raine said. "It's going to take some time for The Bahamas to recover, but Food For The Poor is committed to being there every step of the way with the support of our dedicated donors." Some of the supplies being purchased and shipped to The Bahamas by Food for the Poor include 750 solar-powered street lamps and 30 truck chassis, including 26 to the Disaster Reconstruction Authority to help move containers off the port and four to HeadKnowles Foundation to transport goods. After the recovery is completed, the authority will donate the chassis to other churches and nongovernmental organizations in The Bahamas.

Additionally, Mission Resolve also collaborated with Holy Cross Hospital's Dr. Jon Kotler, MD, President Chief of Medical Staff, and his staff at to assist with the deployment of a donated Medical Mobile Unit shipped to the island of Abaco, Bahama. Shipping of the unit was provided through the generous support of SEACOR Island Lines. The Medical unit will be stationed on Guana Cay to help aid in the continuing recovery efforts. The medical unit includes an operating room, lab and patient processing room and is equipped with an onboard generator, two air conditioners and a refrigerator. Additional funds have also been raised to maintain the unit and provide ongoing medical supplies which include sanitary materials, water, MREs and tarps for sun cover.

To make your donation in support Mission Resolve's ongoing Bahamian relief efforts please visit www.MissionResolve.org.

## ABOUT MISSION RESOLVE FOUNDATION

Mission Resolve Foundation serves as a global catalyst to engage, educate and inspire the public in best practices for humanitarian aid, civic engagement and the deployment of applied environmental science. The organization utilizes its extensive network and expertise to assist with the coordination of government relief and recovery efforts among public, private and non-governmental organizations after devastating natural disasters, helping to get desperately needed supplies and aid to those affected. Additionally, Mission Resolve Foundation works with leading scientists and global thought leaders to help provide best practices in the development of resilient communities in addition to assisting in the mitigation and implementation of solutions for international environmental challenges such as marine plastics, coastal erosion and coral reef restoration.

## ABOUT FOOD FOR THE POOR

Food For The Poor, one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation, does much more than feed millions of the hungry poor primarily in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. This interdenominational Christian ministry provides emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicine, educational materials, homes, support for orphaned or abandoned children, care for the aged, skills training and micro-enterprise development assistance. For more information, please visit www.FoodForThePoor.org.

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