



*Inside provides Air Methods' employees with the latest news and happenings from within the company*

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Air Methods deployed aircraft and staff to help evacuate citizens affected by Hurricane Gustav

Late last week through an arrangement with FEMA, Air Methods deployed 25 helicopters to Louisiana in advance of Hurricane Gustav. The majority of the aircraft are from the company's community-based services division, with a few hospital-based spare aircraft.

Within 24 hours of being notified, aircraft and nearly 150 Air Methods aviation and medical personnel were repositioned from across the country to the area. The crews are presently stationed at the Alexandria, LA airport, which is about 90 miles north of Baton Rouge and approximately 175 miles Northwest of New Orleans.

Over the holiday weekend, the Air Methods operation flew about 300 flight hours. Under the direction of FEMA, they provided air medical transport evacuation services to patients located in the geographic area identified as being in the projected path of Hurricane Gustav.

This effort has involved every level of the organization and everyone's support is much appreciated, especially over a holiday weekend. Despite extremely hot and humid conditions, and arguably a lifetime's worth of jambalaya, the teams did a tremendous job to come together and ensure the company displayed its full potential. Just another example of how Air Methods' size lends itself to flexibility and thus resources. Resources that many other air medical providers cannot make available.

The crews are anticipated to remain in Louisiana for the next couple of days and return home this week. We hope to share photos from the operation soon.