



Fostering and creating international cooperation between traditional healers and surfers to develop sustainable medicinal plant systems for coastal communities.

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501(c)(3) EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 20-4953485

Proposal for Emergency Relief Mission: Support for Accompong Maroon Community Post-Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica:

Executive Summary

Hurricane Melissa, a record-breaking Category 5 storm made landfall in Jamaica on October 28, 2025 causing catastrophic damage across the island including severe flooding and power outages affecting Accompong Maroons in an isolated remote community due to blocked roads and landslides, and a large percentage of their homes destroyed. Accompong Maroons who have preserved their cultural autonomy for centuries now face acute shortages of clean water, electricity, medical care, and access to essential services, with reports of majority of Accompong Maroon families losing their homes and infrastructure shutdowns exacerbating vulnerabilities. This proposal outlines a rapid-response mission by a multidisciplinary team of experts from surfingmedicine.org 501(c)(3) departing from Miami, Florida, to deliver critical supplies and equipment to benefit approximately 750 Accompong Maroons. The mission focuses on water purification, sustainable power generation, medical aid, debris clearance, and water rescue and transport capabilities for coastal and flooded areas inaccessible by road. With a total budget of \$560,000, the 14-day operation will deploy within 48 hours of approval, emphasizing cultural sensitivity, community collaboration, and long-term resilience, providing equipment for immediate assistance that will be used to assist in recovery and training efforts for future disaster relief. Funding will be sourced from humanitarian grants, corporate partnerships (e.g., Tesla for power solutions), and NGO contributions.

Background and Needs Assessment

Hurricane Melissa's 185 mph winds and torrential rains transformed Jamaica into a disaster zone, with heavy flooding isolating the Accompong Maroon community recognized for their heritage and self-governance. Recent assessments indicate total power shutdowns, contaminated water sources, and debris-blocked access routes. 1000's of Jamaicans remain in shelters island-wide, with Accompong Maroons facing urgent needs for potable water (due to pathogenic contamination from floodwaters), off-grid energy (power loss), medical treatment for injuries and waterborne illnesses, and debris removal to restore mobility, and lack of connection to normal island travel and supply routes destroyed by Hurricane Melissa.

Global relief efforts, including USAID's activation of Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) and Jamaican Red Cross distributions, highlight gaps in remote Maroon towns where traditional systems (e.g., community drumming alerts, medicinal plant treatments, etc.) must integrate with modern aid due to their lack of direct connection to the Government. This nonprofit mission addresses these issues by prioritizing Maroon-led distribution and training for sustained use of equipment. Tesla power boxes, solar panels, boats, jet skis, and other supplies will be left with the community after emergency assistance funding has ended so that Accompong Maroons can have equipment on hand to deal with future natural disasters and power outages, and water quality related public health issues.

Mission Objectives

1. Deliver and install water treatment and power systems to provide clean water for 750+ residents and reliable electricity for community hubs (clinics, schools, and cultural centers) by providing and installing Tesla power walls and solar panels.
2. Distribute medical supplies to treat 750+ individuals for flood-related injuries, infections, and chronic conditions with MD and RN staff alongside Maroon Herbalists.
3. Clear debris from key access roads and community sites to enable safe movement and reconstruction.
4. Enhance water rescue capacity for flood zones, enabling rapid response to ongoing flooding.
5. Train 50+ local Maroon volunteers on equipment operation, fostering self-reliance and cultural preservation.
6. Coordinate with Jamaican authorities, Maroon Colonel and community leaders, and NGOs for seamless integration and handover.

Equipment and Supplies List

The mission will ship supplies via container from Miami to Kingston (4-7 day transit) followed by overland/helicopter/boat transport to Accompong Maroon community. Quantities are scaled for two communities (supply for about 750 residents each).

Core Relief Supplies

Category	Items	Quantity	Estimated Value
Water Treatment	Portable reverse osmosis (RO) units (e.g., NEWater modular systems, 300 tons/day capacity); sediment filters; UV disinfection kits	4 RO units; 200 filters; 10 UV kits	\$50,000

Power Generation	Tesla Powerwall batteries (13.5 kWh each, off-grid capable); solar panels (400W high-efficiency, portable)	6 Powerwalls; 20 panels (8 kW total)	\$60,000
Medical Supplies	First aid kits (bandages, antiseptics, pain relievers); wound dressings; hygiene kits (soap, sanitizer, toothpaste); 7-14 day prescription meds and medicinal herb supplies; infant formula	500 kits; 1,000 packets of medicinal herbs and pharmaceuticals; 200 hygiene kits	\$80,000
Debris Removal	Chainsaws; wood chippers; wheel loaders (compact); safety gear (gloves, helmets, PPE)	10 chainsaws; 2 chippers; 1 loader; 100 PPE sets	\$30,000

Water Rescue Equipment

To access flooded coastal areas and reach communities with roads blocked by debris, the mission includes specialized gear for swift-water operations that will be handed off to Accompong Maroon communities for future use in disaster relief:

Item	Quantity	Description/Purpose	Estimated Value
Personal Watercraft (Jetskis)	4	Yamaha Wave Runner VX series (shallow-water capable, with rescue sleds) for rapid victim extraction	\$40,000
Inflatable Rescue Boats (RHIBs)	2	22-ft Lake Assault Boats (lightweight, 12-14 inch draft, outboard jet motors) for group evacuations	\$60,000
Rescue Accessories	1 set	Throw ropes, life jackets (USCG-approved), harnesses, buoys, MOB cradles, sonar scanners (e.g., Aqua Eye)	\$20,000

All equipment meets FEMA/PAHO standards for disaster response, with solar-powered options for off-grid use.

Staffing Plan

A core team of 25 experts will ensure efficient, trauma-informed operations. Roles emphasize diversity, including Maroon cultural liaisons for trust-building.

Role	Number	Responsibilities	Qualifications
Team Leader/Logistics Coordinator	1	Oversee mission; coordinate with Jamaican ODPEM and Maroon Colonel and councils; manage shipping/customs	Familiarity with Jamaica culture, government, and leaders in the community. Experience in disaster response, has trust of Maroons.
Medical Team	4 (2 MDs, 2 RNs)	Triage, treat injuries; distribute meds; train locals	Board-certified; hurricane response certified

Technical Specialists	6 (2 water, 2 power, 2 debris)	Install RO/power systems; operate heavy equipment; conduct training	Certified technicians (e.g., RO from Pure Aqua; Tesla installers)
Rescue Operators	4	Pilot jetskis/boats; perform extractions; safety protocols	Swift-water rescue experts; boating endorsements
Cultural/Community Liaisons	2	Engage Maroon elders; facilitate distributions; monitor psychosocial needs	Jamaican/Maroon heritage experts
Support Staff	3 (comms, admin, driver)	Handle reporting, procurement, transport	Bilingual (English/Patois); logistics experience
Maroon Herbalists	5	Help coordinate medicinal plant treatment issues in Accompong Maroon community	Local experts in medicinal plants of Jamaica

Total staff duration: 14 days, with rotations for fatigue management.

Operational Timeline

- Days 1-2 (Nov 2-3, 2025): Mobilize from Miami; ship containers (airlift urgent meds via DART flights).
- Days 3-5: Arrive Kingston; ground transport to Accompong Maroon community (helicopter for remote drops).
- Days 6-10: Deploy supplies; install systems; conduct rescues/debris clearance; train locals.
- Days 11-13: Monitor impact; handover to Accompong Maroon Colonel and Council.
- Day 14: Debrief, return; submit impact report.

Budget Breakdown

Total: About \$560,000 (contingency: +10% for fuel/fluctuations=\$616,000 USD). Costs based on estimated current market rates.

Category	Estimated Cost	Notes
Equipment/Supplies Procurement	\$340,000	Includes all listed items; discounts via partners (e.g., Tesla donations)
Shipping & Logistics	\$50,000	2x 40-ft containers (\$20,000); airlifts (\$20,000); local transport (\$10,000)
Staffing	\$125,000	Per diems, travel, insurance (\$5,000/person avg.)
Operations/Training	\$20,000	Fuel, meals, local hires, training materials
Contingency/Misc.	\$25,000	Weather delays, customs fees, equipment maintenance

Funding strategy: 50% grants, 30% corporate (Tesla/SolarAid), 20% crowdfunding and donors.

Risks and Mitigation

- Logistical Delays: Partner with Jamaican Security escorts if necessary; use RORO SHIPPING for vehicles.
- Cultural Sensitivities: Include Maroon liaisons; obtain Maroon Colonel approval pre-mission.
- Security/Health: PPE protocols; Hurricane health screenings.
- Sustainability: All equipment includes 1-year maintenance kits; virtual follow-up support.

Conclusion

This mission represents a vital lifeline for the resilient Accompong Maroon community, honoring their heritage while delivering modern solutions that are needed urgently, and can be used again in the future. By acting swiftly, we can mitigate Hurricane Melissa's long-term impacts, empower locals, and model integrated relief. We seek immediate approval and partnerships to launch on November 2, 2025.

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Surfing Medicine International, 501(c)(3)

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