

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**For more information contact:**

Erin Hannan, Interim Director of Communications  
719-577-7062 or ehannan@elpomar.org

**El Pomar Assists Local Red Cross Chapters with Response to Hurricane Laura**

**Colorado Springs, Colo. – Sept. 1, 2020** — El Pomar Foundation has announced that it has granted a combined \$10,000 to support the American Red Cross chapters of Southeastern Colorado, Northern Colorado and the Mile High Area in their deployment of nearly 30 local volunteers to support relief and recovery efforts in communities recently impacted by Hurricane Laura.

The cost associated with sending Red Cross volunteers to a disaster location is nearly \$1,800 per person, and these grants will help offset that expense as volunteers are sent to operational centers in Lake Charles, Louisiana and Orange County, Texas. The Colorado volunteers will serve a number of roles, including as Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) drivers to deliver supplies to residents affected by Hurricane Laura, and further support the sheltering of 20,000 people in Texas and Louisiana.

The hurricane's impact, compounded by the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, has created unprecedented disaster call volume, as well as power outages and a lack of safe water systems for hundreds of thousands of people.

El Pomar has supported Red Cross agencies in Colorado during previous natural disasters, including relief efforts for Hurricane Dorian in 2019, Michael and Florence in 2018 and Harvey in 2017.

Donations to American Red Cross for Hurricane Laura relief and recovery efforts can be made at <https://www.redcross.org/donate/hurricane-laura-donations.html/>.

*El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$22 million annually through grants and Community Stewardship programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937. To learn more about El Pomar Foundation please go to [www.elpomar.org](http://www.elpomar.org).*

###