

Dear AGTA Member,

As you all know, the state of Texas was hit very hard by Hurricane Harvey a couple of weeks ago and the recovery process is just beginning. This event was horrific - causing massive flooding in Houston and the surrounding areas, and making the cities of Port Arthur, Rockport and Port Aransas virtually uninhabitable. Thousands of people are homeless and living in shelters until they can either relocate or go back to their damaged homes. The city of Dallas, where the AGTA office is located, is currently housing several thousand evacuees; the focus has been meeting their basic needs of shelter, clothing and food first. Now the need is turning towards more long-term issues such as housing, job placement, school, daycare, etc.

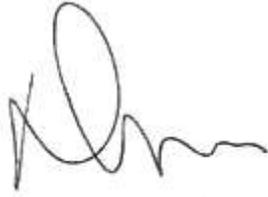
The AGTA has a long history of helping those in need in our community, from Tanzania to Sri Lanka to Myanmar and the United States. We are asking the AGTA family to come together again to help raise funds for those in our hometown of Dallas, Texas. The AGTA Board of Directors has decided to match up to \$5,000 in funds from AGTA Members. If each AGTA Member were to donate whatever they can afford to this fund, we could raise a significant amount of money to benefit these evacuees.

The fund that the AGTA has chosen for this donation is The **Mayor's Disaster Relief Fund**. It will provide relief grants to individuals/families for basic housing assistance & necessities for evacuees to Dallas from areas affected by Hurricane Harvey.

To make your donation, please contact Kami Swinney at [kami@agta.org](mailto:kami@agta.org) or 800-972-1162.

We thank you in advance for your philanthropy and your support as AGTA strives to help our community during this devastating time.

Best wishes -



Douglas K. Hucker  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Gem Trade Association



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