



**THE MONARCH SCHOOL  
AND INSTITUTE**

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September 3, 2017

Dear Monarch Families, Faculty, Donors and Friends:

Over the last week, The Monarch School and Institute Board of Trustees' thoughts have been with those who have been, and continue to be, impacted by Harvey's catastrophic reach across the coastal communities of Texas and Louisiana.

We are pleased to share that The Monarch School and Institute campus and the residential housing for our adult learners were spared from any significant damage, however, our bigger concern has constantly been with the lives and well-being of the students and families that Monarch serves, and the faculty who work tirelessly to meet the therapeutic and educational needs of our learners. Regrettably, we have learned that **Harvey has impacted both of these groups** with flood waters damaging homes and destroying vehicles and, ultimately, displacing people. While all faculty have provided status reports, there are some families that we've not been successful contacting; we anxiously await positive news from them in the coming days.

As the long-term impact continues to unfold in the Monarch community, we are focused on providing support to those families and faculty directly affected. To assist in that effort, we have established **The Monarch School Harvey Relief Fund**. Funds raised will be allocated by an independent committee to help those individuals in the Monarch community with the greatest unmet needs. We encourage those of you who would like to help, and are able to make a financial contribution to the Relief Fund, to do so by visiting [www.monarchschool.org](http://www.monarchschool.org) and clicking on the *Give Today* button. When making your online contributions, please indicate that it is for the Monarch School Harvey Relief Fund. Alternatively, you may mail a check, noting Monarch School Harvey Relief Fund in the memo section, to Advancement Director, 2815 Rosefield Drive, Houston, Texas 77080. Your tax-deductible contributions will be such a tremendous help on the road to recovery for Monarch's impacted families and faculty.

Along with the heroic efforts of our City officials, first responders, and the countless volunteers that went into action for Harvey, we would like to salute Ms. Patti Pace, Head of School and Institute, Dr. Shawn Hirsch, Senior Program Director, and the entire Monarch leadership team, for keeping actively engaged as Harvey unfolded. In the aftermath, the team (some dealing with their own personal Harvey losses) has selflessly worked together to keep communications flowing, supporting each other and families in need, and preparing thoughtful ways to assist the learners navigate and process the Harvey experiences they endured. Patti, Shawn and the entire team now look forward to Tuesday, September 5, 2017 when the learners return to school and the faculty can get back to doing what they love to do...*shaping lives*\*!

Thank you for your ongoing support of The Monarch School and Institute.

Respectfully,

David G. Matthiesen  
Chairman, Monarch School and Institute Board of Trustees

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*\*The 2017-2018 school year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Monarch School and Institute shaping lives by providing an innovative, therapeutic education for individuals with neurological differences.*