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Ministry of Natural Resources

Belizeans in L.A. donate to Hurricane Relief

Belmopan - 02 November, 2000.
Belizeans of the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts made needy by the effects of last month's Hurricane Keith will benefit from the generosity of compatriots in the U.S.

Four members of the Belize Friendship Association (BFA) of Los Angeles, California, recently arrived in Belize with a quantity of medical supplies and foodstuffs valued at about US\$7,500.00 (BZ\$15,000.00) destined for distribution the northern districts.

Gilbert Marin, BFA vice-chairman, handed over a quantity of medical supplies to the Hon. Johnny Brice♦o, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources, the Environment and Industry, in Belmopan on Monday, October 30. Mr. Marin was accompanied by George Greenwood, BFA treasurer and Angel Torres, BFA coordinator, and his wife Inez.

"We are glad we can be of help at this time of our country's travail." said Mr. Marin to Minister Brice♦o. "We realize your need is far greater than we could ever supply, but what we bring you comes from our hearts."

Hon. Brice♦o thanked the BFA representatives, saying: "It is always a pleasure to know that Belizeans abroad, and especially the Belize Friendship Association, keep up with what's going on in the land of their birth and reach out with a helping hand when needed. These supplies are welcome and will contribute to alleviating some of the pain and suffering caused by the hurricane."

Mr. Greenwood, for his part, said the association hopes its gesture will inspire other Belizeans abroad to do their part in helping the country. His sentiments were echoed by Angel Torres and his wife.

The BFA has about 40 members and has donated toys, children's clothing and other supplies for municipal Christmas parties and Mother's day celebrations in Orange Walk Town for a number of years.