GE’s Disaster and Humanitarian Relief program responds to major global disasters and humanitarian crises, drawing on GE’s people, technology and other resources to reduce suffering and hasten recovery. In 2019, financial grant contribution in this area totaled $250,000. Additionally, the GE Foundation’s Matching Gifts program enabled employees to contribute to crisis relief efforts in their local communities, doubling their impact by matching their donations 1-to-1.

Our grant commitment in 2019 enabled Americares to respond to the devastating effects of Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. Americares met urgent health needs and addressed the needs of displaced people. Americares mobilized shipments of critical medicines to treat acute injuries and protect the health of patients with chronic health conditions such as diabetes, hypertension or cardiovascular disease. As well, Americares deployed Emergency MedicalTeams to provide direct primary care services to people in emergency shelters, including the Kendall Isaacs Gymnasium shelter, the largest emergency shelter on the islands. As of January, Americares had provided over 3,000 patient consultations. To address the acute mental health needs following the hurricane, Americares has also provided over 2,000 mental health consultations and has trained local health providers in Psychological First Aid. Americares also worked with local health providers to keep their doors open, continue providing uninterrupted services, and conduct rapid repairs to damaged health facilities where needed.

GE continues to collaborate with private-sector partners, government agencies and relevant NGOs to help prepare for future disasters and to work on the initiatives within the Global Health Security Agenda.

GE remains committed to preparing for and responding to future natural disasters and humanitarian crises, diligently maximizing the impact of our financial, technological and human resources.