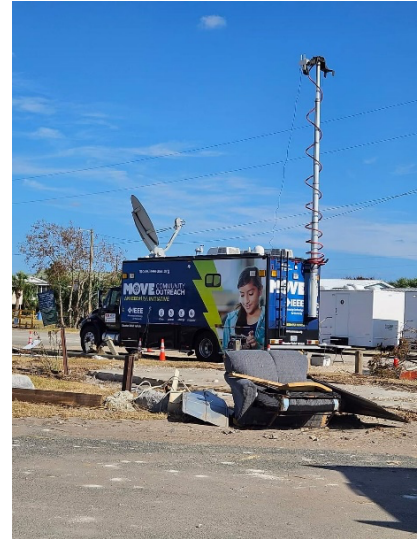


IEEE MOVE Volunteers Serve Up Disaster Relief for Hurricane Idalia

By Grayson Randall

The IEEE MOVE team was called by the American Red Cross to support efforts associated with Hurricane Idalia, that hit northern Florida at the end of August 2023. IEEE MOVE Volunteers Grayson Randall and Tim Forest arrived in Florida on September 30, 2023. They were assigned to Horseshoe Beach, where the town was hit with 16 feet of storm surge with 4 to 5 feet of chop on top. The team along with MOVE2 provided power and communications support to Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and residents of Horseshoe Beach Florida.



MOVE-2 providing assistance to Horseshoe Beach, FL



Damage caused by Hurricane Idalia

The team distributed power banks, supplied internet for FEMA assistance registration, supported the Red Cross, and provided many community residents with internet. The people there were so thankful for the assistance and were very kind to the MOVE volunteers. Many lost their homes and yet were smiling, working together to recover, and doing things for the volunteers. They brought so much food it was hard to eat it all. The town is turning on power where homes have been inspected to be safe. But many are waiting for issues to be resolved and are still homeless today. This is a beautiful rural town and it will be beautiful again soon.



MOVE-2 providing lighting for showers and restroom facilities for residents

IEEE SMC volunteer and past IEEE SMC Vice-President of Membership and Student Activities, Dr. Karen Panetta worked with the MOVE team through an NSF funded RAPID program to develop imaging technologies to help responders and the MOVE team to better see through adverse weather conditions and help identify victims or hazards in disaster affected areas of operation. IEEE SMC is a sponsor of the MOVE program and has been instrumental in engaging SMC volunteers and students in activities and outreach initiatives.

We are thankful to SMC for your support!

IEEE MOVE operates with the support of donors like you. It takes donor dollars to deploy the truck and crew to people in need. Please consider a donation to IEEE-USA Community Outreach – MOVE. You can donate here: move.ieeeusa.org / move.ieee.org