

Home-owner, The Cayman Islands

"I spent the whole hurricane mopping up the floor, where water was seeping into my living room, and wringing out the towels. The exhaust fan in the ceiling was whirling around so fast the bearings broke. My uncle climbed into the attic and had to tie it down so that it wouldn't gain lift and take the roof with it.

I have volunteered to help the Red Cross and have seen the people most seriously affected by the hurricane. The devastation is terrible. I have been preparing and dropping off food packages and also registering people who have lost their homes in the very remote areas. But I'm amazed how people try and keep up - women especially - sitting there cleaning their clothes.

The Cayman Islands has lots of poor people - people who had little and now have nothing. We islanders pride ourselves on hospitality and helping each other. One of my friends now has 12 people living in his house, four of whom he doesn't even know."