

# Public Advisory Re: Special Registration Window for New Charities

## *Hurricane Melissa Response*

In response to the impact of Hurricane Melissa on Jamaica, the Department of Co-operatives and Friendly Societies, Charities Authority (DCFS) is facilitating the Special Registration of Registered Charitable Organizations (RCO) to aid in national relief and recovery efforts.

### Key Features of the Special Registration window:

✓ **Fast-Track Processing:**

Applications will be processed within ten (10) working days.

✓ **Temporary Registration Period:**

Certificates will be issued for the period November 17, 2025 to May 31, 2026.

✓ **Type of Registered Charitable Organizations:**

Only Unincorporated groups will be registered.

✓ **Automatic Closure:**

All Specially Registered Charitable Organizations will be automatically wound up at May 31, 2026 the end of the six-month period.

✓ **Streamlined Process:**

Administrative and Operations Management Policies and Procedures will be temporarily waived for this period.

✓ **No Renewals Required:**

Charitable status is valid for the six-month relief period only and will not be renewed.

✓ **Closure of Accounts**

All accounts with the DCFS and Tax Administration of Jamaica must be closed at the end of the period.

✓ **No Registration Fee**

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**Entities must be seeking registration for the following Charitable purposes:**

The prevention or relief of poverty.

- ✓ The advancement of good citizenship or community development.
- ✓ The advancement of environmental protection or improvement.
- ✓ The relief of those in need because of temporary disadvantages such as the effect of public disorder or public emergency.
- ✓

**Join the effort. Support Jamaica's recovery.**

For details and application forms, visit <https://dcfs.gov.jm/> or contact the Charities Authority at [info@dcfs.gov.jm](mailto:info@dcfs.gov.jm)

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