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Gov. Christie: We're Here To Help And Provide Resources That Governor Abbott Needs

Thursday, August 31, 2017

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Gov. Christie: We're Here To Help And Provide Resources That G...

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Transcript:

Governor Christie: I think the kind of things that I've shared with the Governor of Texas are how you deal with a massive situation and try to break it down into digestible and achievable goals. And when you first sit down, I remember sitting down on the morning of October 30th, at the emergency operations center and getting the briefing from all the different cabinet officers about everything that had happened in the last 36 hours. And trying to imagine how are you going to deal with all of this, thousands of schools closed, you know, most of our major roadways impassable. You know, so part of what I said to him was, listen, I think what people need to have is the confidence that: A. you haven't forgotten them, so you need to be seen a lot, not just on TV but on the ground, in the neighborhoods, and in the places where people are coming back to and having to deal with the very emotional moment of watching their home either destroyed or badly damaged and their belongings destroyed. And that's an emotional time and they need to see the Governor there to be assured that they haven't been forgotten. Secondly, what they want is a return to some semblance of normalcy, and the way we viewed that was four steps: first was getting their power back on, second was getting the roadways to be passible, third was making sure that gasoline was available both for generators and for automobiles so people could travel, and fourth was getting schools reopened and kids back in school. If you can achieve those four things within a relatively short period of time people get a sense that normalcy can return and I think that's the hope you need to give to people. I'm here to help when he needs it, we're here to provide resources that he needs. I'm in one of the unique positions of knowing how overwhelming this can be and so, you know, all I've continued to assure him is make one decision at a time. That's all you can do. Don't try to make every decision all at once, you can't. Make one decision at a time and then move on to the next one and we'll be there to help him in any way we can both with advice and more importantly with resources for the folks in Texas and whatever they need.

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