

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM

At the heart of community. Giving to the future.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**\$225,000 in grants support unmet tornado recovery needs in Birmingham and across state**

When FEMA and family dollars were not enough, the Emergency Response Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham helped to pay for construction materials so that volunteers from Mennonite Disaster Service could rebuild two modest homes and repair a third for three Birmingham area women.

Across Alabama, community leaders are volunteering time, above and beyond their everyday jobs, to identify needs and get people back in their homes. Grants from the Alabama Tornado Recovery Fund of the Community Foundation have supported such efforts in 18 counties so far, particularly with grants for case managers to assist individuals and families.

These examples show the effects of a **total \$225,000** in grants awarded as of August 31, 2011, from these two tornado recovery funds. Subtotals include:

\$42,735 from the **Emergency Response Fund**, dedicated to the long term unmet needs of tornado survivors living in Jefferson, Blount, Walker and St. Clair counties.

\$183,221 from the **Alabama Tornado Recovery Fund**, including:

- \$74,520 to West Alabama LTRC (serving Tuscaloosa, Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Marengo, Pickens and Sumter counties) via Community Foundation of West Alabama
- \$46,391 to Northwest Alabama LTRC (serving Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale & Marion counties) via United Way of Northwest Alabama
- \$18,840 to Cullman LTRC via United Way of Cullman
- \$16,317 to Calhoun LTRC via United Way of East Alabama
- \$14,603 to Limestone LTRC via United Way of Athens/Limestone County
- \$11,426 to Marshall LTRC via United Way of Marshall County
- \$1,124 to Etowah LTRC via United Way of Etowah County

These grants are part of a **strategic approach** to tornado recovery that includes working with other funders and partners locally and statewide and supporting **individual and family recovery** through LTRCs. The Community Foundation also is working with donors who are using Advised Funds to support long-term tornado recovery locally and statewide.

About the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham:

The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham is the oldest and largest community foundation in Alabama, dedicated to driving positive change through grants, leveraging donor giving to meet community needs and working with other organizations to collaborate and bring resources together. The Community Foundation has experience in distributing donations in previous disasters, including tornadoes in 1998 and 2002 and following the evacuation of survivors of Hurricane Katrina survivors to the Birmingham area in 2005. **For more information**, contact Emily Jones Rushing at 205-327-3806 or 873-0942 or erushing@foundationbirmingham.org or go to www.foundationbirmingham.org.