

NEWS

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Contact: Misti Pequignot, Weakley County Long Term Recovery Group Program Coordinator

WEAKLEY COUNTY LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP UPDATE

DRESDEN, Tenn. – Martin Business Association has announced the first-round recipients of the MBA Tornado Relief Grant funding opportunity for business owners in the Dresden, TN area who were impacted by the December 10, 2021, tornado. First-round recipients include Chopping Block Ranch, Delta Imaging, and The Flower Box.

Martin Business Association has opened the second-round of the MBA Tornado Relief grant funding opportunity for business owners in the Dresden, TN area. The MBA Tornado Relief Grants will award selected applicants up to \$3,000.00 to aid in the loss of revenue and repair of physical property losses not fully covered by insurance or other sources. The MBA Tornado Relief Grant application can be completed and submitted at <https://form.jotform.com/231346203945150>. For more information or assistance in applying for Martin Business Association Tornado Relief Grants, please contact WCLTRG Program Coordinator, Misti Pequignot, at (731) 699-7913 or weakleypc@unitedway.tn.org.

USDA Rural Disaster Home Repair Grants have been made available to Weakley County residents. A number of Weakley County homeowners affected by the December 10, 2021, tornado are now eligible to receive up to \$40,675 for home repairs in USDA grant funding through supplemental disaster funding under the Rural Disaster Home Repair Grant Program. Applications are available year-round as long as funding is available and are processed in the order they are received.

Funds may be used to pay for home repair expenses that were a result of a Presidentially declared disasters in calendar year 2022, prepare a site for a manufactured home, or relocate a manufactured home. To be eligible, applicants must have household incomes that do not exceed the low-limits based on their household size and county. Weakley County’s maximum income for 1–4 person household is \$50,500, 5–8 person household is \$66,650. Pre-Screening documents and more information regarding the USDA Single Family Rural Disaster Home Repair Grant are available at the Weakley County Long Term Recovery Group website www.rebuildweakley.com.

As of June 22, 2023, WCLTRG Allocations Committee has facilitated the payment of \$329,644.89 to meet the needs of survivors in case management since its inception. Funding has been provided by Dresden Church of Christ, Dresden First Baptist Church, Dresden Rotary Club, Greenfield Church of Christ, Lebanon Church of Christ, Lutheran Disaster Relief, Weakley County Baptist Association, and the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. These organizations provided an additional \$200,920.00 in assistance to survivors prior to the creation of the WCLTRG in addition to food, toiletries, appliances, and clothing.

Auto	\$11,077.65
Construction	\$71,455.89
Furniture/Appliances	\$69,102.95
Home Repairs	\$114,429.53
Household	\$900.63
Housing	\$18,645.00
Services	\$24,853.87
Storage	\$900.00
Supplies	\$16,714.23
Personal Care	\$1,565.14
Total distributed through WCLTRG as of June 22, 2023	\$329,644.89
Total distributed by funders prior to WCLTRG formation	\$200,920.00
Total distributed to survivors by the funders	\$530,564.89

The following case management update was provided by UMCOR on June 6, 2023:

Open Cases	37
Closed Cases	114
Awaiting Assignment to Case Manager	0
Repair and Rebuild projects in progress	9

The Recovery Center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to support survivors locally. The center is currently staffed by the Program Coordinator and two case managers. Walk-ins are welcome or you can contact the center by calling (731) 699-7913. Please visit www.rebuildweakley.com and <https://www.facebook.com/WCLTRG> for more information regarding disaster recovery in Weakley County.