

# NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 30, 2023

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

## **WEAKLEY COUNTY LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP UPDATE**

DRESDEN, Tenn. – In honor of National Disaster Preparedness Month in September, Weakley County Long Term Recovery Group is partnering with Weakley County Emergency Management Agency and Northwest Tennessee Development District to host the Weakley County Community Disaster Preparedness Event. This family-friendly event will help Weakley County residents prepare for future disasters. The Weakley County Community Disaster Preparedness Event will take place September 9, 2023, at the Martin Recreational Complex in Martin, TN, from 10am – 12pm and will include representatives from disaster recovery organizations, local emergency services departments and Touch-A-Truck with their emergency vehicles, free weather radio distribution and programming, free face painting and inflatables for the kids sponsored by A2H Design, and much more. A rain date for this event has been scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Updated event information can be found on the Facebook event page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/740289417898397>.

Individuals, businesses, and organizations are invited to become vendors or volunteer at the Weakley County Community Disaster Preparedness Event. Please contact WCLTRG Program Coordinator, Misti Pequignot at [weakleypc@untedway.tn.org](mailto:weakleypc@untedway.tn.org) for details.

Martin Business Association has announced the second-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. Second-round recipients include Westcoast

Firearms LLC, Urban Designs, ClaireBrooke Consignment & Boutique, and Court Square Deli. First-round recipients included Chopping Box Ranch, Delta Imaging, and The Flower Box. A total of \$20,000.00 was awarded through the MBA Tornado Relief Grant Program.

As of August 30, 2023, the WCLTRG Allocations Committee has facilitated the payment of \$350,321.95 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, Tennessee-Western Kentucky United Methodists Conference, 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	\$15,981.29
Construction	\$71,455.89
Furniture/Appliances	\$70,805.95
Home Repairs	\$123,447.75
Household	\$900.63
Housing	\$21,545.00
Services	\$26,691.37
Storage	\$900.00
Supplies	\$16,714.23
Personal Care	\$1,879.84
<b>Total distributed through WCLTRG as of August 30, 2023</b>	<b>\$350,321.95</b>
<b>Total distributed by funders prior to WCLTRG formation</b>	<b>\$200,920.00</b>
<b>Total distributed to survivors by the funders</b>	<b>\$551,241.95</b>

The following case management update was provided by UMCOR on August 30, 2023:

Open Cases	29
Closed Cases	125

Awaiting Assignment to Case Manager	3
Repair and Rebuild projects in progress	20
Repair and Rebuild projects completed	7

If you are a survivor with unmet needs or your needs have changed, please contact the Disaster Recovery Connection at (615) 270-9255 or the Tornado Recovery Center at (731) 699-7913.

The Tornado 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](http://www.rebuildweakley.com) and <https://www.facebook.com/WCLTRG> for more information regarding disaster recovery in Weakley County.