

# NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 9, 2023

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

DRESDEN, Tenn. – The American Red Cross grant which has been used for administrative costs on behalf of WCLTRG activities since September of 2022 expired on October 31, 2023. Since this funding has come to an end, WCLTRG program coordinator Misti Pequignot has closed her time as a contracted United Way employee working on behalf of the WCLTRG. The WCLTRG board members express their appreciation for her services and wish her the best in future endeavors.

WCLTRG partnered with the Cascade Relief Team, the Community Foundation of Western Kentucky, and the American Red Cross to provide applications for tornado shelters to individuals residing in FEMA-recognized counties eligible for individual assistance from the December 2021 tornados. Cascade Relief Team has approved seven applications for tornado shelter installations in Weakley County to date. Beneficiaries of this initiative will have in-ground shelter or safe room options.

As of November 9, 2023, the WCLTRG Allocations Committee has facilitated the payment of \$371,878 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 in immediate financial assistance to survivors prior to the creation of the WCLTRG in addition to distributing food, toiletries, appliances, and clothing.

Auto	\$15,981.29
Construction	\$76,432.89
Furniture/Appliances	\$85,333.95
Home Repairs	\$123,447.75
Household	\$1,103.55
Housing	\$21,545.00
Personal Care	\$1,879.84
Services	\$28,539.51
Storage	\$900.00
Supplies	\$16,714.23
<b>Total distributed through WCLTRG</b>	<b>\$371,878</b>
<b>Total distributed by funders prior to WCLTRG formation</b>	<b>\$200,920</b>
<b>Total distributed to survivors by the funders</b>	<b>\$572,798</b>

Case management for Weakley County long-term recovery is provided by the Tennessee-Western Kentucky United Methodist Church (TWKUMC) Disaster Recovery - UMCOR partner. Visit <https://twkumc.org/disaster-recovery/> to learn more about this organization which serves December 2021 tornado survivors in Lake, Gibson, Obion, and Weakley counties in Tennessee as well as Graves and Hickman counties in Kentucky. The following case management update was provided by TWKUMC on November 9, 2023:

Open Cases	28
Closed Cases	127
Awaiting Assignment to Case Manager	0
Construction projects in progress	12
Construction projects completed	11

If you are a survivor with unmet needs, please contact the Disaster Recovery Connection at (615) 270-9255. The Tornado Recovery Center is now open by appointment only. Please visit [www.rebuildweakley.com](http://www.rebuildweakley.com) and <https://www.facebook.com/WCLTRG> for more information regarding disaster recovery in Weakley County.