Bayou Recovery Fund for Hurricane Ida Relief – Update to Donors

January 28, 2022

Your Gifts Have Delivered $3.7 Million in Relief and Recovery Services for Lafourche, Terrebonne and Grand Isle Residents to Date – Thank you!

With contributions from donors like you around the country, the Bayou Community Foundation (BCF) has invested over $3.7 million to fund relief and recovery efforts for residents of Lafourche Parish, Terrebonne Parish and Grand Isle since Category 4 Hurricane Ida made landfall here on August 29.

In the past five months, the Foundation’s Bayou Recovery Fund for Hurricane Ida Relief has awarded 84 grants to local nonprofit organizations, providing $3,736,018 in funding for food and essential supplies, gasoline for generators, medical services, assistance for first responders, classroom equipment and student supplies, temporary housing, and mattresses and bedding for residents who lost it all. The Foundation continues to accept donations to and make grants from the Bayou Recovery Fund to address our community’s critical long-term recovery needs.

Hurricane Ida Relief and Recovery Grants

$3,736,018 Awarded to Fund Nonprofit Programs

September 5, 2021 - January 20, 2022

Out of the $3.7 million in grants awarded to date:

- $1.4 million supports emergency relief services such as distribution of gasoline, hot meals, nonperishable food, water, and cleaning and hygiene supplies immediately following the storm;
- $1.4 million funds housing programs, including temporary housing assistance, campers, home repairs and rebuilding;
- $700,000 provides financial assistance to individuals, families and emergency responders; and supports community recovery projects; and
- $230,000 helps local nonprofit organizations make building repairs or replace lost equipment so they can resume operations and deliver critical programs to local residents.

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CRITICAL NEED - HOUSING

As we journey on this road to recovery, housing is our greatest need. With the generous support of our donors, BCF is doing all we can to get our neediest residents back into homes so they can rebuild their lives and we can rebuild our community.

- With an estimated 12,000 homes in the area severely damaged and thousands of families living in tents and cars following Hurricane Ida, the Foundation provided a $500,000 grant to support distribution of campers to residents in need in southern Terrebonne and Lafourche, a project of the Terrebonne Economic Development Authority and local business organizations. To date, 36 families have a safe and secure temporary home as part of the program.

- BCF has also funded a $250,000 grant to Lafourche Parish nonprofit Bless Your Heart to provide campers to up to 25 families currently living in severely damaged homes, churches and tents in South Lafourche.

- Grants of over $275,000 have been awarded to distribute building supplies to help needy homeowners and volunteer groups repair homes in the hardest hit communities, including the coastal bayou community of Dulac and East Houma in Terrebonne. With just over $100,000 spent to date, over 150 families have been able to return home because of this help.

- On Grand Isle, a $40,000 grant from BCF is helping the Grand Isle Garden Club distribute bed, bath and kitchen necessities to Grand Isle residents moving into temporary trailers on the island. The Garden Club has delivered supplies to 65 families to date and will continue to fill the need as people begin to move back to the island to rebuild.

The Bayou Recovery Fund for Hurricane Ida Relief will continue to support our community and local residents for many months to come, to see us through recovery and rebuilding.

Thank you for your generous contribution and investment in our precious Bayou community’s emergency relief and long-term recovery that has brought hope and help to over 200,000 residents of Lafourche, Terrebonne and Grand Isle.