



### **What is the Tampa Bay Disaster Relief Fund?**

In 2008, the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay established the relief fund to be prepared for a hurricane or other disaster. In 2017, while preparing for Hurricane Irma, several other large regional funders came together with the Community Foundation to create a unique partnership. All funders agreed to collect donations and provide assistance for recovery and rebuilding through a collaborative response initiative. Tax-deductible donations to this fund can be accepted online through any of the partner websites and can be designated for specific areas or for general long-term relief efforts. Grant-making activities from the pooled funds will be conducted through a collaborative and coordinated process.

### **Who are the funding Partners?**

Community Foundation of Tampa Bay  
Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg  
Pinellas Community Foundation  
United Way of Citrus County  
United Way of Hernando County  
United Way of Pasco County  
United Way Suncoast

### **How does the Fund define relief efforts?**

The initial focus of this fund is designed to address immediate unmet needs such as basic health and safety needs that require immediate financial assistance. Future grants will support intermediate and long-term unmet needs including shelter and housing needs, food and supplies, healthcare, transportation, child care, facility needs of social service agencies, and other purposes approved by the advisory committee and consistent with the Fund's charitable purposes.

### **What types of organizations can receive funding?**

Only, private, nonprofit entities recognized by the IRS as tax-exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) and to which contributions are tax deductible pursuant to 26 170(c)(2) can apply to the receive funding. Each applicant's 501(c)(3) status will be verified with the IRS. Government, quasi-government agencies and faith based organizations may also apply.

### **What types of organizations are ineligible?**

Relief efforts carried out by for-profit businesses are not eligible. Also, efforts not for relief, recovery or rebuilding needs of survivors, their family members, rescue personnel and relief workers directly impacted by a disaster would not be eligible.

### **How will applicants be evaluated?**

Eligible organizations will [submit grant applications](#) to include plans for use of funds to provide clients with direct assistance to meet their disaster-caused immediate, intermediate and long-term needs. Applications will be evaluated by a committee comprised of representatives from each funding partner, all advised by representatives from emergency relief serving organizations with experience in this area.

### **How can someone make a donation to the fund?**

Donations can be made by visiting the websites of any of the partner organizations or by mailing a check made out to any of the partner organizations.

### **What happens if not all the money is dispersed?**

Unused funds will remain in Tampa Bay Disaster Relief Fund to support needs related to community disasters in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact Matt Spence at [mspence@cftampabay.org](mailto:mspence@cftampabay.org).

Applications are available at [CFTampabay.org/Irma](http://CFTampabay.org/Irma).