



State of Florida Donation Portal *Southwest Florida Tornadoes*

Overview

During a series of severe storms early in the morning of January 16, 2022, a confirmed EF-1 tornado touched down in Charlotte County. Soon after, a confirmed EF-2 tornado touched down in Lee County.

On January 24, the State requested all programs under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's [Individual Assistance program](#). This includes the Individuals and Households program, Disaster Case Management, Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training program, Disaster Legal Services and Disaster Unemployment Assistance. The request is available [here](#). This request for assistance was denied by the Federal Government on February 15, leaving many disaster survivors without assistance to begin the recovery process.

To meet the needs of disaster survivors, the State of Florida has partnered with the Charlotte Community Foundation to launch a donation portal to provide immediate relief in the form of direct financial assistance for disaster survivors impacted by these tornadoes. All donations to this 501(c)3 are tax deductible.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management is coordinating with Charlotte and Lee counties to connect survivors directly with the portal.

How to Offer Assistance

The donation portal is available at FloridaDisaster.org/Assistance. This page provides donors with information on how to donate and how to register to become a donor.

Individuals who are interested in donating will be asked to fill out a form that will assist the State in verifying donations.

How to Request Assistance

Disaster survivors can also request assistance at FloridaDisaster.org/Assistance. This page provides disaster survivors with information on how to register an account through the portal and how to request assistance.

At this time, donations will be prioritized for survivors whose homes were assessed as being destroyed or sustaining major damage, per FEMA criteria through previous Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments.

If you are a survivor whose home was determined to be destroyed or sustaining major damage, you can call **833-930-3707** to be connected with the donation portal. The donation portal call center is available to survivors seven days a week from **8 a.m. – 8 p.m.**