

Flood 2008 Response Funding and Resources

Various agencies and foundations have begun to provide funds and other resources for nonprofits facing flood damage in Iowa.

The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation opened the Flood 2008 Fund on June 15. The Flood 2008 Fund is for flood relief and recovery donations. One-hundred percent of financial donations made to the Flood 2008 Fund will help nonprofit organizations provide basic assistance to individuals and families as they reestablish stable living after the June 2008 flood. Financial donations can be made by individuals or businesses online at www.gcrf.org. Similar funds for the flood were created at the Community Foundation of Johnson County, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation

Iowa Council of Foundations has put together a very helpful list of flood relief funds, available at <http://www.iowacounciloffoundations.org/disasters/iowa-response.htm>

The University of Iowa created a Flood Relief Fund which you can read about online at <http://www.givetoiowa.org/floodfund>. Its priority is to assist UI students and employees who have been displaced from their homes by the flooding. After addressing these most immediate human concerns, it will use contributions to the fund at President Sally Mason's discretion to address other areas of flood-related need throughout the campus.

Governor Culver created an AmeriCorps member deployment dedicated solely to disaster recovery. The first 230 members will be deployed in the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City area with the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) Corridor Flood Recovery. AmeriCorps offers an opportunity to get involved and help others with flood relief, while earning a monthly living allowance and an educational benefit. Members will receive a living allowance and will be granted an educational award for college tuition or loans ranging from \$1,000-\$4,725 based on length of service. Preference will be given to applicants who are able to start by June 30. The eight to ten week commitment must be completed by September 12. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit www.volunteeriova.org/flood.html. For more information on the project, go to www.vistacorridorrecovery.org.