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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **AUSTIN DISASTER RELIEF NETWORK EXTENDS DEPLOYMENT TO LOUISIANA WILL RUN OUT OF FUNDS TODAY – ADDITIONAL DONATIONS AND SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Austin, TX – Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN), a network of more than 170 greater Austin churches, has provided clean up and spiritual and emotional care with a team of nearly 70 volunteers since last Friday in Denham Springs, Louisiana, a town just east of Baton Rouge where 87% of homes sustained flood damage. Today, we will distribute the last of the \$40,000 raised to date for this disaster, and volunteer efforts will continue until next Thursday, September 1.

ADRN has also distributed more than 32 pallets of clothing, food, toiletries, air mattresses, box fans and clean-up supplies to survivors, including donated supplies from Austinites. In addition, ADRN has collaborated with Denham Springs city and community leaders to establish the Denham Springs Long-Term Recovery Committee, establishing the infrastructure for the City to raise funds and organize city-wide rebuilding efforts.

"The flooding in Southeast Louisiana is among the worst disasters in American history," said Daniel Geraci, Executive Director of the Austin Disaster Relief Network. "The Austin Disaster Relief Network has focused our efforts in Denham Springs, where more than 87% of homes were flooded, and nearly 80% did not have flood insurance. The businesses are closed, so people have no jobs to earn income. School is closed for the fall semester, so those with jobs have limited childcare. Through it all, the people in Denham Springs remain resilient and positive, committed to rebuilding. They are hard-working people, yet the devastation is beyond their capacity to handle with their existing resources. I encourage the Austin community to support this community as they overcome this devastation and rebuild."

### **Interview opportunities and b-roll available**

### **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**

By the end of Wednesday, ADRN will distribute the \$40,000 raised for this disaster. This will cover only 1/3 of impacted homes. ADRN estimates the need for an additional \$100,000 in donations, to be distributed to survivors in the form of gift cards for basic needs. Due to the sheer volume of impacted homes, FEMA checks will likely take several weeks to reach survivors.

ADRN invites members of the Austin community to contribute:

- **Online:** ADRNTX.org
- **Text:** AUSTINRELIEF to 444999
- **Mail:** Post Office Box 3817, Cedar Park, Texas 78630, ATTN: Great LA Flood 2016 Fund

### **ITEMS FOR SURVIVORS:**

#### **Drop Off Details:**

- **DATES:** Today – Saturday, August 26
- **TIME:** 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.
- **LOCATION:** ADRN's Hope Family Thrift Store 1122 E. 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Austin, Texas *(in back of building)*  
*Volunteers deploying to Louisiana will bring new donations from ADRN Headquarters to deployment site throughout the week.*
- **Items Needed**
  - New undergarments *(all sizes, children and adult)*
  - New socks *(all sizes, children and adult)*
  - Toiletries *(ie: shampoo, facewash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.)*
  - Heavy duty black trash bags
  - Heavy duty mops and mop heads
  - Inflatable mattresses *(large quantities needed)*
  - Hand sanitizer
  - Box fans *(large quantities needed)*
  - *Food and Clothing is not needed – ADRN already has clothing sorted and packed for this deployment*

ADRN previously responded to historic disasters outside of the five-county area surrounding the City of Austin, including the 2013 devastating tornado in Moore, Oklahoma, and the 2013 fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas.

Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of 165 Greater Austin churches and 4,500 volunteers. ADRN's network enables church members to organize, prepare, mobilize and respond quickly in the event of a disaster, large or small. ADRN's network of churches, volunteers, business partners, local agencies and community organizations generously provide in-kind donations, monetary gifts and additional volunteer assistance that enable ADRN to fund the rebuild/repair of survivor homes and provide immediate assistance to those in crisis. Since 2009, ADRN has brought emotional, physical and spiritual relief to more than 17,000 individuals, sponsored more than 2,300 families, and given more than \$3.5 million in disaster relief funds. Learn more at [ADRNTX.org](http://ADRNTX.org).

Visit online at [www.adrntx.org](http://www.adrntx.org) | [Facebook/ADRNTX](https://www.facebook.com/ADRNTX) | **ADRN's Survivor & Public Hotline # 512-806-0800**  
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