

Churches of Greater Austin Bringing Hope into Crisis

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AUSTIN DISASTER RELIEF NETWORK PREPARES TEAMS TO RESPOND TO MASSIVE SOUTH AUSTIN FIRE

ADRN Mobilizing Church and Volunteer Teams to Respond to Needs of Survivors

Austin, TX, September 19, 2019 – In response to this morning's three-alarm fire that destroyed several apartment buildings in South Austin, Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN) is preparing to mobilize response teams to aid survivors. ADRN teams will provide emotional and spiritual care, along with immediate financial assistance, emergency housing, clothing, supplies and long-term recovery support.

"Greater Austin Churches are positioned to help meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of these families impacted by this disaster," ADRN Executive Director Daniel Geraci said. "ADRN's volunteers are trained in emotional and spiritual care to provide comfort and support when families lose everything."

ADRN is working in collaboration with local the local government and agencies in its response, and coordinating closely with Central Texas Red Cross.

Local congregations from ADRN's network of over 185 churches are also preparing to sponsor survivor families and guide them through the recovery process through ADRN's *Disaster Relief Shepherd Program*.

Survivors needing support are encouraged to all ADRN's Emergency Call Center at 512.806.0800.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Monetary donations, in the form of financial funds, are needed at this time to help ADRN provide support to survivors. Funds will be distributed in the form of gift cards, emergency housing, emergency transportation and more.

To make a tax-deductible gift to support survivors, go online to <u>adrn.org/give</u> and make a donation to the <u>General Disaster Relief Fund</u> or call ADRN's Call Center at 512.806.0800.

In addition to responding to the fire in South Austin, ADRN is also preparing to respond to the catastrophic flooding in the Beaumont, TX resulting from Tropical Depression Imelda. A separate announcement regarding ADRN's response to Imelda will be made later today.

ABOUT ADRN

Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of more than 190 greater Austin churches and thousands of trained volunteers. ADRN's network enables church members to organize, prepare and respond quickly in the event of a disaster, large or small. ADRN network churches, volunteers, business partners, local agencies and community organizations provide in-kind and monetary donations 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 42,000 individuals, sponsored more than 2,950 families and given more than \$15.5 million in disaster relief funds. Learn more at ADRN.org.