

Frequently asked questions

09.25.09

How is United Way helping families affected by the floods?

United Way funds provide support to families through the efforts of the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, and other support relief organizations. We are also working with a disaster network of more than 560 partners to assess the full scope of damages caused by the flood, and expect to have a more complete assessment within the next few days. From previous experiences with disaster relief efforts such as Hurricane Katrina and the 2008 Atlanta tornado, we know that it often takes people up to a year to fully recover from a disaster. Many families will be financially devastated and will need immediate and long-term support.

Please visit UnitedWayAtlanta.org or call United Way 2-1-1 for more information on our flood recovery efforts, and for ways you can support the community.

Can I donate through United Way to the flood victims? If so, does it have to be a cash gift?

Yes, you can donate to our Disaster Relief Fund, which will provide both short- and long-term recovery services to victims of the flood. You can donate by

- calling United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta by dialing 2.1.1;
- online at unitedwayatlanta.org;
- mailing a check to the United Way Disaster Relief, 100 Edgewood Avenue, N.E., Atlanta 30303;
- designating to the Disaster Relief Fund during your employee campaign through payroll deduction or direct payment.

Your donation to United Way does not have to be cash. We also will accept both fully paid and payroll deduction gifts, because our experience has shown that, in addition to the immediate needs, there will be recovery needs for a year or longer.

How will funds be distributed?

United Way is working with community partners to ascertain the full scope of damages caused by the floods, and expects to have a more complete assessment within the next few days. Funds raised will be distributed across the affected area according to community need. In the interim, families affected by the floods are encouraged to contact United Way 2-1-1.

How can I help the flood victims?

There are a number of ways in which you can help our neighbors in need. You can donate now to our disaster relief fund, which will provide short and long-term recovery services to victims of the flood across the region. To make a donation, call United Way 2-1-1 by dialing 2.1.1 or 404.614.1000. You can also donate online at unitedwayatlanta.org. Checks should be sent to United Way Disaster Relief, 100 Edgewood Avenue, Atlanta 30303. You can also give to the fund through your employee campaign.

In addition to raising funds, United Way is currently assessing the volunteer needs of more than 1,900 nonprofits within our network. We are encouraging people to contact United Way 2-1-1 for volunteer opportunities.

Can I donate items such as food, clothing, furniture, etc.?

In times of disaster, we know that many people want to donate items such as food, clothing and furniture. While these types of donations are sometimes needed, monetary donations are preferred because they allow

greater flexibility in our efforts to serve both the short- and long-term needs of those affected. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please contact United Way 2-1-1 or visit us online at unitedwayatlanta.org.

At this time, our community partners are requesting various bulk donations. For a current list of needed items and more information on our recovery efforts, contact United Way 2-1-1 or visit us online at unitedwayatlanta.org.

How does a person qualify for help if they need it?

If you and your family or someone you know is in need of assistance, please contact United Way 2-1-1 by dialing 2-1-1 or 404.614.1000. Trained call center specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist you.