



State Emergency Operations Center

Joint Information Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way assisting people displaced by rising waters of Mississippi River

PEARL – The United Way of West Central Mississippi is providing rental and other financial assistance to people affected by the Mississippi River’s rising flood waters.

United Way has provided assistance to 205 people displaced because of the flooding event. The nonprofit organization is helping residents by paying the deposit and first month’s rent for their temporary units. United Way is also helping people pay for storage and providing \$500 to families hosting displaced residents to offset the cost of taking in additional people. In the past two weeks, the nonprofit has spent \$35,000 toward these efforts.

“We are working around the clock to make sure people in need are benefitting from this service,” said Barbara Tolliver, executive director of the United Way of West Central Mississippi. “We will use the money we have to make this work.”

United Way is providing the disaster assistance with the hope that the state will soon receive federal funds to help individuals in need.

Most of the residents who’ve received United Way assistance are from northern and southern Warren County and have already evacuated their homes. The organization is now reaching out to residents of Sharkey, Issaquena, Claiborne and Yazoo counties.

To donate, send money or checks to United Way of West Central Mississippi, P.O. Box 203, 920 South Street in Vicksburg, Miss., 39181 and designate the funds to “Disaster 2011.” To find out more information or to seek assistance call 601-636-1733. You may also contact United Way by calling 211.

For more information, visit us online at www.msema.org. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook using the keyword MSEMA.

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