Church of the Brethren
Emergency Disaster Fund
April 6, 2020
Appropriation 20-09 — General Ledger # 58280— Project 2326-D

Minutes

BDM – Carolinas Hurricanes Matthew and Florence Response
The staff at Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) requested an additional allocation of $40,500 from the Emergency Disaster Fund to finance the remaining work at the BDM rebuilding site in the Carolinas, supporting the Hurricanes Matthew and Florence recovery efforts through the beginning of August 2020.

In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew caused serious wind, storm, and flood damage along the east coast of the U.S. BDM worked solely in Marion County S.C. doing Hurricane Matthew rebuilding from September 2017 through May 2018. In April 2018, BDM relocated rebuilding sites to Lumberton, N.C. to offer a double site to support the Hurricane Matthew recovery.

In September 2018, the site closed for two weeks when Category 4 Hurricane Florence hit both states, re-affecting many who had just recovered from Hurricane Matthew. The project was reduced to a single site, with monthly and long-term leadership committed to serve in 2020. In February 2020, BDM made the decision to extend the Memorandum of Understanding with the housing location from April to August 2020 based on work, leadership, and weekly volunteer availability.

COVID-19 affected volunteerism and the ability to travel in March 2020. The site is on a suspension until May 3, pending changes in social distancing and stay at home orders. BDM remains in close communication with partners and will monitor CDC and federal and local government guidance to determine when it is safe to send volunteers. EDF funding is being planned in case it is possible.

This grant will continue to support the capacity of BDM to respond to the homeowners recovering from both hurricanes. It will allow BDM volunteers to serve qualified survivors by providing repair and rebuilding assistance in areas that other volunteer organizations are not working.

Prior EDF grants for this appeal:
   $40,800 on October 3, 2019
   $45,000 on April 11, 2019
   $45,000 on January 22, 2019
   $45,000 on April 12, 2018

APPROVAL for this allocation was given by Roy Winter, associate executive director, Brethren Disaster Ministries; Ed Woolf, treasurer; David Steele, general secretary; and Mission and Ministry Board members Lauren Seganos Cohen, Thomas Dowdy, Carl Fike, Lois Grove, Heather Gentry Hartwell, Dava Hensley, John Hoffman, Paul Liepelt, Diane Mason, John Mueller, Joel Peña, Roger Schrock, Paul Schrock, Colin Scott, Christina Singh, Patrick Starkey, and Carol Yeazell.

Nancy Miner, recorder

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