The Community Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency initiative explores and strengthens the efforts of people, organizations, and communities in navigating disasters.

Community Preparedness, Recovery, and Resiliency Newsletter
Catalyzing Engagement as Disasters Swirl

Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund Grantmaking
The one-year anniversary of Hurricane Ian was in October. At the same time the community was looking back on the destruction, the Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund (SDRF) was looking forward to next steps in addressing the long-term recovery of our community. The SDRF was established in the fall of 2022 and gives donors the opportunity to support long-term, long-range programs to sustain human service agencies serving people in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties as they recover from Ian’s impact.

With the second round of grantmaking disbursing $625,000, more than half of the $5 million donated to the SDRF has been distributed to organizations to aid their recovery efforts in these two grantmaking cycles. Still, we know the path to long-term recovery remains an arduous one. The SDRF exists to support organizations and communities on the path to recovery. You can learn more about the SDRF, organizations that have received funds, and the next grant application period at Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund.

November is the end of Hurricane Season, but...

The 2023 Atlantic hurricane season ranked 4th for most-named storms in a year. And while the official season is over for the next six months, now is the time to ensure you are ready for 2024. Consider the things you had hoped to do to get ready in 2023 but didn’t get around to. Did you plan to replace a window or get shutters? Add that to your calendar now. Do you think you should do something to strengthen your garage door to keep your home intact? Think about when you can schedule that and add it to your calendar. Did you mean to check your insurance policies to ensure you have the correct coverage? This is the time to make that happen! Now is a great time to make sure you have photos of your home and possessions just in case your home is damaged in an event. Having before and after pictures is critical! Get involved

More tips for preparedness, whether for your home, business, or pets, are available here.

Here is a reminder. We were lucky this year with tropical weather, but that does not predict the future. Every year, we must be ready.

Season of Sharing
When community members work together to address the needs of their most vulnerable citizens, they spark change that endures well beyond the holiday season. Season of Sharing is a partnership between the Herald-Tribune Media Group and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County that each year inspires our caring community to donate to help families regain stability in the face of unforeseen disasters, be it hurricanes, Red Tide, economic downturns, or even a global pandemic. Season of Sharing helps individuals and families from Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and DeSoto counties in Florida. Funds may be used for rent or mortgage, utility bills, childcare, transportation, food vouchers, or other crucial expenses.

Learn how Season of Sharing is a virtual community asset in a Herald-Tribune article crafted by Roxie Jerde, president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, and Debra Jacobs, president and CEO of The Patterson Foundation.

Building Resilience: A Journey Through Disaster Recovery and Beyond

The Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) is a nationwide resource for the philanthropic community that provides strategies, education, and funding opportunities that are timely, relevant, and thoughtful to increase donor impact throughout the lifecycle of domestic and global disasters.
The Patterson Foundation's Fellow Kellie Alexander talked with Patty McIlreavy, president and CEO of CDP before Hurricane Ian landed in 2022 to dig deeper into disasters, including putting humanity at the center of disasters and philanthropy's role. Listen to the podcast here.

Center for Disaster Philanthropy Initiative

In the wake of disasters at a scale never before seen, donor generosity is reaching record amounts — but giving is often based on emotion, impulse, and limited information. The Center for Disaster Philanthropy is a nationwide resource for the philanthropic community that provides strategies, education, and funding opportunities that are timely, relevant, and thoughtful to increase donor impact throughout the lifecycle of domestic and global disasters.

View Helpful Resources on Disaster Philanthropy:
- Disaster Philanthropy Playbook
- Network of Disaster Funders
- Basic Tips for Disaster Giving

Cope: Following a disaster or unexpected challenge, we first focus on ensuring our safety and addressing the immediate needs essential to survival.

Adapt: Getting accustomed to the reality of living with the situation, we adopt new systems and methods to create stability.

Innovate: Using imagination combined with a possibility mindset, we discover fresh ways to live, work, and play.

Phases of CPR-R

In the Discovery Phase, we will connect with and learn to identify existing community resources
related to community engagement in the disaster preparedness, recovery, and resiliency arenas. Additionally, we will connect beyond our four-county region to identify programs and efforts to be replicated locally and create spaces for others to collaborate.

In the **Sharing/Engagement Phase** – we will engage people, organizations, and communities as we share our learnings.

In the **Action Phase** - We will strengthen our communities’ disaster preparedness, recovery, and resiliency in various ways.

We welcome your thoughts or any questions. Contact Karen Windon at kwindontpf@gmail.com.