

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

1-Year Report to the Community







# The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee 1-Year Report to the Community

#### We're in this together.

Starting in March 2020, this has been our philosophy. It has been our philosophy as a member of the Davidson County Long-Term Recovery Committee, Recover Wilson County, and occasional guest on the Putnam County Benevolence Committee.

We believe by coming together and collaborating with all nonprofit and faith-based organizations involved in disaster recovery, we are bringing the best for tornado survivors and letting them know an entire community is behind them.

Since we last presented a report at the six-month anniversary, additional progress has been made. Recovery continues, and we will be here to support and ensure that financial resources are available for providing repair and rebuilding for homeowners, rehousing for renters, and those final details to make people feel they've returned home.

We will be here until the work is completed. We will be here until the recovery is done. We are in this together.

This report provides an update of tornado recovery activities and grantmaking from The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee to support those activities through March 1, 2021.

#### **DAVIDSON COUNTY**

#### **Disaster Case Management Update**

As of February, the Tornado Recovery Connection and its Disaster Case Managers:

- Have referred 193 tornado survivors to nonprofit resources in the community that could support the needs requested without an official case needing to be opened;
- Were able to provide the resources and assistance needed for another 117 survivors and bring the cases to completion having met their recovery needs;
- Are actively managing 121 current cases for tornado survivors through recovery;
- Have experienced a recent increase in pending cases, which now total 51, thanks in
  part to an additional mailing to residents at homes impacted by the tornado and
  word-of-mouth referrals as construction progress becomes visible in the community;
- Identified an increasing demand for affordable rental options for the many tornado survivors who are renters. This ongoing issue has been growing, and the Long-Term Recovery Group has been working to expand the referral resources available.

#### Repair/Rebuild Construction Update

Westminster Home Connection continues its role in coordinating the construction assessments and assignments to construction groups who are actively involved in approximately 30 current repairs and/or awaiting final details to begin. Those groups assisting tornado survivors in Davidson County with their home repair needs are:

Armstrong Real Estate Foundation
Nazarene Disaster Relief, MidSouth District
Project Connect Nashville
Rebuilding Together Nashville
Successful Survivors (Greater Heights Missionary Baptist Church)
Westminster Home Connection

Homeowners living in homes impacted by the March 3, 2020 tornadoes in need of additional assistance with repair or rebuild needs are encouraged to contact Tornado Recovery Connection at 615-270-9255 to connect with available resources.

#### **Legal Assistance Update**

In December, Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands received a grant to offer support to tornado survivors experiencing contractor fraud and other disaster-related legal problems.

The Nashville Bar Foundation also assisted with identifying lawyers to provide help to homeowners not eligible for Legal Aid assistance and to support our Long-Term Recovery Group with valuable insight on how to move forward more quickly on repairing a home of a tornado survivor entangled in a legal dispute.



#### **WILSON COUNTY**

#### **Disaster Case Management Update**

As of February, the Tornado Recovery Connection and its Disaster Case Managers:

- Have referred 38 tornado survivors to nonprofit resources in the community that could support the needs requested without an official case needing to be opened;
- Were able to provide the resources and assistance needed for an additional 32 survivors and bring the cases to completion having met their recovery needs;
- · Are actively managing 38 current cases for tornado survivors through recovery;
- Worked to identify 466 homes impacted by the tornado to receive an additional mailing identifying Tornado Recovery Connection as a resource for tornado survivors with unmet needs.

#### Repair/Rebuild Construction Update

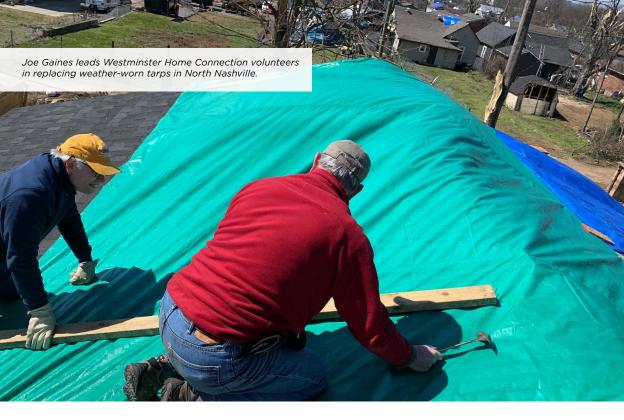
Westminster Home Connection continues its role in coordinating the construction assessments and assignments to construction groups who are actively involved in approximately five repairs and one rebuild in Wilson County. The groups assisting tornado survivors in Wilson County with their home repair/rebuild needs with either volunteers or financial investment are:

First Baptist Lebanon
The Glade Church
Silver Springs Baptist Church
Westminster Home Connection

Homeowners living in homes impacted by the March 3, 2020 tornadoes in need of additional assistance with repair or rebuild needs are encouraged to contact Tornado Recovery Connection at 615-270-9255 to connect with available resources.

#### **Disaster Preparedness Update**

Recover Wilson County has started working with Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto and the Wilson County Emergency Management Agency (WEMA) to strengthen the partnership with local nonprofit organizations and faith-based organizations and their ability to assist Wilson County Government in responding to disasters. This process will be ongoing and will expand to include other community partners interested in a creating a comprehensive emergency management plan for the future.



#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

#### **Disaster Case Management Update**

In Putnam County, the Cookeville Regional Medical Center Foundation took the lead in supporting 436 tornado survivor families immediately after the March 3 tornadoes. After providing initial financial support, they coordinated the Benevolence Committee — composed of churches and nonprofit organizations — to provide additional support as needed. As needs grew, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and its Tornado Recovery Connection was brought in to coordinate disaster case management.

#### Repair/Rebuild Construction Update

Kevin Burgess, lead construction manager for Inspiritus (formerly Lutheran Services in Tennessee), came to Cookeville within the week following the disaster. Because of the nature of his work serving disasters throughout the United States, he was not there for long. But, in October 2020, Inspiritus took the lead for repairing and rebuilding the homes of tornado survivors in Putnam County, and Kevin was set to return to the home of a community where his grandmother lives within a mile of the hardest-hit area in Cookeville.

Inspiritus Disaster Recovery and UMCOR are working with each other for completed repair and rebuild projects, alongside volunteers from AmeriCorps, the Mennonite community, and dozens of other churches and relief groups. At present, work is being done on 76 major repairs, 29 minor repairs, and five complete home rebuilds.

#### **MEETING UNMET NEEDS**

As with any community facing disaster, deeper into the recovery process unmet needs surface for tornado survivors. In some cases, after a variety of resources are tapped — which may include benevolence committee funds, FEMA, insurance, SBA loans, nonprofit funds, and a tornado survivors personal finances — there remains a financial need for a full recovery. When this occurs, Disaster Case Managers make a presentation to funders that have indicated they have financial resources to contribute to unmet needs.

For Middle Tennessee, review of cases by the Unmet Need Funding Table began just after Thanksgiving. These cases are presented free of confidential detail in a blind review process that provides information about available financial resources and why tornado survivors are unable to recover on their own.

In reviewing the unmet needs cases, the process maintains the same collaborative spirit of many other aspects of recovery. Everyone pitches in. This allows the funders to be part of fulfilling several unmet needs, and it also provides a tornado survivor with the knowledge that there are many in the community committed to their recovery.

Organizations that have funds available and are invited to the unmet needs allocation meetings in Davidson, Wilson, and Putnam counties are:

**Catholic Charities of Tennessee** 

**Collegeside Church of Christ** 

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

**CRMC Foundation** 

**Cross Point Church** 

First United Methodist Church of Cookeville

**Double Springs Church of Christ** 

**Everyone's Wilson (Green Hill Church)** 

**First Baptist Church Lebanon** 

First Presbyterian Church Cookeville

**First United Methodist Cookeville** 

Inspiritus

Life Church

**Lutheran Disaster Recovery** 

**Silver Springs Baptist Church** 

**St Thomas Aquinas** 

**Stone Association of Baptist Churches** 

**Sycamore Church of Christ** 

**TN Conference of The United Methodist Church** 

Willow Avenue Church of Christ

**Wilson County Baptist Association** 



#### MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR TORNADO SURVIVORS

The Community Foundation and the Davidson County Long-Term Recovery Group have been concerned about the mental health and well-being of tornado survivors since the March 3 tornadoes. As we began efforts to report on the one-year anniversary of the tornado, we identified best practices, including those from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to ensure that we are supporting the mental health recovery and resiliency of our Middle Tennessee neighbors. In doing so, we wanted to remind survivors, and the community members that support them, of organizations that have received funding to support tornado survivors with mental health resources:















**Family & Children's Service** offers crisis services via phone and text. The 24/7 crisis line is 615-244-7444. The crisis chat is available Monday-Friday, 6 am-10 pm by texting HERE to 615-502-4373.

**Heart of the Cumberland** established peer support groups for adults, children, and teens in Putnam County impacted by the tornado. Those interested in learning more can call 931-525-2600.

**Lantern Lane Farm** works to restore people who seek a safe place to experience healing through tranditional and equine-assisted counseling services. New patients are encouraged to call or text 615-973-5454 to learn about the in-person or virtual counseling options.

**Matthew Walker Health Center** was directly impacted by the tornado as it moved through North Nashville, but its staff was quickly back to serving the health care needs of the community including behavioral health. Call 615-327-9400 or go to http://mwchc.org/patients/ to schedule an appointment.

**The Onsite Foundation** offers individual therapy sessions, plus grief and loss intensives, for tornado survivors. An application can be found at https://theonsitefoundation.org/programs/ tennessee-tornado-support.

**Tennessee Respite Coalition** provides respite vouchers for individuals caring for special-needs family members in their home. Tornado survivors interested in accessing vouchers as part of a self-care plan can call 1-888-579-3754.

**Volunteer Behavioral Health, Lebanon** is part of a health care system that serves 31 counties in Middle, Southeast, and Upper Cumberland regions of Tennessee. It operates a 24-hour crisis line at 1-800-704-2651 and offers individual, family, and group therapy at Cumberland Mental Health Services in Lebanon at 615-444-4300.



The grounds of Lantern Lane Farm in Mt. Juliet have been spruced up thanks in part to tornado recovery efforts by Keller Williams and Lowe's Home Improvement.

#### **LANTERN LANE FARMS**

Lantern Lane Farm is proud to be part of a community that quickly and effectively addressed the cleanup and support efforts through funding and community engagement in the wake of the tornado. Members of our staff joined members of our community and stepped out to directly support tornado survivors in a variety of ways, including cleanup, donations, housing a displaced family and, of course, counseling services for groups and individuals directly and indirectly affected by the storms.

To date, 13 families have been funded through the grant, enabling them to process alongside mental health professionals. Calls continue to come in, and we (and they) are grateful for the support that has been made available through Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund.

As to what more still needs to be done, "Because of the way events unfolded with regard to the timing of the tornado, followed by the onset of the pandemic, there is much still left to do. A major example of work left undone stands starkly as a reminder in the affected schools. However, it's not just the obvious demolition and school rebuilding that remains. Recovery, in terms of mental health, includes reconciling and processing our losses. For the many, many school students who have not returned to their schools, and the educators and leaders who transferred to other physical locations, that reconciliation has been on hold. This can be a simple or involved process, but the fact remains that fencing went up and no one has returned to the school since.

"Lantern Lane Farm's counselors were poised to provide teacher and student support work for those affected. However, with the cancellation of school, that opportunity was not realized in a group setting held at the school. As an alternative, LLF has hosted individual and group telehealth/virtual counseling. And, although not ideal, there has been significant progress made for those in attendance.

A final point about 'work remaining' centers on the need for assessment and support for those who are already underserved within the greater community: The tornadoes certainly impacted us all in one way or another. #StrongTogether — we rallied through cleanup efforts, food distribution, emotional support and community outreach. However, as the March 2020 tornado becomes farther and farther in the 'rear view mirror,' let us never forget that tragedy, grief, loss, anxiety, depression, and other storms of life have the potential to levy an impact greater than any tornado.

It is our hope that our community, regardless of the weather, will remember that mental health counseling services should be available to all in need. Through support of our mission, Lantern Lane Farm Counseling Center will continue to be a place Where Healing Happens."

## Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Recommendations for Survivors Navigating Disaster Anniversary Reactions

- Talk About It
- Understand that Grief is a Common Experience
- · Engage in Healthy Activities
- Keep Your Routines
- · Limit Media Viewing
- Don't Compare Yourself to Others
- Use Coping Strategies That Have Worked In Past
- · Give Yourself Permission to Be Where You Are
- Acknowledge the Progress That Has Been Made
- Draw Upon Your Faith/Spirituality
- Accept Kindness
- · Help Others
- Don't Be Afraid to Seek Professional Help

SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day crisis counseling. CALL OR TEXT: 1-800-985-5990

The Disaster Distress Helpline is open to everyone. This includes: survivors of disasters; loved ones of victims; first responders; rescue, recovery, and relief workers; clergy; and parents and caregivers. You may call for yourself or on behalf of someone.







CASE MANAGEMENT \$516,000



CLEANUP/DEBRIS REMOVAL \$360,656



DIAPERS/FORMULA \$145,000



DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE \$660,042.50



EDUCATION ASSISTANCE \$42,000



FOOD ASSISTANCE \$361,000



HOUSING/UTILITIES \$677,000



HYGIENE/ PERSONAL CARE \$9,000



INSURANCE/LEGAL ASSISTANCE \$107,000



LEGAL ASSISTANCE \$63,261



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT \$16,600



MENTAL/PHYSICAL HEALTH \$290,000



MULTIPURPOSE ASSISTANCE \$1,644,799



REPAIR/REBUILD \$1,294,049.50

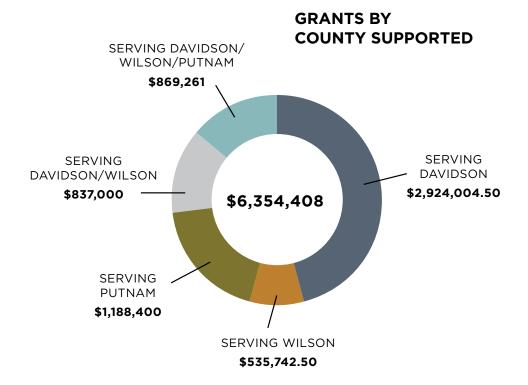


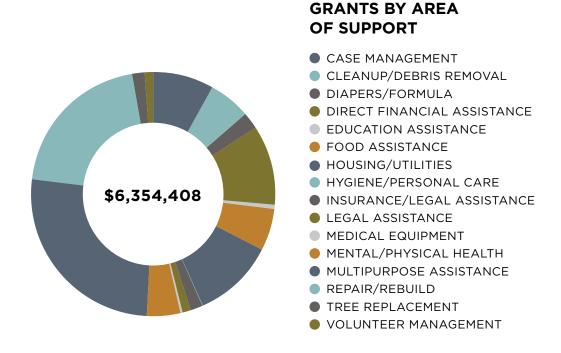
TREE
REPLACEMENT
\$100,000



VOLUNTEER
MANAGEMENT
\$68,000

MTER GRANTS AS OF DATE 3/1/2021: \$6,354,408





#### NONPROFIT GRANT REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We are grateful for the 108 nonprofit organizations and churches that have stepped up to assist with tornado recovery. The Community Foundation provides the funding, but it is the nonprofit organizations and churches providing the direct service to the community. Among this list are a mix of organizations that are large and small, with some being new to disaster recovery and others serving as experienced players that have been through this many times. They all stepped up and had a role to play.

The majority of organizations on this list we know. We know from past grants we have made, from the organization's participation in The Big Payback, or the information they have shared in their GivingMatters.com profile. They are accountable for providing grant reporting to detail how they spent the Middle Tennessee Emergency Response grant, and should they have unspent funds, are required to return them so they may be used for other disaster needs.

#### Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund Grant Reporting Questions

- What is the total amount of grant(s) received from Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund (MTER), which this report covers?
- What balance, if any, do you have remaining from MTER grant(s)? If you have funds remaining, how long before you expect them to be spent?
- What portion of funds spent was on staffing? What portion of funds spent was on administrative costs (non-staff operational costs: mileage, technology, etc)?
   What portion of funds spent was on direct costs to support tornado survivors (food, cash assistance, clothing, etc)?
- Did you hire/need to hire new staff (PT, FT, temp) exclusively for tornado recovery work? If you hired new staff, please indicate how many.
- Please Indicate, if any, Organizations You Collaborated With in Your Tornado Recovery Efforts.
- Please Indicate Where You Provided Tornado Relief (County Level Detail).
- Please Indicate Any/All Categories Where You Spent Fund from Grant(s) Received.
- Please Indicate How Many Households in Each Zipcode You Served.
- We know that disaster recovery can place unexpected demands on an organization's capacity, and we are interested in learning more about the challenges and demands your organization may have experienced. Please describe briefly any specific demands your organization has dealt with as the result of your tornado recovery work. In future disasters, how best can CFMT further support the work of organizations serving disaster victims beyond grantmaking?

#### A SAMPLING OF GRANT REPORTS TO DATE:



#### **Broken Restored Redeemed Ministries**

Spent \$379,582 to date on food, short-term/long-term housing, household supplies, auto payments, direct assistance, and moving expenses

#### 181 households supported:

37076: <b>25</b>	37206: <b>2</b>	37210: <b>5</b>
37087: <b>30</b>	37207: <b>78</b>	37214: <b>5</b>
37122: <b>17</b>	37208: <b>11</b>	37218: <b>8</b>



#### **Community Resource Center**

CRC has received \$40,000 to date, with additional funding forthcoming. These grants have offered support for appliances, furniture, and other household supplies to assist tornado survivor families.

#### To date:

- 70 tornado survivor households have received support and are settling in
- 20 families are awaiting deliveries
- An additional 75-100 tornado survivor families are expected to receive the same resources and support
- Each family receives items with an approximate value of \$2,000.



#### NeedLink

Spent \$82,494 to date on rent/utility and direct financial assistance

#### 95 households supported:

37076: <b>11</b>	37206: <b>17</b>	37216: <b>4</b>
37122: <b>1</b>	37208: <b>19</b>	37218: <b>5</b>
37203: <b>2</b>	37214: <b>3</b>	Other: <b>33</b>



#### **Project Connect**

Project Connect operates from a Resource Center at Historic First Community Church in North Nashville that serves residents in the 37208 zip code. It has received approximately \$120,000 in funds to support emergency assistance, rent payments, and the service of 250 hot meals, five days a week. Additionally, it has a construction manager who assisted with tarping roofs and is currently overseeing five repair projects for tornado-survivor homes.

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND COMPLETE GRANTEE ORGANIZATION LIST (as of March 1, 2021)

Affordable Housing Resources Inc.

American Red Cross Nashville Area Chapter

Backfield in Motion Bridge Ministry, Inc.

**Broken Restored Redeemed Ministries** 

**Catholic Charities of Tennessee** 

The Church at Lockeland Springs

College Hills Church of Christ

Community Resource Center

Compassionate Hands Inc.

Conexion Americas

The Contributor Inc.

Cookeville Regional Medical Center

Foundation

Corner to Corner

Cross Point Church Mt. Juliet

Cumberland Mental Health Services/

Volunteer Behavioral Health

Cumberland River Compact

Donelson Fellowship

Donelson-Hermitage Family YMCA

East End United Methodist Church

East Nashville Cooperative Ministry

Elijah's Heart

The Equity Alliance

Faith Lutheran Church

Family Affair Ministries, Inc.

Family and Children's Service

First Baptist Church Lebanon

Fortitude Group Inc.

Galaxy Star Drug Awareness/Nashville

Peacemakers

Gideon's Army

Goodwill Industries of Middle TN, Inc.

**Greater Heights Missionary Baptist Church** 

Green Hill Baptist Church

Hands On Nashville, Inc.

**HEAR Nashville** 

Heart of the Cumberland

Heartstrings

Heritage Academy

Historic Buena Vista Community Association

Holly Street Daycare

The Hope Station, Inc.

**IMF Community Fund** 

Inspiritus Inc.

Jefferson Street United Merchants

Partnership, Inc.

Lantern Lane Farm, Inc.

Lebanon Senior Citizens Center

Lebanon Special School District Family

**Resource Center** 

Lee Chapel AME Church

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee

& the Cumberlands

Manna Cafe Ministries

Martha O'Bryan Center

Matthew Walker Health Center

The McGruder Center

MDHA Housing Trust Corp.

Meharry Medical College

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund

MidSouth District Church of the

Nazarene Disaster Response

MJ 4 Hope

Mother to Mother, Inc.

Mt. Juliet Help Center

Music Health Alliance

**MusiCares Foundation South Region** 

NAACP

**Nashville Diaper Connection** 

Nashville Food Project

**Nashville General Hospital Foundation** 

**Nashville Tree Conservation Corps** 

Nashville Tree Foundation

NeedLink Nashville

Neighbor 2 Neighbor

**Neighborhood Health Services** 

**New Covenant Christian Church** 

Northwest Family YMCA

One Generation Away

The Onsite Foundation

Operation BBQ Relief

Operation Stand Down Tennessee, Inc.

Pleasant Green Baptist Church

Project Connect, Inc.

**Providence United Methodist Church** 

**Rebuilding Together Nashville** 

**Rooftop Foundation** 

Salvation Army Nashville Area Command

Samaritan's Purse

Second Harvest Food Bank

**Shower The People** 

ShowerUp/The Shower Truck

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

St. Francis Cabrini Catholic Church

Street Works

Successful Survivors

**Team Rubicon** 

Tennessee Action for Hospitality
Employee Assistance Fund

Tennessee Conference United Methodist Church

Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition

**Tennessee Justice for Our Neighbors** 

**Tennessee Respite Coalition** 

Tennessee State University Foundation

**Turnip Green Creative Reuse** 

**Urban League of Middle Tennessee** 

US Bartenders' Guild National Charity Foundation

Westminster Home Connection

Wilson Co Civic League

Wilson County Community Help Center

Wilson County Schools Family Resource Center

World Central Kitchen Inc.

YMCA of Middle Tennessee

YouInspire, Inc.

#### **Thank you MTER Donors!**

None of our work supporting tornado recovery would be possible without the more than 22,000 donors from Nashville, across the State of Tennessee, and from around the world. Gifts ranging from \$5-\$1 million joined together to provide the financial resources for our grantmaking. Donors have been thanked privately, and we will publicly acknowledge all donors in our final comprehensive report once funding from Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund is complete.

#### About Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund

The Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund provides help to communities affected by disaster, primarily in Nashville and Middle Tennessee. Funds may go to charitable organizations for disaster preparation, short-term relief, long-term restoration, and other needs. In all cases, donor wishes will be followed, and when flexibility is permitted in the use of proceeds, disbursements will be determined by The Community Foundation board and staff. From time to time, the Foundation may create advisory board and committees to assist in this process.

### Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund Advisory Committee

Members of CFMT's Middle Tennessee Emergency Response Fund Advisory Committee include city and civic leaders from communities throughout Nashville and areas of Middle Tennessee affected by the tornadoes.

The MTER Advisory Committee includes: Hannah Davis, Affordable Housing Program Manager, Metro Nashville Mayor's Office; Karl Dean, former Nashville Mayor and trustee, United Way of Greater Nashville; Jessica Farr, Manager of Examinations, Federal Reserve Bank; Brenda Haywood, Deputy Mayor of Community Engagement, Metro Nashville Mayor's Office; Sam Hatcher, board member, Community Foundation of Wilson County; Ashford Hughes, Executive Officer for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Metro Nashville Public Schools; The Rev. Chris Jackson, Pleasant Green Baptist Church and Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship; Lonnell Matthews, Juvenile Court Clerk of Metro Nashville; Jay Servais, District Chief, Metro Nashville Office of Emergency Management; Ron Samuels, Vice Chairman, Pinnacle Financial Partners; Jerry Williams, Community Volunteer and Retired Executive Director, Leadership Nashville; and Brenda Wynn, Davidson County Clerk.

#### Staff and philanthropic support to the Advisory Committee are:

Ellen Lehman, President, The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee; Amy Fair, Vice President of Donor Services, The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee; and Pete Bird, President and CEO, The Frist Foundation.

For up-to-date information on CFMT's tornado response visit www.TornadoResponse.com

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee 3833 Cleghorn Avenue | Nashville, Tennessee 37215 615-321-4939 | 888-540-5200 | CFMT.org