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FINAL REPORT ON THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RELIEF PROGRAM

I. Background

On March 16, 2023, Mono County became a Federally declared State of Emergency. In response to the damage from the severe storms, Mammoth Lakes Housing launched an Emergency Response & Relief Program with funding from the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Alterra Mountain Company Community Foundation. The program sought to temporarily house those who became displaced due to structural damage from snow load and to cover unexpected expenses resulting from the State of Emergency. A total of three grants were awarded to Mammoth Lakes Housing, amounting to \$130,000.00. During the duration of the program, Mammoth Lakes Housing supported forty households who faced storm-related hardships, including some of our most vulnerable community members. On June 30, 2023, Mammoth Lakes Housing concluded its emergency response and relief efforts.

II. Displacement & Emergency Housing

On April 14, 2023, the Town of Mammoth Lakes allocated \$100,000.00 to Mammoth Lakes Housing to help displaced families and community members. Over the course of the season, Mammoth Lakes received over seven hundred inches of snow, causing severe structural damage to properties due to the snow load. One complex known as The Jeffries, an affordable housing project, received a red tag in March, leaving 10 households displaced for over six weeks. The units suffered from drywall cracks, flooding due to vacancy, and a pipe explosion that damaged the ceiling and personal belongings of one unit. The residents were forced to stay long-term in unsuitable conditions including expensive hotel/motels, at their place of work, and/or in overcrowded households with family or friends.

With the funding allocated by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Lakes Housing supported a total of ten displaced households during the State of Emergency, including nineteen adults and eleven children. Mammoth Lakes Housing partnered with five local businesses, including Mammoth Mountain Inn, Grand Welcome, Mammoth (Sierra) Reservations, MMSA Employee Housing, and No Madness, who assisted our efforts to rehouse the displaced families by waiving property management fees and providing discounted nightly rates. As a result, the average cost per night to house a family of up to six individuals was \$121.57 (Table 1).

Out of the \$100,000.00, the Town of Mammoth Lakes set aside \$15,000 for basic needs and administrative costs. One household whose personal belongings were destroyed from a pipe explosion received additional support, including the replacement of bedding, mattresses, and pillows as well as moving expenses. The basic needs assistance amounted to \$2,662.20 (Table 1).

Table 1. Emergency Housing Summary

EMERGENCY HOUSING SUMMARY				
BY HOUSEHOLD		TOTAL		
Total Households	10			
BY INDIVIDUAL		TOTAL	ADULTS	CHILDREN
Total Individuals	30	19	11	
NIGHTS AND COST		TOTAL		
Total Nights Housed	312			
Total Cost	\$37,930.95			
Average Cost per Night	\$121.57			
BASIC NEEDS		TOTAL		
Total Cost	\$2,662.20			
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS				
Mammoth Mountain Inn - 3 Units				
Grand Welcome - 3 Units				
Mammoth Reservations - 3 Units				
MMSA Employee Housing - 3 Units				
No Madness - 1 Unit				
COST BREAKDOWN				
Total Dispersed to MLH	\$50,000.00			
Total Housing Cost	\$37,930.95			
Total Basic Needs Cost	\$2,662.20			
Total Administrative Cost	\$9,406.85			
Amount to be Returned to TOML	\$0.00			

III. Hardship Assistance

On April 17, 2023, the Alterra Mountain Company Community Foundation (AMCCF) distributed \$20,000 to Mammoth Lakes Housing for The Jeffries residents under their Emergency Relief & Hardship Assistance Program. Ten households received a check of \$2,000.00. The funds helped cover the cost of lodging, medical expenses, gas, and meals for the households, including 14 children and 18 adults (Table 2). Fortunately, all but one household returned to their unit on April 21, 2023.

Due to the large influx of applicants in the Mammoth Lakes community, the Alterra Mountain Company Community Foundation (AMCCF) awarded a second grant to Mammoth Lakes Housing amounting to \$10,000.00 under their Emergency Relief & Hardship Assistance Program on April 28, 2023. The Foundation specified that recipients must live in an Alterra Mountain Company community and have experienced a hardship related to the State of Emergency. The reimbursement for hardship-related expenses was capped at \$500.00 per household.

The described hardships of applicants varied: inability to work due to freeway closures; inability to work because of storm-related school closures; increased HOA fees for increased snow removal; inability to work resulting in unpaid utility bills; lodging and meal expenses due to displacement; damaged personal belongings due to snow load; storm-related closures of places of employment; inability to work resulting in eviction. Under the second allocation of funding, Mammoth Lakes Housing supported twenty households, including over 15 children and 28 adults (Table 2).

Table 2. Emergency Relief and Hardship Assistance Summary

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE SUMMARY				
NAME	CHILDREN	ADULTS	HOUSEHOLD SIZE	AMOUNT
Household #1	1	1	2	\$2,000.00
Household #2	3	2	5	\$2,000.00
Household #3	2	2	4	\$2,000.00
Household #4	1	3	4	\$2,000.00
Household #5	0	2	2	\$2,000.00
Household #6	2	1	3	\$2,000.00
Household #7	0	3	3	\$2,000.00
Household #8	1	1	2	\$2,000.00
Household #9	4	2	6	\$2,000.00
Household #10	0	1	1	\$2,000.00
Household #11	1	2	3	\$500.00
Household #12	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #13	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #14	1	0	1	\$500.00
Household #15	2	2	4	\$500.00
Household #16	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #17	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #18	4	1	5	\$500.00
Household #19	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #20	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #21	2	1	3	\$500.00
Household #22	2	1	3	\$500.00
Household #23	3	2	5	\$500.00
Household #24	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #25	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #26	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #27	0	2	2	\$500.00
Household #28	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #29	0	1	1	\$500.00
Household #30	2	1	3	\$500.00
TOTAL	CHILDREN	ADULTS	HOUSEHOLD SIZE	TOTAL COST
	31	46	77	\$30,000.00

IV. Other Services

In addition to spearheading the grant administration role, Mammoth Lakes Housing used staff time to coordinate other services for households based on individualized needs while achieving donor requirements under the two funding streams. The Housing Navigators incorporated Client Action Planning, Coordinated Entry System (CES), and the referral process to connect households to an array of services. Those who lost housing because of the storms were entered into Coordinated Entry System, the regional homelessness database, through a standardized intake process that places households on a prioritization list for housing. The Housing Navigators facilitated upwards of three planning sessions with households to identify other housing opportunities. Additionally, our cooperative referral process was leveraged to deliver a holistic approach, connecting community members to Mono County Social Services, Mono County Behavioral Health, Wild Iris Family Counseling & Crisis Counseling Center, California Indian Legal Services, Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, and other local entities in the Eastern Sierra. In this capacity, Mammoth Lakes Housing staff served some of our most vulnerable community members beyond housing coordination and fund distribution.

If you have questions about the Emergency Response & Relief Program or this report, please contact Olya Egorov at olya@mammothlakeshousing.org.

This report was prepared by Housing Navigator, Olya Egorov.



Olya Egorov

07-25-2023
Date

This report was reviewed by Executive Director, Patricia Robertson.



Patricia Robertson

7/25/23
Date