

# Center for Disaster Philanthropy

The when, where, and how of informed disaster giving

## *Webinar: Understanding the Midwest Early Recovery Fund*

February 18, 2015

# Speakers



**Bob Ottenhoff**  
*President and CEO*



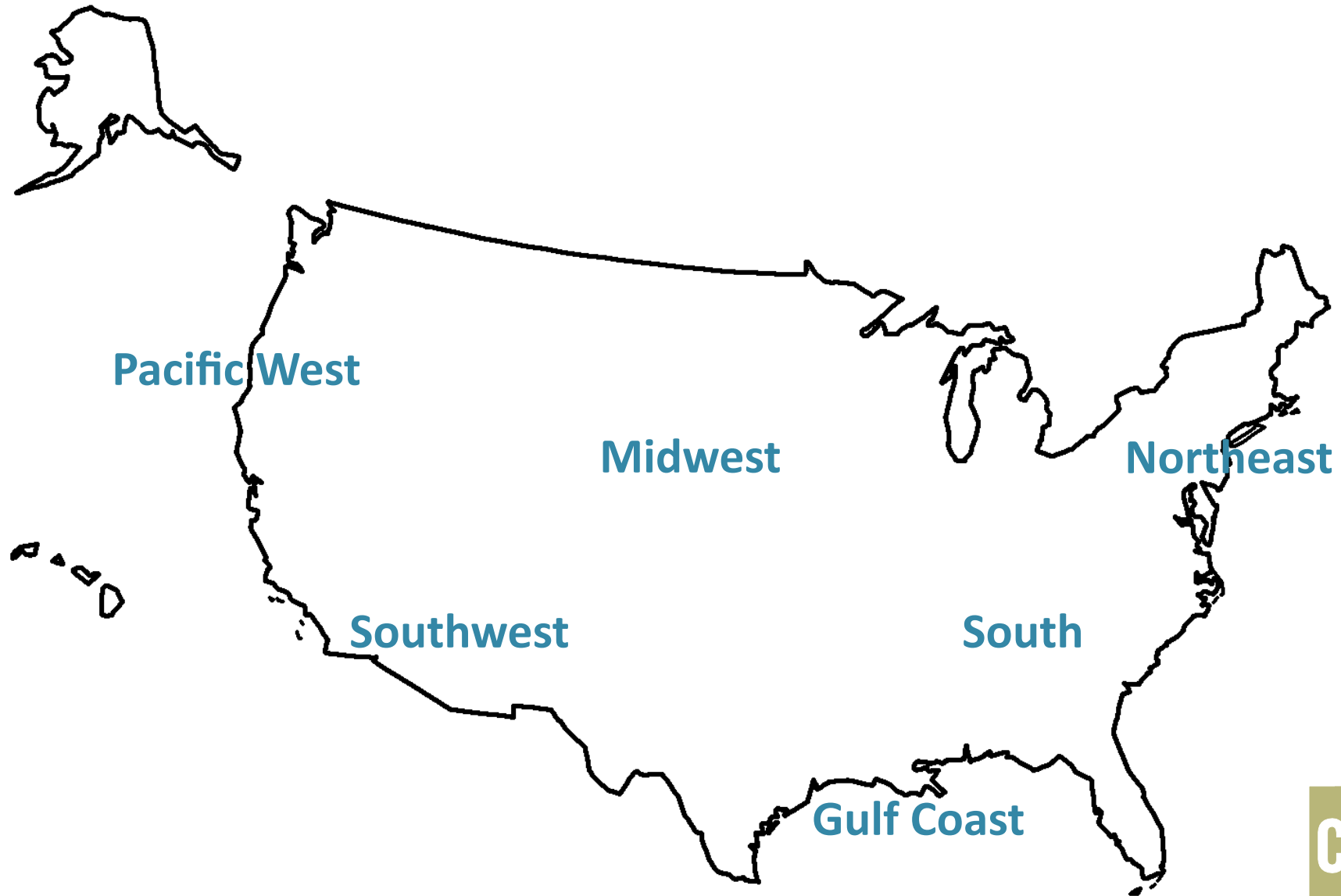
**Nancy Beers**  
*Program Officer,  
CDP Midwest Early  
Recovery Fund*



**Regine A. Webster**  
*Vice President*



# *A Fund to Model Across the U.S.*



# *CDP's Midwest Early Recovery Fund*

CDP's Midwest Early Recovery Fund is a **\$2 million fund** created to efficiently and effectively allocate money to organizations supporting the needs of vulnerable populations within communities affected by low attention disasters in the Midwest, using a unique 'clip-board' grant-making process.

The fund will be tapped within **two weeks to one year** after natural disasters — tornadoes, flooding, earthquakes, landslides and wildfires — in the states of **Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.**

The fund will begin grantmaking in early 2015. CDP estimates making approximately **40 grants over two years** to community based organizations and national disaster partners for community services support and disaster training, education, and outreach.





# *Why it matters*



# *Guiding Principles of the Early Recovery Fund*

The resilience (*the ability to bounce back*) of a community affected by a *high-impact, low attention* disaster is dependent on the 'greater community' providing disaster recovery resources in a timely, intentional manner.

Low attention (often rural/small community) disasters require the same access to recovery resources as high visibility, declared disasters.

Accurate and up-to-date information can and should be used to inform others of needs – so that those with valuable resources can respond with confidence and generosity.

We express our compassion for children by understanding and responding to their unique post-disaster vulnerability.

Vulnerable populations require equitable recovery resources although they often need additional support services to insure their recovery.



# The Fund's Five Key Recovery Challenges

*In low attention (high impact) disasters, during the early recovery phase, communities often lack the capacity to:*

- Identify and develop sufficient resources to meet the needs of those affected by the disaster
- Develop robust long-term recovery efforts without additional support from national, regional or state disaster organizations and/or other partners.
- Coordinate information and resources from multiple agencies.
- Identify affected vulnerable populations and create appropriate resources.
- Meet the unique needs of children post disaster.



# *The Early Recovery Fund's Work Plan*

## **Grantmaking**

- Grantmaking timeline: 1/1/2015 through 12/31/2016.
- Anticipated number of grants 30-50
- Anticipated average grant amount = \$25,000

## **Relationship/ Partnership Development**

- Disaster Organizations/Partnership Development
- Creating opportunities for Foundation growth and collaboration

## **Research and Education**

The fund is uniquely situated to aggregate data concerning the early recovery phase of disaster within the 10- state region. The fund will have a data collection process of key information to analyze for the benefit of future work in the region.





# Early Recovery Fund – Definitions

**Low Attention Disasters:** *Disasters that do not garner national attention and are often localized, rural and/or small communities. Most often identified by:*

- No FEMA IA declaration
- Limited national/ regional media coverage
- Little or no disaster response from national or regional organizations
- *Insufficient community resources/ infrastructure to meet needs of affected populations*
- *Vulnerable populations disproportionately affected*

## **Vulnerable populations**

- Uninsured or under-insured homeowners
- Single parent homes
- Veterans
- Elderly
- People with disabilities
- Children
- Low income
- Non-English speaking residents
- Unemployed or under-employed
- Significant un-met needs
- Immigrant populations

## **Children’s post disaster needs:**

- Access to basic needs – food, shelter and clothing
- Access to childcare
- Safe schools
- Developmentally appropriate mental health support
- Family support and stabilization
- Re-established routine
- Age appropriate disaster recovery information
- Safe play spaces
- Access to playmates
- Preparedness education
- Resiliency education – Hope for the Future
- A diverse network of support



# *A few stats about the 10 states*

- Twenty-one percent of the land in the US is in this 10 state region.
- Yet less than 10 percent (8.7 percent) of the population lives in the 10 state region.
- Average population density of the region is 40.9 people/sq. mile compared to 88.9 average population density for the US as a whole. (+40% considered rural)



*Therefore, much of the region is made up of small, rural communities that do not garner much public attention when affected by a disaster.*



# *A few more stats about the 10 states*

In the last five years there have been 78 federal disaster declarations for floods, tornadoes and severe storms in this 10 state region, yet only 16 (22 percent) received any individual household assistance, with Oklahoma and Arkansas receiving 50 percent.

The percentage of those declared disasters:

- 24% tornadoes
- 35% severe storms (non-snow)
- 40% floods
- 1% wildfires



*The number of declared disasters per state ranged from the lowest in Montana (six declarations) and the highest was Iowa (with 15). But it is important to note that in Iowa only two of those fifteen declaration were awarded IA assistance.*

# *And a few stats about who lives in this area*

## **Vulnerable populations in the Midwest:**

- An average of 40 percent of the population in these 10 states is younger than 18 or older than 65.
- There are over 1 million Native Americans in 75 tribal nations in the 10 states.
- This region is home to six of the top seven poorest counties in the US.
- Nearly 20 percent (19.6) of the population is living below poverty level.



# *The Fund's Anticipated Funding Priorities*

## Making grants to:

- Community-based non-profit organizations to increase their ability to respond to those affected by the disaster.
- Ensure the development of DCW/DCM within the first 60 days post disaster.
- Ensure development of a community driven long-term recovery processes.
- Assist communities in meeting the needs of disaster-affected vulnerable populations.
- Meet the needs of children post disaster.



# *The Fund's Clipboard grantmaking process*

Clipboard grant-making is a streamlined approach to disaster grantmaking, while grounded in stringent oversight and rigorous due diligence.

This approach places the responsibility on the funder to qualify the applicant and alleviates administrative burdens from grantees in the wake of disasters.

It is intended to be an expedited process that will ensure much needed funds are in the hands of those “doing the work” in the shortest period of time possible.

Small grants with big impact?



# *The Fund's Five Step Clipboard grantmaking process:*

## There are five steps in the ERF Clipboard Process:

Step 1: Qualify the disaster event as 'low attention' with significant unmet needs(high-impact).

Step 2: Make a site visit to meet with community partners to identify challenges and prioritize needs.

Step 3: Develop a community work plan and budget while identifying and vetting potential grantees.

Step 4: Fill out the Fund's Clipboard Grant Application, collect all necessary documentation and submit for approval. Disburse funds within two weeks.

Step 5: Submit Final Grant Report/ Response Outcome Document.



# *Goals of the Recovery Fund*

- To develop an efficient, effective and replicable funding process that insures equitable treatment of low attention disasters and **share** this process with others invested in the recovery of vulnerable populations within those communities.
- To develop a community of informed funding partners in the Midwest in order to increase support for low attention disasters.
- To provide evidence to our partners that post-disaster needs of children (and families) have been identified and prioritized and can be addressed in a timely and consistent manner.
- To provide evidence to our partners that communities who have been afforded sufficient resources to begin early disaster case management were able to address the needs of their most vulnerable citizens in a timely manner.
- To provide evidence to our partners that early recovery funding promotes more resilient and healthy post disaster communities affected by low attention disasters
- To develop an evidence-based best practices document to be shared with others.





# ERF's Grantmaking Guidelines

Any non-profit agency or organization (including faith-based organizations) with 501-c3 status, providing support to a community's recovery from a natural disaster in these states: Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Grants will be prioritized around the fund's *Five Key Recovery Challenges* and be made in the following areas: *Community Services Support, Disaster Trainings - Education - Outreach.*

Grant funds will **not** be allocated to organizations/agencies to support their work in a community once that community has been included in a federally declared Individual Assistance Disaster Declaration.

Grant amounts will be dependent on organizational capacity and scope of disaster impact.

Grant funds will prioritize community based non-profit organizations already invested in local recovery work to further develop disaster recovery operations/ support.

Grant funds can be used to support non-profit agencies offering education and training for community leadership and/or affected populations.

Grant funds will prioritize local agencies/ organizations invested in vulnerable populations and supporting children to increase their ability to serve those populations post disaster.

Grant funds will be allocated within the first twelve months following the disaster event.



# ERF's Grantmaking strategy

The Early Recovery Fund is planning to provide funds for the following areas of service:

## Community Services Support (such as)

Funding community-based organizations invested in providing client services such as; disaster case management (DCM), reconstruction management, volunteer coordination, data base development needs assessment/case work, nutrition support, recovery support for children, mental health providers/outreach workers.



# ERF's Grantmaking strategy

AND...

## Disaster Training – Education – Outreach (such as)

Funding organizations to provide community-focused services such as; (on-going) trainings for DCM and Long-term Recovery process development, outreach to affected elderly, immigrant/ non-English speaking people and those with disabilities and provide community education and support for such opportunities as leadership development, behavioral/ disaster mental health education and Community Resource Fairs.



# *The Fund's Advisory Council*

The Fund's Advisory Council is to **advise and assist** the CDP in program implementation and evaluation.

Made up of no more than ten individuals representing various **organizations who are in some manner invested in the disaster recovery of vulnerable populations within the ten state region represented by the fund.**

The goal of the Council is to **provide expert guidance and advice** to CDP ERF staff in the areas of community impact, early recovery methodology and resource development in the ten state region this fund serves.

And **serve as a messenger** for the Midwest Early Recovery Program with the goal of increasing the ERF program's visibility and reach.



# Center for Disaster Philanthropy

The when, where, and how of informed disaster giving

**Comments- Suggestions- Questions?**

Nancy Beers  
Nancy.Beers@disasterphilanthropy.org  
507-990-5307