

2016 Annual Report

Center for Disaster Philanthropy

The when, where, and how of informed disaster giving



We tend to think of disasters only in times of great catastrophe, but in fact they happen nearly every day.



At first, it appeared that 2016 was a quiet year for natural disasters.

After years without any major hurricanes, there was only one, [Hurricane Matthew](#). Yet according to NOAA, there were actually fifteen natural disasters that caused more than \$1 billion dollars of damage and hundreds of smaller disasters around the world.

We tend to think of disasters only in times of great catastrophe, but in fact they happen nearly every day. That's why the Center for Disaster Philanthropy was created—to provide information about disasters—large and small, domestically and internationally—so donors like you can be more strategic and effective in your giving before, during, and after disasters.

One way we do this is by providing data to drive your giving decisions. In partnership with

[Foundation Center](#), we issued our third annual [Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy Report](#).

The report found a significant imbalance in disaster funding, with nearly 75 percent of all foundation support going to immediate relief. The report was made possible with the generous support of the [Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation](#), with additional support from the [Conrad N. Hilton Foundation](#).

It was also our third year for the [Midwest Early Recovery Fund](#). Developed to support the needs of vulnerable populations affected by low-attention disasters in ten states, the fund efficiently and effectively allocates monies to organizations using a unique 'clipboard' grantmaking process. The fund is made possible by a generous, multiple-year grant from the [Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies](#).

In 2016, CDP strategically leveraged more than \$1.2 million to help communities rebuild better around the globe

We also launched our online [Disaster Philanthropy Playbook](#) to provide donors with best practices and innovative approaches to help them be more effective givers. Leaders throughout the country continue to use it as they plan for and deal with local disasters.

Devastating floods in the spring and summer wreaked havoc in a number of states in 2016, Louisiana in particular. CDP was honored to work with representatives from FEMA and the State of Louisiana, along with leaders of local and national foundations and corporations to form the [Louisiana Disaster Recovery Alliance](#). The Alliance is identifying projects that take a long-term approach to building resilience at every phase of the disaster life cycle including preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

And finally, CDP program experts allocated more than \$1.2 million across a range of needs, effectively directing resources to help communities rebuild better.

In 2016, we strategically leveraged disaster funds to assist thousands around the globe, including in part: nearly 10,000 individuals throughout the U.S. Midwest; more than 100,000 refugees in Syria and Greece; 3,500 people affected by the Nice terror attack; 1,500 women, children, and men in Haiyan; and 1,500 students in Nepal. And these numbers don't include the thousands of people—families, friends, and communities—who indirectly benefit when we work collaboratively to make a difference.

Our hope is that our funds and programs will continue to help *transform disaster philanthropy*. It is a challenging but important mission that would not be possible without your support. We are grateful to you and all you do to help us build stronger, more resilient communities.

Thank you,



Robert G. Ottenhoff
President and CEO

Mission & Vision



The Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) is a full-time resource to help donors make more thoughtful disaster-related giving decisions and maximize the impact of their gifts.

CDP's **mission** is to transform disaster giving by providing timely and thoughtful strategies to increase donors' impact during domestic and international disasters.

Our **vision** is a world where donors strategically plan for and respond to disasters in order to minimize their impact on vulnerable populations and communities.

With an emphasis on recovery and disaster risk reduction, CDP aims to:

- Increase the effectiveness of contributions given to disasters;
- Bring greater attention to the life cycle of disasters, from preparedness and planning, to relief, to rebuilding and recovery efforts;
- Provide timely and relevant advice from experts with deep knowledge of disaster philanthropy;
- Conduct due diligence so donors can give with confidence; and
- Create plans for informed giving for individuals, corporations and foundations.



DISASTER PHILANTHROPY PLAYBOOK

The [Disaster Philanthropy Playbook](#) is a comprehensive resource of best practices and innovative approaches to guide the philanthropic community in planning for and responding to disasters. Launched in January 2016, the Playbook is a joint project of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy and [Council of New Jersey Grantmakers](#), in association with the [Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers](#).

The Playbook is centered on [fifteen strategies](#), including community and economic recovery; education; health; aging and disabled populations; arts and culture; environment; and others. These strategies are built on the experiences of more than fifty public and private organizations who have responded to disasters in their communities. Feedback and resources from those who have dealt with disasters first-hand is an essential part of the continued success of the Playbook.

The online Playbook platform allows users the ability to create their own customized mini playbook, where they can save and share elements relevant to their work. This individualized 'My Playbook' can be shared with others via email or social media.



During its first year, the Playbook saw many new additions:

- A series of [instructional videos](#) feature philanthropic leaders discussing how they led their communities through recovery and the lessons they learned.
- The addition of [six toolkits](#) with step-by-step instructions on vetting nongovernmental organizations, creating a disaster fund, creating a communications and social media plan, and more.
- A new [Communities in Crisis](#) strategy was developed at the request of several funders who had to deal with difficult situations such as the Flint Water Crisis and the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando.

The Playbook was used extensively during 2016 by funders and community foundations to respond to disasters in Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Louisiana, and West Virginia.



EARLY RECOVERY FUND M I D W E S T

The CDP Midwest Early Recovery Fund pilot program completed its work at the end of 2016.

The \$2 million program developed a replicable 'clip-board' grantmaking process to efficiently and effectively provide valuable recovery resources to vulnerable populations affected by low attention disasters. The pilot also captured impact data and critical recovery information for use in developing and sharing best practices on investing in early recovery work to further post-disaster community resiliency.

The fund was tapped within two weeks to eighteen months following natural disasters — tornadoes, flooding, and severe storms— in the states of Arkansas, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Due to the success of the pilot program, CDP was awarded a \$3.1M grant to continue this important work through 2019.

Pilot Program 2014-2016

\$1.6 million in grants (\$1,618,993.20)

- 31 grants in 7 states
- Grants ranged from \$3,500 to \$127,000
- The average grant was \$52,225
- 24 unique organizations/non-profits

Funding priorities

- 76% early recovery services
- 18% education, training, and outreach
- 6% children's services

MEASURING THE STATE OF DISASTER PHILANTHROPY | 2016

DATA TO DRIVE DECISIONS

CDP and the Foundation Center launched the third annual *Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy* report. The report is enhanced by an online dashboard and interactive funding map that allow philanthropists to track where, when, and how dollars are allocated to disasters globally.

Drawing upon multiple data sources, we documented \$22.5 billion in disaster-related giving in 2014. The Ebola outbreak dominated funding from foundations, corporations, and individuals, whereas bilateral and multilateral aid was largely directed to complex humanitarian emergencies.

The report and dashboard provide a detailed picture of how institutional philanthropy is situated within the broader disaster and humanitarian crises funding landscape and help donors, NGOs, government agencies, and media understand the true scale of global disaster-related philanthropy. It finds that, in 2014, the top 1,000 U.S. foundations awarded grants totaling \$225.7 million. Foundation Center was able to identify an additional \$97 million in funding by smaller foundations, public charities, and international foundations.

Each year, we aim to shed more light on funding for disasters and humanitarian crises, with increasingly comprehensive data.

Leadership & Staff

STAFF

Robert G. Ottenhoff, President and CEO

Regine A. Webster, Vice President

Nancy Beers, Director, Midwest Early Recovery Fund

Jennifer Commander, CPA, Chief Financial Officer

Jazmin Dalson, Operations and Data Specialist

Kathy Gutowsky, Director, Marketing & Communications

Anna R. Hurt, Disaster Management Analyst

Kimberlee Maphis-Early, Senior Associate

Becky Rasmussen, Administrative Program Assistant, Midwest Early Recovery Fund

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Tony Pipa, former Chief Strategy Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Irwin Redlener, MD, Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness, Columbia University

Holly Sampson, President, Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation

Caryl Stern, President and CEO, U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Clay Whybark, Senior Academic Advisor to the Institute for Defense and Business

April Wood, Senior Director for Community Mobilization and Partnerships, American Red Cross

FINANCIALS

	For the Year Ended 12/31/14	For the Year Ended 12/31/15	For the Year Ended 12/31/16
	Audited	Audited	Audited
Income			
Contributions	\$3,352,301	\$2,937,070	\$4,219,632
Advisory Services Fees	84,440	95,697	173,583
Other	2,735	5,087	5,201
Total Income	\$3,439,476	\$3,037,854	\$4,398,416
Expenses			
Program Services	\$1,186,391	\$2,438,017	\$2,262,441
Management & General	125,238	203,448	197,874
Fundraising	110,095	167,029	155,967
Total Expenses	\$1,421,724	\$2,808,494	\$2,616,282
Net Income	\$2,017,752	\$229,360	\$1,782,134
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,546,228	\$2,129,423	\$1,319,053
Net Assets	\$2,823,369	\$3,052,729	\$4,834,863