

Central Susquehanna Community Foundation Flood 2011 – Disaster Relief Fund Grant Guidelines

First Review Deadline: December 31, 2011

On Friday, September 9, 2011, the Central Susquehanna Valley and surrounding communities experienced the worst flooding ever recorded in the area. With these record-breaking river crests the Susquehanna and its tributaries spilled into residential and business areas of the counties served by the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation. As of September 15, FEMA has received more than 9,500 registrations for assistance. Columbia County alone lists 3,300 homes that have been damaged or destroyed by the flood.

The Central Susquehanna Community Foundation has established a Disaster Relief Fund that will respond to requests for funding related to the Flood of September 2011. The Foundation will coordinate with local providers and other funders to help meet short, intermediate and long-term needs that arise as a result of this catastrophe.

The Foundation will consider grants to the nonprofit organizations that serve individuals and families in the following counties: lower-Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union. Residents should contact local agencies for immediate help.

Eligibility: Nonprofit 501(c)(3) and public agencies (e.g. community action groups, relief agencies, churches and faith-based organizations, clinics, schools, county or city human services departments, food banks, clothes closets, etc.) that fit the criteria described below are eligible to apply. Proposals must be implemented without discrimination or religious content.

Criteria: Funding is available to address unmet needs that have developed as a result of the flood. Disaster Relief Fund money will be allocated to address short, intermediate and long-term solutions to the flood. Eligible organizations may apply for funding to address one or more Flood 2011 priorities:

1. Assisting individuals and families with direct assistance *through non-profit organizations* (vouchers, cash assistance, etc.)
2. Addressing systemic issues resulting from the flood (e.g. mental health needs, housing needs, increased need for substance abuse counselors, etc.)

The DRF provides funding to organizations where flood-related reimbursement is not available from other resources.

Scoring: Applications will be evaluated according to the Flood 2011 priorities and community needs.

Grant Size: Funding requests will be reviewed and amounts will be awarded based on need and availability of resources. Applicants may request additional funding for the duration of the Flood 2011 funding program.

Application Process: If you would like your application reviewed during the first grant review process, please submit your application by December 31, 2011. After the initial review, applications will continue to be accepted and processed until further notice. Please continue to visit www.csgiving.org for more details.

Applications received by December 31, 2011 will be reviewed in January 2012. Some decisions may be postponed depending on funding availability and prioritization of need; staff will keep applicants apprised of the review process. Award/decline letters will be sent following each meeting; grants will generally be paid within two weeks of receiving the signed grant agreement.

If the December deadline delays the work you are able to provide, and you need to request an urgent review, please see the last two paragraphs on the grant application form.