

IAFF Disaster Relief Fund

The IAFF Disaster Relief Fund provides assistance to IAFF members in the United States and Canada who suffer financial hardship as the result of natural or man-made disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, fires or civil disturbances or in case of federally declared disasters from other causes.

Created in 1993 as a nonprofit, tax exempt trust fund affiliated with the IAFF, the Disaster Relief Fund provides immediate cash to IAFF members in time of greatest need. The Disaster Relief Fund was established following the IAFF's assistance to members in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew. Disbursements from the Disaster Relief Fund are limited to IAFF members who suffer a catastrophic loss, including total displacement from his or her home and resulting in financial hardship. Disaster Relief Funds are intended to assist with immediate needs (food, water, shelter, clothing, medical supplies and services) of the IAFF member and his or her family. Disaster Relief Funds are not granted to cover costs of building or property repairs, renovation or construction. The maximum amount of any grant is \$500 for any single disaster occurrence.

After Hurricanes Charley, Francis, Ivan and Jeanne caused widespread damage in 2004, the Disaster Relief Fund disbursed more than \$215,000 to IAFF members in Florida and Alabama who were displaced by the storms.

After hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma in 2005, the Fund disbursed more than \$1,750,000 to IAFF members in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Florida who were displaced by the storms. Additionally, the IAFF assisted 48 local affiliates and more than 5,000 members in the disaster area, and provided incident command staff, communications, food, medicine (including vaccinations and baseline medical evaluations), behavioral health and counseling, building materials, crews for house repairs, transportation, evacuation, and housing support. The Disaster Relief Fund provided more than \$500,000 for these efforts.

The IAFF Disaster Relief Fund is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees chaired by IAFF General President Harold A. Schaitberger. Its office is located at the IAFF headquarters in Washington, DC.

The IAFF Disaster Relief Fund is a 501(c)(3) Trust Fund. Tax deductible contributions (in the United States only) can be sent to:

IAFF Disaster Relief Fund
1750 New York Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 824-1571