



# Ottawa Tornadoes

SIX MONTH UPDATE - MARCH 2019

**Within a matter of seconds, lives were changed after a series of devastating tornadoes tore through the Ottawa-Gatineau region in mid-September.**

The powerful twisters ripped roofs off houses, turned over cars and left entire communities in ruin.

Thanks to your generosity, the families and communities affected by the tornadoes are on the road to recovery. In the immediate aftermath, the Canadian Red Cross was on the ground responding at the request of the City of Ottawa by staffing reception centres and shelters, providing information and referral services, registration, and emotional support. The Red Cross also provided financial assistance to those with urgent needs.

In the months that followed, your help was there to support families with ongoing needs like food, lodging, and insurance deductible support. The Red Cross also partnered with community groups to identify their specific needs and help them recover and rebuild their neighbourhoods.

Thank you for being there for the people of Ottawa. Recovery from a disaster of this magnitude can take time, but because of you, the Red Cross will continue to be there for those in need.

## YOUR DONATION AT WORK:



**1,051 households**

received financial assistance from the Red Cross



**2 reception centres**

managed by local authorities with CRC support



**136 volunteers deployed**

contributing 9,238 hours to operations

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# Like home again: How your support has helped bring a community back together



**For the last three years, a tree in the heart of Dunrobin has been decorated with lights for the Christmas holidays. However, last September's devastating tornadoes destroyed the nearby house that supplied power to the lights.**

Knowing that it can be the little things that make a big difference, the West Carleton Disaster Relief (WCDR) group turned to the Red Cross for assistance in getting power to their neighbourhood Christmas tree in time for the holidays last year. Power was hard-wired to the area, so the tree will always be at its festive best, not only for the first Christmas following the tornadoes but for future years as well. This was just one of the initiatives the WCDR group included in their application to the Community Partnerships Program offered by the Red Cross. Funding was also provided to help address several other needs that aren't covered by insurance, such as the clean-up of lawns so they are safe again for children to play.

The Community Partnerships Program is a project-based grants program that was made available to non-profits, charities and other community organizations working to help those impacted by disasters in the Ottawa area. We know that community organizations play a critical role in recovery from disasters by helping to identify needs and gaps in services, leading coordination of recovery initiatives, providing services for the most vulnerable and building community resilience to future emergencies.

This is how you helped light up the holiday spirit in Dunrobin.



**“Addressing these kinds of issues will help us to make our neighbourhood liveable and feel like home again.”**

**– ANGELA BERNHARDT,**  
Vice-President of WCDR

# Financials:

## Your generosity at work

ONTARIO TORNADO RESPONSE – TOTAL FUNDS RAISED AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019: **\$2,093,000**

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS	ALLOCATED TO DATE	SPENT AND COMMITTED TO DATE
<b>INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES</b> These funds supported food, lodging, clothing, insurance deductible support, and debris and stump removal. Assistance has also been provided for other exceptional needs based on individual situations.	<b>\$1,856,000</b>	<b>\$1,856,000</b>
<b>COMMUNITY GROUPS</b> To help ensure the needs of the community are reflected in recovery activities, assistance is provided through a project-based grants program that is available for non-profits, charities, and other community organizations working towards the recovery of those impacted by disasters in the Ottawa area.	<b>\$208,000</b>	<b>\$208,000</b>
<b>COST OF FUNDRAISING</b>	<b>\$29,000</b>	<b>\$29,000</b>
<b>TOTAL SPENT OR COMMITTED AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019</b>		<b>\$2,093,000</b>

100% of the total funds have been spent or committed to date.

### UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Allocation of funds to date:** This is the projected budget across each area of spending for the grand total. The allocations reflect the needs of the people and the community that have been identified to date. Many needs emerge over time and the allocation amounts may be adjusted accordingly.

**Spent and committed to date:** These are the funds that have been already spent to assist those impacted by the tornadoes, as well as funds that have been committed with signed contracts or agreements for recovery projects or initiatives, where applicable.

**Fundraising costs:** The fundraising cost related to this emergency appeal will not exceed five per cent. Fundraising costs are associated to the total funds donated to date, not the grand total including funds received from the government. These costs can include donation processing fees; credit card and bank fees; service fees for call centres and digital platforms; and, ongoing communications and reporting to donors.