

NEWS RELEASE: May 24, 2011

Financial donations encouraged for Joplin tornado recovery

The Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management encourages local residents to respond to the Joplin tornado with financial donations to non-profit relief agencies.

Numerous area agencies are conducting vital operations in Joplin, and will remain in Joplin for weeks or months. These agencies utilize trained personnel and coordinate closely with local emergency management to provide food, water, shelter and other recovery needs.

Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management Director Ryan Nicholls says unless individuals are working directly with a relief agency in Joplin, the best and most efficient way to support recovery efforts is through financial donations.

“When your neighbors are struck with tragedy, it’s natural to offer assistance any way you can, and the outpouring of support from Springfield and Greene County has been amazing,” said Nicholls, whose office assisted with the first 36 hours of tornado recovery in Joplin.

“The American Red Cross, Convoy of Hope and several Joplin-area churches are keeping the victims of the storm well supplied with food, water and shelter. If you would like to help them do that, please donate funds. Financial donations are much more useful and easy to manage than large quantities of donated items.”

To donate, please visit www.redcross-ozarks.org, www.convoyofhope.org, or give to the non-profit agency or church of your choice.

For more information, call Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, at 417-869-6040; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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