



GREATER HOUSTON DISASTER ALLIANCE

FINAL IMPACT REPORT

June 2025









#### **Final Impact Report**

June 2025

On July 8, 2024, Hurricane Beryl ("the disaster") made landfall south of Houston as a Category 1 hurricane, bringing significant winds and leaving 2.6 million people without power, hundreds of thousands of them for more than a week. On July 12 and 13, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden approved a Major Disaster Declaration (4798-DR) for Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties, making federal assistance available to support local recovery efforts.

Recognizing the hardships created by the disaster, Greater Houston Community Foundation ("Foundation") and United Way of Greater Houston ("United Way") established the Hurricane Beryl Recovery Fund ("the Fund") through a standing philanthropic partnership called the <u>Greater Houston Disaster Alliance</u> ("Disaster Alliance"). The Fund was also supported by City of Houston Mayor John Whitmire and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. The work of the Disaster Alliance would not be possible without the support of its lead sponsors: Enbridge and Phillips 66.

In total, the Fund raised \$6.1 million, thanks to the generosity of many individuals, corporations, and foundations.

"In the wake of Hurricane Beryl, the proactive work of the Greater Houston Disaster Alliance - our partnership with United Way and deep engagement with local nonprofits pre-hurricane season enabled us to act swiftly and strategically. Together, and with critical support from donors and funding partners, we directed philanthropic resources to the communities most deeply affected—ensuring that those who needed help the most had equitable access to the support necessary for recovery. This collaboration exemplifies the power of collective action in times of crisis, and our commitment to building a more resilient Houston region."

Steve Maislin
President & CEO

Greater Houston Community Foundation

"Hurricane Beryl tested the strength of our region—but it also revealed the strength of our partnerships and the resilience of our communities. With leadership support from Judge Lina Hidalgo and Mayor John Whitmire, the **Greater Houston Disaster Alliance was** poised and work with our partners to distribute resources where they were needed most. This fund reflects not only the generosity of our donors, including lead sponsors Enbridge and Phillips66, but also our shared commitment to ensuring that families have the support they need to recover and rebuild with dignity."

> Amanda McMillian President & CEO

United Way of Greater Houston





As of January 23, 2025, the <u>Disaster Recovery Council</u> had approved grants through five rounds of funding to 31 unique nonprofit organizations providing critical financial assistance, resource navigation, and home repair services to vulnerable households impacted by the disaster throughout the City of Houston and Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties. Round 1 funds were quickly announced within 23 days of Hurricane Beryl's landfall. The table summarizes grants made by round and program; a detailed list of grantees can be found on page 13 of this report and at the Disaster Alliance's website, <u>www.disasteralliance.org/beryl</u>.

GRANT AMOUNTS DISBURSED BY SERVICE AND ROUND						
Service Area	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Total
Emergency Financial Assistance & Resource Navigation	\$1,100,000	\$600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,700,000
Home Repair	\$1,900,000	\$900,000	\$170,000	\$850,000	\$122,000	\$3,942,000
System Coordination	\$114,387	\$0	\$7,800	\$21,000	\$0	\$143,187
Total	\$3,114,387	\$1,500,000	\$177,800	\$871,000	\$122,000	\$5,785,187

#### Round 1 - July 31, 2024

The Fund granted \$1.1 million to provide flexible emergency financial assistance combined with resource navigation and \$1.9 million to provide nonprofit-managed home repair services to impacted homeowners. Flexible emergency financial assistance provided up to \$1,500 to help households cover various disaster recovery expenses including lost wages, temporary housing and small home repairs. Resource navigation helped survivors access additional recovery resources (like FEMA) and year-round safety net services (food pantry, behavioral health care, etc.). Home repair services provided included debris removal, sealing the envelope of the home, and repairing mechanical systems to restore habitability. A system coordination grant of \$114,387 was also approved to coordinate home repair and emergency financial assistance services.

#### Round 2 - August 21, 2024

The Fund granted \$600,000 to provide flexible emergency financial assistance combined with resource navigation and \$900,000 to provide nonprofit-managed home repair services. This round focused on additional disproportionately impacted zip codes that were identified on a second round of data analysis.



#### Round 3 - October 24, 2024

An additional \$170,000 was granted from the Fund to provide additional home repairs through an existing grantee to impacted homeowners. A \$7,800 system coordination grant was provided to continue centralized home repair services.

#### Round 4 - November 20, 2024

An additional \$850,000 was granted from the Fund to provide additional home repairs through existing grantees to impacted homeowners. A \$21,000 system coordination grant was provided to continue centralized home repair services.

#### Round 5 - January 23, 2025

The remaining \$122,000 from the Fund was granted to provide additional home repairs to impacted homeowners through an existing grantee.

The following information

The following information includes data on the number of individuals and households served by the Beryl Fund by type of service and demographic characteristics. Data were provided by grantee organizations and the system coordinator, who collected information from clients to the best of their ability.

#### TOTAL SERVED

	INDIVIDUALS	HOUSEHOLDS	
Flexible Emergency Financial Assistance	5,378	1,774	
Resource Navigation	4,702	1,552	
Home Repair	732	269	

Note: since resource navigation was combined with flexible emergency financial assistance, some individuals and households received both services. There may also be duplication between home repair and emergency financial assistance programs.

# 6,110 living in 2,043

Geographic Impact



#### TRUSTED DATA SOURCES

In the days immediately following the disaster, the Disaster Alliance compiled available data thanks to close working relationships with local Offices of Emergency Management of impacted counties, the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), and Connective to help identify communities experiencing a disproportionate impact as a result of the disaster. Data sources used in this analysis included:

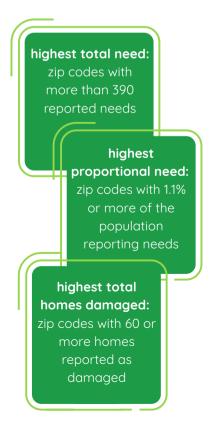
- Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) a tool developed for TDEM to assess and manage disaster response efforts within Texas.
- 211 Calls for Assistance United Way of Greater Houston's 211 HELPLINE call center received disaster-related calls from April 26 May 21 from Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties with food/basic needs, shelters, FEMA and other resource navigation assistance, and disaster-related financial assistance as the primary services requested.
- ALICE Households Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households earn above the
  Federal Poverty Level but less than what it costs to make ends meet. These measurements provide a
  broader picture of financial insecurity. The data come from United for ALICE, a research initiative
  spearheaded by United Way of Northern New Jersey in which United Way of Greater Houston is a
  local partner.
- Households living at/below Poverty The U.S. Census Bureau's 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) provides the percentage of households whose income falls at/below the federal poverty threshold.
- Connective Needs Assessment distributed across the Houston region, Connective's Needs Assessment Survey asks disaster survivors about physical damage and financial impacts caused by disaster and what resulting needs are at the zip code level.

#### DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED ZIP CODES

As a baseline, only zip codes where at least 50% of households were considered ALICE or below, including those living in poverty. Given the intended target population of the Fund, these zip codes represent geographic areas where there is a higher proportion of low-to-moderate income families that are likely to be un- or under-insured. To identify areas disproportionately impacted, three key factors were analyzed: highest total need, highest proportional need, and highest total homes damaged.

As a final step, the Disaster Alliance used the Social Vulnerability Index at the census tract level to identify high need zip codes with smaller pockets of high vulnerability. The initial analysis on July 15 resulted in a total of 25 disproportionately impacted zip codes across Houston and Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties.

Due to delays in data, a second analysis was performed on July 22, resulting in an additional 22 zip codes identified for a total of 47 disproportionately impacted zip codes where the Fund's philanthropic resources were targeted. Among these, 19 zip codes were designated as most affected as they consistently ranked at the top across the three evaluation criteria.





#### **DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED ZIP CODES**

Zip Code	County	Zip Code	County	Zip Code	County
77090	Harris	77036	Harris	77047	Harris
77033	Harris	77066	Harris	77072	Harris
77088	Harris	77099	Harris	77040	Harris
77021	Harris	77034	Harris	77035	Harris
77016	Harris	77026	Harris	77076	Harris
77489	Fort Bend	77092	Harris	77071	Harris
77082	Harris	77080	Harris	77078	Harris
77060	Harris	77477	Fort Bend	77055	Harris
77093	Harris	77085	Harris	77032	Harris
77051	Harris	77471	Fort Bend	77306	Mongtomery
77015	Harris	77562	Harris	77372	Montgomery
77045	Harris	77050	Harris	77301	Montgomery
77053	Fort Bend	77451	Fort Bend	77417	Fort Bend
77048	Harris	77466	Waller	77464	Fort Bend
77042	Harris				

Denotes the 19 priority zip codes for the Fund

Harris

Harris

Harris

Harris

77028

77091

77083

77520

#### TARGETING RESOURCES TO THE HIGHEST NEED

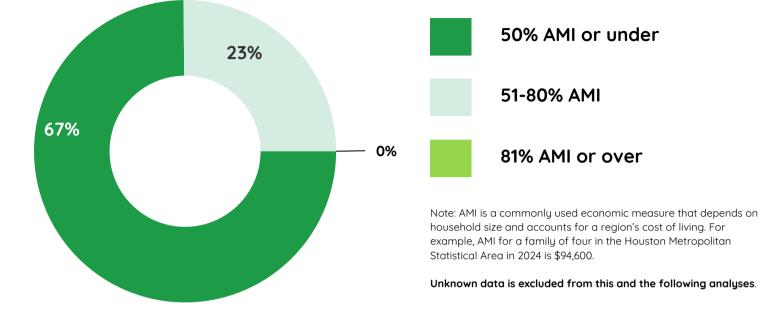
of households receiving flexible emergency financial assistance were located in a priority zip code

of homes repaired were located in a priority zip code

## Emergency Financial Assistance



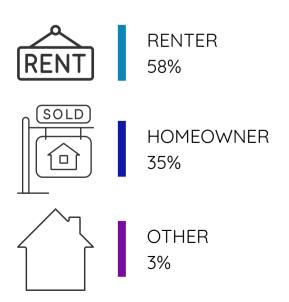
#### INCOME LEVEL as a % of Area Median Income (AMI)



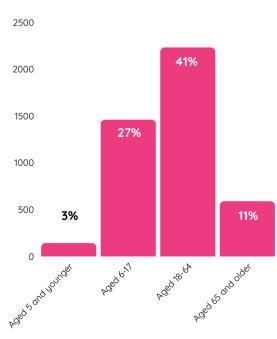
**Average Assistance Provided** per household



#### LIVING SITUATION



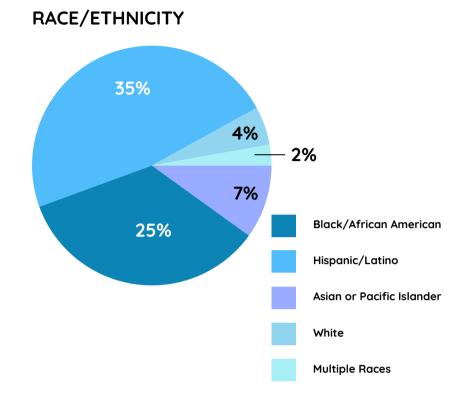
#### **AGE**



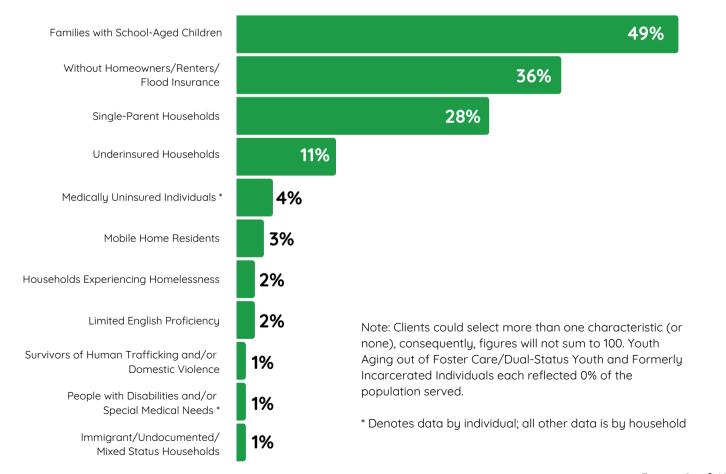


#### POPULATIONS SERVED

Research has shown that some groups are disproportionately impacted by disasters. At the same time, these groups are the least likely to have access to or receive assistance to recover following disasters. That is why, in addition to total need, relative need, and homedamaged data, Greater Houston Disaster Alliance prioritizes vulnerable populations when setting its fund strategy, establishing program guidelines, and making grant recommendations to the Disaster Recovery Council.



#### **VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**





Client Story

"Mrs. T, an 84-year old Vietnamese widow lives alone with limited mobility. on a fixed income, and speaks limited English. After Beryl, she was without electricity for a week. Not only did she lose food and live without water for a time, but she fell and hurt her leg in the darkness of her home. While she waited for a decision from FEMA, she heard that there was assistance available from Chinese Community Center. Mrs. T shared with the staff: "Special thanks to the program and CCC's staff for providing this help that enabled me to buy food, water, and other necessities. I am so happy for this help... for me and others who were harmed by the hurricane."

From Our Grantees

"Our community appreciated the flexible financial assistance which helped them recover their out-of-pocket food replacement, lost wages, minor home repairs, spoiled medicine and more. While providing financial assistance, we were able to also help people apply for FEMA assistance and translate FEMA letters clients had received, help eligible seniors apply for food stamps, and refer others to home repairs."

**Boat People SOS - Houston** 

Impact Initiative

#### **Coordinated Emergency Financial Assistance**

As part of the Disaster Alliance's commitment to continuous improvement and innovation, it and Connective made a joint investment - with resources outside of the Beryl Recovery Fund - to pilot coordinated intake for emergency financial assistance (EFA) during the Beryl Recovery Fund. This optional centralized process offered the ability to screen for client duplication and offer broader outreach and intake, centralized reporting, and access to Connective's low-barrier payment distribution tool. The goal of this pilot was to support accessible, client-centric services that prioritize the most vulnerable households, reduce duplication, maximize philanthropic impact, and reduce the administrative burden on grantees.

Overall, the pilot program was a success. The shared data system allowed for more real-time collaboration and troubleshooting between grantees, and between grantees and Connective. Grantees who participated in the program were overwhelmingly supportive of the centralized process, expressing a desire for the Disaster Alliance to continue to invest in coordinated EFA, as long as it is in alignment with the scale of the disaster and recovery programming activated.



Home Repair



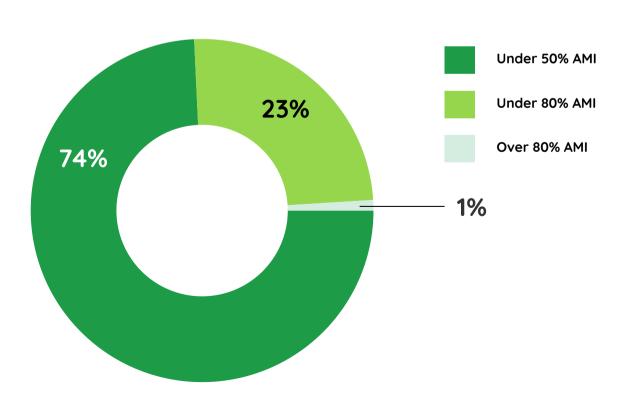


In partnership with 12 home repair nonprofits and system coordinator Connective, the Beryl Recovery Fund repaired 269 homes throughout the City of Houston and Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, and Waller counties. Connective built and administered an online, coordinated application for home repair that connected eligible applicants to Fund grantees providing home repair services.

Connective's coordinated home repair process involves three phases: a common application and intake, centralized eligibility verification and matching to home repair agencies, and ongoing troubleshooting and reporting. Connective also reports all quantitative home repair data on behalf of grantees.

The data reflect the demographics of households served for completed home repair projects.

#### **INCOME LEVEL** as % of Area Median Income





#### **Housing Type**



91%

single-family homes



**9%** mobile homes or townhomes



Of 132 home repair households with insurance, **98% (129)** cannot afford their insurance deductible.

#### **Standardized Home Repair Tiers**

The Tier system for disaster home repairs was introduced after Hurricane Harvey to establish community-wide standards and ensure consistent service across home repair agencies. This system provides shared definitions for repair priorities, sequencing, and levels of habitability, and includes guidelines for repair scopes and estimated costs.

Given the distinct impacts of the flooding, severe storms, and tornadoes, the Disaster Alliance invested in the following home repair services through the Derecho Recovery Fund program:

Tier 0 Tier 1		Tier 2		
Emergency/urgent tree and debris removal	<ul> <li>Temporary tarping to seal the envelope during construction</li> <li>Gutting/removal of damaged interior building materials</li> <li>Required demolition and structural repairs</li> <li>Roof repair/replacement</li> <li>Foundation repairs</li> <li>Window replacement</li> <li>Siding repairs/replacement</li> <li>Gutter installation</li> <li>Mold control</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Repair of hazardous electrical conditions</li> <li>Mechanical repairs or interim temperature controls</li> <li>Plumbing repairs for essential fixtures</li> <li>Repairs to water and/or sewage lines</li> <li>Accessibility modifications</li> <li>Replacement of flooring, insulation, and sheetrock</li> <li>Costs for temporary storage</li> </ul>		



Client Story

"From my first contact with Connective to meeting with the work teams from Northwest Harris
County Habitat for Humanity, I cannot say enough good things about my experience. The work that these organizations do is truly life changing; they are a powerful resource in our communities. I am so thankful for the kindness and compassion shown to me during such a challenging time in my life."

"Beth is raising her three grandchildren alone along with her adopted son and lived in her home since 1972. During Beryl, her roof was damaged, resulting in leaks that affected several rooms. Her home lacked a functioning water heater, running water, kitchen cabinets, and a sink. Rebuilding Together Houston stepped in to provide essential repairs, including fixing electrical and plumbing issues, replacing damaged siding and trim, and stabilizing the home - restoring Beth's family home to a safe and livable condition."

From Our Grantees

"We are deeply appreciative of the Disaster Alliance and the way the expedited home repair funding. We are humbled by the trust in our organization and appreciate the effort and passion of our partnership. This collaboration helped us exceed our initial goals on repairs completed, supporting homeowners with recovery."

**Hope Disaster Recovery** 

"This grant helped us repair damage from Beryl and address other needs to return family homes to a safe, sanitary, functional condition. Our Beryl home repair program and your funding truly helped us serve households that have the least, providing them with dignity and helping them live in homes that they can feel safe in."

**Katy Responds** 





Thanks to the many generous organizations and individuals, the Fund has raised and invested nearly \$5.8 million to 31 local nonprofits that have served more than 6,100 people in over 2,000 households.

#### \$1,000,000

CenterPoint Energy Foundation • H-E-B • Sarofim Foundation

#### \$100,000 - \$400,000

Calpine • Conrad N. Hilton Foundation • Dovetail Foundation • NRG Energy • The Powell Foundation • Robert Wood Johnson Foundation • Quanta • Susan A. & Thomas S. Smith Foundation

#### \$25,000 - \$99,999

Christopher David Weekley Charitable Fund • Fidelity Charitable Catalyst Fund
Jeri and Marc Shapiro • JPMorgan Chase Foundation • NOV • Randa & K.C. Weiner
Shell USA Inc. • Tellepsen Family Fund • Tenaska • Texas Mutual Foundation • Wells Fargo
William K. McGee Family Foundation • The Victor and Anna Mae Beghini Charitable Foundation

Nonprofit Partners

Thank you to these incredible organizations for providing critical recovery resources to our neighbors in need. Greater Houston Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston also extends thanks to the Grants Committee and Disaster Recovery Council for their recommendations and approvals, respectively, of all investments made from the Fund.

### Flexible Emergency Financial Assistance & Resource Navigation

BakerRipley (\$75,000)

Boat People SOS - Houston (\$50,000)

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston (\$75,000)

Chinese Community Center (\$75,000)

Community Assistance Center (\$75,000)

East Harris County Empowerment

Council (\$200,000)

Easter Seals of Greater Houston

(\$50,000)

Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services (\$100,000) Family Houston (\$50,000) HAAM Social Services (\$100,000) Jewish Family Service (\$100,000) Katy Christian Ministries (\$50,000)
My Brother's Keeper Outreach
Center (\$50,000)
Second Mile Mission Center
(\$50,000)
Sewa International (\$50,000)
Volunteers of America (\$100,000)
Wesley Community Center
(\$75,000)

West Houston Assistance Ministries (\$100,000)

## Flexible Emergency Financial Assistance & Home Repair

Hope Disaster Recovery (\$300,000)
Tejano Center for Community
Concerns, Inc. (\$300,000)
West Street Recovery (\$300,000)

#### **Home Repair**

Covenant Community Capital (\$492,000)Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation (\$450,000) Fort Bend County Habitat for Humanity (\$200,000) Habitat for Humanity Northwest Harris County (\$450,000) Houston Habitat for Humanity (\$525,000) Katy Responds (\$475,000) Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity (\$200,000) Rebuilding Together Houston (\$275,000)

The Restoration Team (\$250,000)

System Coordination: Emergency Financial Assistance & Home Repair - Connective (\$143,187)



## Disaster Recovery Council

Thank you to the Greater Houston Disaster Alliance Disaster Recovery Council. In addition to year-round governance and oversight, the Disaster Recovery Council played a critical role in approving the strategy for the Fund, as well as approving grant recommendations made by the Grants Committee.

**Bob Harvey, Co-Chair** - Retired, President/CEO, Greater Houston Partnership **Donna Sims Wilson, Co-Chair** - Chief Operating Officer, Kah Capital Management

Patra Brannon-Isaac - Director of Education and Community Projects, Kinder Foundation

Todd Denton - SVP, HSE and Projects, Phillips 66

Winnell Herron - VP of Public Affairs, HEB

Mike Koby - SVP & COO, Gas Transmission & Midstream, Enbridge

Y. Ping Sun - Of Counsel, Yetter Coleman LLP

Tony Torres - Houston & New Orleans Office Audit Leader, Deloitte & Touche

Cynthia Wilson - Special Advisor for Organizational Culture and Education, City of Houston

**Steve Maislin** - President & CEO, Greater Houston Community Foundation **Amanda McMillian** - President & CEO, United Way of Greater Houston



Thank you to the staff-led Grants Committee who reviewed applications and made recommendations to the Disaster Recovery Council in alignment with grant guidelines and disproportionately impacted communities.



Brooke Campbell - Director of Community Outreach & Disaster Recovery, United Way of Greater Houston

Jessica Davison - Senior Director, Mission & Strategy, United Way of Greater Houston

**Deresha Gibson** - Program Officer, The George Foundation

Sara Martinez - Senior Director of Community Impact, Greater Houston Community Foundation

Mary Vazquez - Vice President of Community Outreach, United Way of Greater Houston

Diana Zarzuelo - Vice President of Community Impact, Greater Houston Community Foundation

# Contact Information



We inspire and create meaningful and positive change with our donors and for our community,

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We work together to improve lives, build a stronger community, and create meaningful opportunities for people to prosper.

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