



4C's
Christian Community Compassion Center

P.O. Box 422, Harrisburg, Illinois 62946-0426

Homeless Shelter: Phone: (618) 252-3931, Fax: (618) 252-3580

saline4c.org

Rev. Louis E. Malone
2919 19th Street
Rockford, IL 61109

April 4, 2012

Dear Rev. Malone:

February 29, 2012 is a day that Southern Illinois will not forget. With the 170 mile per hour tornado that struck Harrisburg, Ridgway and some surrounding communities, we experienced immense damage, many injuries and the loss of seven lives. Many business and homes were destroyed or damaged in the area. In Harrisburg alone, 25 businesses and 300 homes were destroyed or damaged. Here are just a few of the stories of some of the tornado victims.

A young couple had just moved into a rental house. Most of their things were still in boxes and stored in the garage because they wanted to move things in a little at a time until they got their house in order. The tornado took the garage and everything in it, the only thing left was the concrete pad.

Another man who could hardly walk and had trouble breathing said the tornado took off some of his roof and split his trailer in half. His neighbors pushed it back together and tried to patch it. He is trying to live in the trailer, but when it started raining, more of his belongings were ruined.

One lady's home was destroyed. She was able to purchase a small camper to live in. But after the camper purchase she didn't have enough to purchase other necessities like sheets, towels, pots, pans, cleaning supplies, etc.

Another couple only had slight damage to their home. However the place where the man worked was destroyed and now he has no work, and there are children in the home.

A husband and wife were both injured and their home was completely destroyed. Despite that they were both reluctant to come in for help or accept any assistance because someone else might need it more.

There is story after story just like those above. Some people not only lost their homes but also their jobs. The need is great.

The Baptist General State Convention of Illinois has been very generous in sending so many needed items like cleaning supplies, paper goods and a great number of other supplies and household items that were needed during the clean-up phase. Now that the rebuild is underway, the communities have a great need for building supplies (plywood, 2x4's, nails, plumbing materials, shingles, electrical supplies, etc). We have experienced a gracious

outpouring of assistance from both the surrounding communities and from across the nation. We thank everyone.

The Christian Community Compassion Center (4C's) has been here for those in need, but now is being called upon to meet the needs in a much broader since. Casey's General Store has allotted us the use of one of their buildings to use as a distribution site for tornado victims, so that we can continue to meet some of the daily needs. 242 of the tornado victims have come to the distribution site for supplies and all have been so appreciative. It means so much to them that they are not alone and that so many people care. It will take a long time for recovery and the 4C's will faithfully do their best to meet the needs of tornado victims as they recover. Once again, Thank You for your support. If you have any questions please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Mona Crim
Homeless Shelter Director