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PRESS RELEASE:
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NAUMF Funds $10,000 in Grants to Three Local Methodist Foundations to Assist with Disaster Relief

Dallas, TX: The National Association of United Methodist Foundations (NAUMF) is funding $10,000 grants to three local Methodist foundations in order to help with disaster relief: California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation for wildfire relief efforts, Iowa United Methodist Foundation for relief efforts related to the August derecho, and the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana for hurricane relief.

These yearend grants were a welcome surprise to foundation leaders like California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation Executive Director, David Malloy. "What a joy it is to be a part of our connectional church! I want to express my heartfelt thanks to NAUMF and their efforts to bring God's love to our church communities reeling from the devastating fires that ravaged our area this year," he wrote in response to the news.

Iowa United Methodist Foundation Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Katharine Yarnell, shared similar sentiments when she was notified. "I can't tell you how thrilled we are to be the recipients of this wonderful, generous gift for the people of Iowa who are recovering from the derecho and COVID," she responded.

NAUMF is an association of similar United Methodist ministries and it exists to enable the development of both the purpose and practice of its members. To that end, these grants were awarded to these three area foundations in order to help leverage their own efforts in disaster relief and strengthen their relationship with local congregations and pastors, as well as conference and community partners. All three foundations have plans to match the grant dollars and to partner with local congregations and their respective annual conference initiatives.

The heart of any Methodist foundation's ministry is to help strengthen the mission of the church. These foundations occupy an edge position in the church. They are deeply committed to the mission of the church, but they do not have responsibility for the institution of the church as those in the center of the organization do, such as the conferences or districts. It is from this edge position that foundations are well-poised to come alongside the church with encouragement, support, and commitment to its mission.

"NAUMF seeks to assist member foundations in their ability to strengthen the church's witness in their area," NAUMF President David Bell shared. "These disaster relief grants are one way NAUMF can partner with local foundations to collaborate with the church to meet needs in their mission field."

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NAUMF is a network of United Methodist foundations across America, organized to help each other accomplish our goals related to stewardship, planned giving, and securing the future funding of our United Methodist churches, agencies, and ministries.