

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Emergency grants provide immediate emergency relief assistance to victims of natural disasters through the service work programs of Lions clubs worldwide. Emergency grants in the amount of up to US\$10,000 are available to Lions districts for relief aid in the wake of tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, typhoons, monsoons, ice storms, wildfires, flooding caused by excessive rains and similar natural disasters.

In addition to following the criteria listed in the Emergency grant application, applicants must follow these guidelines to ensure timely and efficient receipt of funds.

WHAT ARE IMMEDIATE NEEDS?

Emergency grant funds are limited to meeting disaster victims' most urgent and vital needs immediately following a disaster. Emergency grants are not intended for more long-term needs such as rebuilding homes and buildings or replacing household and personal belongings. (LCIF Standard grants may be available for long-term projects that address the need for vital community facilities.) Emergency grants address these immediate needs:

- food
- bottled water
- clothing
- blankets
- medicine and medical supplies
- cleaning supplies
- toiletries



DETERMINING NEEDS

Lions are encouraged to actively seek out and address the most pressing needs to maximize the use of funds. Lions are most appreciated when they make purchases and deliver supplies directly to victims. For instance, after the tornado in Joplin, Missouri, USA, Lions found out that a shelter had opened its doors to families left homeless from the tornado and was struggling to provide 120 additional meals each day. Lions used Emergency grant funds to take a staff member grocery shopping to ensure they purchased sufficient and correct supplies to meet their overwhelming needs. In Japan, Lions cooked hot meals and served to those left homeless as well as volunteer relief workers. After many days of eating canned foods, community members were appreciative of the hot meal. This is an opportunity for Lions to deliver a hands-on relief activity within their community. Be creative!

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Lions are encouraged to work with partner organizations, such as the Red Cross, to combine efforts and have greater impact on devastated communities. However, Emergency grant funds are not available to present to another party; Lions must utilize the funds directly.

QUESTIONS?

LCIF can provide suggestions for appropriate use of grant funds and determining immediate needs. Please contact the Humanitarian Programs Department at (630) 203-3819 or lcifemergencygrants@lionsclubs.org.