

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Michigan Realtors® Assist Gaylord Residents Displaced by Tornado

Lansing, Michigan (May 31, 2022) – Michigan Realtors® and the Water Wonderland Board of Realtors®, with assistance from the REALTORS® Relief Foundation, are happy to announce a program that provides relief assistance in response to the Tornado that resulted in widespread property damage in Gaylord on May 20, 2022.

On May 20th, an EF-3 Tornado touched down in Gaylord. Michigan Realtors® and the Water Wonderland Board of Realtors® have successfully applied to the REALTORS® Relief Foundation to provide financial relief to those impacted by this natural disaster.

In response to the unforeseen burdens that these residents are forced to face, the REALTORS® Relief Foundation has \$100,000 available for individuals and families directly affected by the May 20<sup>th</sup> Tornado and reside within the State of Emergency Zone as declared by Michigan’s Governor, Gretchen Whitmer. Financial assistance will be provided to cover one month’s rent or mortgage payment for qualified applicants in an amount of up to \$1,000 per household until the available funds are fully allocated.

Michigan Realtors® President James Iodice, expressed sympathy for those who involuntarily face enormous challenges brought on by this devastating weather event. *“I know I am not alone in conveying our heartfelt support to those impacted by this Tornado. The REALTORS® Relief Foundation is an important aspect of the Realtor® mission to support those communities that we live and work in. We hope these efforts, combined with those of other humanitarian groups, aid in a swift recovery for the people of Gaylord.”*

If you have been directly affected by the Gaylord Tornado on May 20, 2022 and are located within the boundaries of the State of Emergency Zone, please find the REALTORS® Relief Foundation Application at <https://www.mirealtors.com/Relief-Fund> and click on “Realtor® Relief Assistance Application”. The deadline to apply is July 15, 2022. Applications can be submitted to the following Association:

Water Wonderland Board of Realtors®: [wwbrtornadoreliefgrant@gmail.com](mailto:wwbrtornadoreliefgrant@gmail.com)

Each applicant will need to provide:

1. Photo Identification that proves your place of residence.
2. Copy of Mortgage Statement or Renters Statement.

One of the following will be required to show proof of damage:

1. Photos of Damage.
2. Insurance Estimates.
3. Copies of Written Claims, Settlement Proceeds or Claim Status Reports.
4. Copies of Repair Estimates from Contractors.

The Michigan Realtor® Relief Fund is an organization established to provide housing-related assistance to victims of disasters. Michigan Realtors® has actively supported communities in times of need including the Mid-Michigan Dam Breaches (2020), the Houghton County Floods (2018), victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico (2017), Flint Water Crisis (2014-2016).

Michigan Realtors® is an integrated advocacy and communications force for the real estate professionals of our State. We are the recognized public policy and legal advocate for private property rights, as well as the acknowledged leading resource for professional development, knowledge exchange, and wide-ranging business services. Our over 34,000+ members understand clearly that the most successful Realtors® in Michigan value the benefits of membership in our association.