Beyond The Blog: Edition 6

Building Resilience: A Journey Through Disaster Recovery and Beyond

Index

Leverage the power of the index to quickly access the content that captivates your interest.
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1. Familiarize yourself with the structure of the index, noting key sections or categories.

2. Identify the topics or keywords that intrigue you the most.

3. Pay attention to any subheadings or subcategories within the index that may provide more specific information.

4. Keep an open and curious mindset as you explore The Patterson Foundation’s communications evolution, Beyond The Blog.
Beyond The Blog is an evolution of The Patterson Foundation’s storytelling approach focused on creating and sharing engaging content featuring the people, organizations, and communities strengthened through the Foundation’s work.

As part of TPF’s Aspirations to Actions initiative, community conversations with a disaster theme will begin taking place to identify community thoughts and ideas.

Complete the brief form here to participate.
Dear Readers,

Disasters can take several forms, each caused by a different phenomenon. Whether threatened by hurricanes, other natural disasters, pandemics, open conflicts, or other human-made crises, we will inevitably face unforeseen challenges that threaten our safety and well-being. Meeting immediate, essential needs in the aftermath is crucial to life-saving response efforts. However, there is also the need to rebuild lives and livelihoods.

Philanthropy has a tremendous opportunity to strengthen long-term disaster recovery worldwide. By taking a flexible funding approach responsive to the people, organizations, and communities navigating a large-scale disaster, individual donors and major funders can support efforts to help them emerge stronger and more resilient.

The Patterson Foundation (TPF) understands the disaster recovery process includes three distinct phases:

- **We cope** by ensuring our safety and addressing the immediate needs essential to survival.
- **We adapt** to living through disaster by adopting new systems and methods to create stability.
- **We innovate** by embracing a possibility mindset and discovering fresh ways to live, work, and play.

TPF navigated these phases during its journey through the pandemic. Our experience taught us that this recovery process is not linear — each day can present new challenges necessitating a shift between recovery phases.

Edition 6 illustrates what’s possible when we focus on strengthening medium- and long-term rebuilding efforts while keeping attuned to where people, organizations, and communities are in their process of coping, adapting, and innovating — ultimately helping our world recover with resilience.
Welcome to the Disaster edition of Beyond The Blog, where we are bringing you learnings from 2022 Hurricane Ian and perspectives from thought leaders working to ensure humanity is at the center of all disaster recovery. If you’re returning, welcome back! We hope you buckle in and have your tools ready to think about your own disaster preparedness. If you are new, welcome! We are Kellie and Rachel, current Fellows with The Patterson Foundation (TPF) and co-editors of Beyond The Blog (BTB), an evolution of The Patterson Foundation's storytelling approach.

While it is officially summer in the Suncoast, it's also hurricane season. As Floridians prepare, it's only fitting we focus on philanthropy's role in disasters. We even weathered our first Florida hurricane last year, Hurricane Ian.

Rachel: Disasters: Where Should Community Leaders Focus?

Kellie: Putting Humanity at the Center: Responding to Hurricane Ian

Hurricane Ian left many of our community members without internet, food, housing, transportation, and even access to school. As part of TPF's Aspirations to Actions (A2A) initiative, community conversations with a disaster theme will begin taking place with efforts to identify community thoughts and ideas. We want to hear from you!

Complete the brief form here to be notified when these sessions will take place.

The stories and resources mentioned in this edition focus on preparedness and sustainable recovery. We've learned that even after disasters and hazards strike, there is still lots to be done following immediate action. Philanthropy has the unique opportunity to address sustainable recovery for long-term change. By focusing on a recovery mindset, this edition is rich with resources and information from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP), the Community Foundation of Sarasota County's Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund, and the Suncoast Region.

Flip through this edition of BTB to learn more about TPF's role in disasters and resources for the 2023 season.

Author's Note

Do you know where to find local Suncoast Region resources for disaster preparedness and recovery?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure
- Yes, but not Suncoast Region

POST ANSWER
The Podcast

Featuring Patty McIlreavy
President and CEO of the
Center for Disaster
Philanthropy
TPF Fellow Kellie Alexander talked with Patty McIlreavy, president and CEO of the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, before Hurricane Ian landed in the Fall of 2022. Following hurricanes, intense storms, and global disasters, Kellie interviews Patty to dig deeper into many of these topics, including putting humanity at the center of disasters and philanthropy's role.

- Approaching Disasters and Recovery: Views from thought Leader Patty McIlreavy

Click play on the grey bar to listen...
Disaster Resources

- Insights from Hurricane Ian
- Resource Page
On September 23, 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall in Florida at category 4 intensity producing catastrophic storm surge. In one way or another, so many people were affected by Ian's devastation—from losing screens and trees to homes being totally demolished.

According to NOAA's projections, "the upcoming Atlantic hurricane season is expected to be less active than recent years, due to competing factors — some that suppress storm development and some that fuel it — driving this year's overall forecast for a near-normal season." While that sounds like we are in the clear, don't let "less active" make you decide to skip disaster preparedness.

As part of The Patterson Foundation's (TPF) disaster planning and preparedness— and caring being an integral part of TPF's culture—we have compiled a comprehensive spreadsheet containing the contact information of TPFers, including names, email addresses, cell phone numbers, and Twitter handles.

We intend to utilize this spreadsheet for communication and updates during a hurricane, assuming internet connectivity, cellular data, and power are available. In the event of a disaster, TPFers are asked to kindly provide a brief update in the "Disaster Status" column to indicate they are safe, have evacuated, or are staying with family. This helps ensure the well-being of everyone.

Here are some helpful links related to hurricane preparedness:

- **Preparing for Hurricane Season**
- FEMA's App for real-time alerts, safety tips, and emergency shelters
- [Ready.gov](https://ready.gov) (ENGLISH) and [Listo.gov](https://listo.gov) (SPANISH)
- National Weather Service: Hurricane resources, etc.

Hurricane preparedness can safeguard your family and property. Here are FEMA's hurricane season preparation recommendations:

- **Prepare to evacuate.** Have a "go bag" with medication and clothes, stock emergency supplies, such as a first aid kit and flashlights, secure a place to stay, and research your local evacuation routes.
- **Safeguard your home.** Reinforce and secure your walls, doors, roof, and windows.
Secure lightweight outdoor objects, such as patio furniture and planters. If you can’t carry an item inside, secure these items with an anchor.

- **Sign up for local alerts and warnings.** Sign up for texts, calls, and emails to warn you about a hurricane. You may want to get a [NOAA Weather Radio](https://www.noaa.gov/)

- **Protect important documents.** Use a waterproof container to store all financial documents, insurance cards, medical records, passports, birth certificates, and other legal documents.

- **Have emergency contacts.** It’s recommended to have an out-of-state emergency contact and up-to-date contact information for work, school, doctors, non-emergency police, family members, and doctors.

Let’s be well-prepared and stay connected for 2023!

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Video originally created and shared by United Way Suncoast

Ashley Coone, TPF Consultant, United Way Suncoast board member, and DeSoto County Commissioner during Hurricane Ian shares insights into mid- and long-term action and resilience, especially for the Arcadia community.
Suncoast Disaster Recovery Fund (SDRF)

Created by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County in partnership with TPF, the SDRF supports long-term, long-range programs to sustain human service agencies serving people in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties as they recover from Hurricane Ian’s impact. Long-term recovery includes support for the economic, social, spiritual, and emotional well-being of our community — needs that persist beyond the initial disaster-response effort.

TPF catalyzed donations to the SDRF with an immediate $500,000 contribution and $750,000 in matching gifts — inspiring additional generous matches from other funders. Caring donors contributed nearly $5 million total to support our region’s resilient recovery.

- Take a look at the recovery opportunities and agencies this funding has supported so far.
- Hardship Inspires Heart-Warming Action
- Community Foundation of Sarasota County Awards Nearly $1 Million for Hurricane Recovery Efforts
Thank you for reading

Beyond The Blog
Join the Journey