## For Immediate Release

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## Florida United Ways Respond to Hurricane Ian

Escambia and Santa Rosa counties escaped the devastation of Hurricane Ian. But many people are looking for ways to assist communities hit by the storm.

Florida's United Ways are connecting those who want to help with those who need help.

"United Way's mantra is LIVE UNITED and it embodies our spirit of togetherness," said Melissa Nelson, President and CEO of United Way of Florida. "In light of Hurricane Ian's impact on our state, this mantra carries more weight than ever before."

United Way of Florida activated a relief fund for communities hit hardest by Hurricane Ian. Donations can be made at <u>uwof.org/disaster-recovery-fund</u>. You can direct your gift to a specific location or county.

"Through our independent network of local United Ways, we rally around those in need to lift up our communities every day, and especially in times of disaster," said Nelson.

There are 28 local United Ways in Florida, touching every county and 21 million residents.



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**About UWWF:** United Way of West Florida is a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that unifies nonprofit agencies, organizations, businesses - and people - to fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. With a vision of a community united to create better opportunities for all, United Way of West Florida's mission is to Unite our community and leverage resources to improve lives. For more information, visit <u>uwwf.org</u>.