

## GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER Order of the Eastern Star Established November 1867

## To all Eastern Star Sisters and Brothers around the world,

On behalf of our Most Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Billie Bradfield and Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Mike Berry, I am authorized and honored to share this important message with you.

As we have all witnessed—and many have personally experienced—natural disasters are affecting communities across the globe, often striking in the most unexpected places. The devastation, the destruction of homes and livelihoods, and the tragic loss of lives are heartbreaking.

When we knelt at the Altar, each of us made a vow to extend generous aid to those in poverty and distress. **Now is the time to honor that sacred promise.** 

The General Grand Chapter Disaster Relief Committee was established during the 51st Triennial Assembly in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in November 2024. This Committee includes Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons from 13 Jurisdictions across North America, along with the Most Worthy Grand Matron, Most Worthy Grand Patron, Right Worthy Grand Secretary, and the three Right Worthy Grand Trustees.

The mission of the Committee is to raise and distribute funds to support Jurisdictions affected by natural disasters. Requests for assistance should be submitted by the Worthy Grand Matron to the Committee Chair, **John P. Groves**.

To date, our Disaster Relief Fund has provided aid in response to:

- Floods and landslides in Brazil
- Wildfires in the Province of Manitoba, Canada
- Floods in Texas
- Hurricanes in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina
- Fires in California and floods in Kentucky (assisted locally within those Jurisdictions)

Since January 1, 2025, over 39,995 fires have burned more than 3 million acres across North America. Floods have caused catastrophic damage and loss of life in 9 U.S.

states, 4 countries in South America, and across central and eastern Europe. And the hurricane season is just beginning.

Our Disaster Relief Fund cannot continue to meet these urgent needs without **your help**.

## What can you do?

- Organize fundraising events in your Chapter, District, County, or Jurisdiction.
- Collect "B Dollars"—U.S. currency with the letter "B" in the serial number—as well as any form of currency.
- Designate a "Good of the Order" Collection for Disaster Relief in two months of your choosing during the years 2025, 2026, and 2027 (we recommend May and November).
- Send your donations, in U.S. currency, made payable to "GGC Disaster Relief Fund", to the Right Worthy Grand Secretary, 1618 New Hampshire Ave, NW, Washington DC, 20009.

Every penny, peso, euro, real, leu, sol, guarani or florin makes a difference.

The next disaster could strike **tomorrow**.

Let us stand ready—united in love and service—to help our Sisters and Brothers in their time of need.

Help us help you. Please act today.

Dream, Imagine and Believe,

General Grand Chapter Disaster Relief Committee

John P. Groves, GGCCM, PGP of Michigan

Chairman

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We thank you!

This letter is approved and endorsed by:

MWGM Billie Bradfield

Minf & Jerry

MWGP Michael E. Berry