



TEXAS VETERINARY MEDICAL FOUNDATION DISASTER GIVING POLICY

Disasters can strike at any time and the Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation stands ready to help not only Texas veterinarians and the animals they treat, but, where appropriate, veterinarians and animals in other parts of the United States.

For disasters within the state of Texas, TVMF is ready at all times to assist veterinarians who provide medical care to the animal victims during and after any disaster with Disaster Relief Grantsⁱ. Veterinarians treating animals affected by a disaster or whose clinics are impacted by a disaster may apply for a Disaster Relief Grant using TVMF's application form. Grants are awarded in consultation with the TVMF Grants Committee.

For disasters outside of Texas, monetary donations may be given with approval from the TVMF Board of Trustees. In deciding when and how much to give, the following factors should be taken into consideration:

1. When to respond - Is the disaster likely to affect veterinarians and/or animals in the stricken area? Will a monetary gift align with TVMF's mission?
2. Has the Governor of Texas declared an emergency?
3. Scope of the disaster – Will local resources be able to cope with the need, or will they be overloaded and require outside assistance?
4. Response scope – Will TVMF give a donation only from its disaster fund, or will it solicit gifts from TVMA membership/the general public (perhaps with a matching gift challenge)?
5. Partner organization – Does the affected area have a local VMA or VMF that TVMF can partner with to ensure funds are allocated fairly to areas of greatest need? If there is no VMA/VMF in the area, is there another local animal-related organization that TVMF feels comfortable partnering with?
6. Communication – How will this gift be communicated to the TVMA membership and the general public? Will the membership/public feel that this gift is aligned with TVMF's mission? Does it enhance the opinion of TVMF in the public eye?
7. Does participating in this relief effort meet TVMF's Strategic Filter minimum threshold?

ⁱ Reimbursement of emergency expenses incurred due to natural disasters in the state of Texas are outlined in the TVMF Disaster Grant application