

Decide how to help

There are a number of options available for those that wish to donate money, food or time to help the flood victims. It is important to match how you want to help with the agency or fund that reflects your intent.

United Way is looking for people to sign up as volunteers. Julie Cunningham, 608-757-3058 is coordinating this effort. There is also a United Way fund being set up called "Rock County United Ways' Long-term Flood Recovery Fund."

John Kinnett, owner of the Anchor Inn, is also coordinating volunteer efforts and is overseeing the "Newville Disaster Relief Fund." Contributions will be distributed to those in need by local organizers, not the Red Cross as previously reported. This is because the Red Cross donations can't be designated for a local area. The Red Cross fund is called "Wisconsin Floods" and it helps victims across the state.

Central Lutheran Church has set up Flood Buckets. Approximately \$45 worth of cleaning supplies are placed in a five gallon bucket to assist victims. Donations can be made at the church. The church is also coordinating volunteers. Other churches are in the process of helping those in their congregations.

Best Realty is accepting food donations for the Newville Food Pantry. Donations of food are also being accepted at Edgerton Community Outreach and Edgerton Public Library.

A fund and benefit is being planned for August 16 at Fins Bar and Grill. Organizers are looking for volunteers and donations. Those interested in helping may call Sue and Pat Hagan, 884-0346.

Blackhawk Credit Union is accepting donations at all of their locations. All contributions will be given to the South Central Chapter of the Red Cross.

Are there others? Probably. The point is this - there are many avenues in which to offer help. How to choose? One is not better than another. You decide which one is for you. All of these outlets are making a difference and your help is needed and appreciated. Thank you.