Cora Brown Fund

CFDA #: 97.031

The purpose of the Cora Brown Fund is to help provide for disaster-related needs that have not or will not be met by governmental agencies or any other organization, which has programs to address such needs. This fact sheet outlines the general categories of assistance that can be provided by the fund and explains the general conditions and limitations of this assistance. Disaster victims need not apply for this assistance. The FEMA Regional Assistant Administrator for Disaster Assistance Directorate, with assistance from other governmental agencies and disaster voluntary agencies, identifies potential recipients. This fund may not be used in a way that is inconsistent with other federally mandated disaster assistance or insurance programs.

BACKGROUND ON CORA BROWN FUND

Cora C. Brown of Kansas City, Missouri, died in 1977 leaving a portion of her estate to the United States to be used as a special fund solely for the relief of human suffering caused by natural disasters. FEMA uses these funds under the authority of Section 701(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 100-707).

GENERAL CATEGORIES OF ASSISTANCE

- **Disaster-related home repair and rebuilding assistance**: Money to families for permanent housing purposes, including site acquisition and development, relocation of residences out of hazardous areas, assistance with costs associated with temporary housing or permanent re-housing (e.g., utility deposits, access, transportation, connection of utilities, etc.)

- **Disaster-related unmet needs**: Money for needs such: health and safety measures; evacuation costs; assistance delineated in the Stafford Act or other Federal, State, local, or volunteer programs; hazard mitigation or floodplain management purposes; and assistance to self-employed persons (with no employees) to re-establish their businesses.

- **Other services**: Money for services that alleviate human suffering and promote the well being of disaster victims (e.g., services to the elderly, children, or handicapped persons, such as transportation, recreational programs, provision of special ramps, or hospital or home visiting services). The funds may be provided to individual disaster victims or to benefit a group of disaster victims.
CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS OF CORA BROWN FUND ASSISTANCE

(1) Presidential declared major disasters or emergencies. The Cora Brown Fund is for victims of Presidential declared major disasters or emergencies not caused by or attributable to war.

(2) Non-discrimination. All forms of FEMA assistance are available to any affected household that meets the conditions of eligibility. No Federal entity or official (or their agent) may discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or economic status.

(3) Proper Use of Assistance. All financial assistance provided by FEMA should be used as specified in writing. All money provided by FEMA is tax-free.

(4) Verification. The FEMA Region conducts a verification of the facts of each case.

(5) Duplication of Assistance. Money from this fund will not duplicate assistance for which a person is eligible from other sources.

(6) Flood Insurance Requirements. Any funds for acquisition or construction purposes shall carry a requirement that a flood insurance policy be purchased and maintained in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

PLEASE CALL THE FEMA DISASTER HELPLINE AT 1-800-621-FEMA

Hearing/speech impaired, please call TTY 1-800-462-7585