



## Guidelines for Karen Cherry Disaster Relief Assistance

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In 2005, the National Staff Organization established the NSO Disaster Relief Fund to assist active NSO members who have suffered property damage and financial loss as a result of a natural disaster. Past donations from our affiliates have helped NSO members who have sustained home damage as a result of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and fires. Donations to the NSO Disaster Relief Fund could help NSO members in the future who encounter such disasters as those enumerated above. The essence of this fund is to provide financial assistance to our brothers and sisters who encounter emergency situations. In short, donations from NSO affiliates make vital resources available at a time in our members' lives when the need is greatest.

In 2013, the NSO Executive Committee renamed the Fund, the Karen Cherry Disaster Relief Fund. The goal of this fund centers on NSO members helping other NSO members in need. Karen Cherry's (Michigan ASO) spirit epitomizes the goal of helping others. She passed away in October 2013, but her spirit will live on through the Disaster Relief Fund. Karen served as the NSO Research Committee chair. Daisies were her favorite flower.



### **Who is eligible for NSO Disaster Relief Assistance?**

To be eligible for assistance from the NSO Disaster Relief Fund, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements.

- ) Must be an active NSO member in good standing
- ) Must have incurred lost or damaged property due to a disaster

### **When Can Members Apply?**

NSO members can apply for assistance from the NSO Disaster Relief Fund. Funding will focus on individuals' needs including but not limited to assisting survivors with utility payments and rent – difficult to meet due to unemployment stemming from the disaster and/or the need to re-establish residences that were damaged/destroyed.

NSO members may request emergency assistance in connection with loss of properties and have suffered severe damage due to sudden, unexpected phenomena (such as a hurricane, serious fires or explosions, flooding). Emergency assistance does not involve cases of damage or deterioration that has been caused by gradual processes such as decay, pollution, erosion, etc.

### **Where do NSO Members Apply?**

The fund is managed by NSO. Requests for emergency assistance may be sent to the NSO President with a copy to the Regional Director and NSO Comptroller. Requests for immediate emergency assistance can be authorized by NSO up to \$1,000.00. Financial requests that exceed \$1,000 will require the approval of the NSO Executive Committee.

All requests for assistance will be subject to review by the NSO Executive Committee, with the exception of requests for emergency assistance.



## Karen Cherry Disaster Relief Fund Application for Financial Assistance

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Purpose: The purpose of the NSO Disaster Relief Fund is to assist active NSO members who have suffered property damage and financial loss as a result of a disaster.

Source of funding: Charitable donations from the members and friends of the National Staff Organization.

Eligibility: Affected members of the National Staff Organization.

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW—if additional space is needed attach another page.**

*(Further information may be requested for the processing of this application.)*

Name

NSO Affiliate (your staff union)

Home Address

Work Address

Telephone (Home)

Telephone (Work)

Cell

Personal Email

Work Email

NSO Disaster Relief Fund applicants must have sustained losses related to a disaster.

Which disaster caused the damage? Please provide photos.

How will you use the funds that the NSO Disaster Relief Fund may provide? Please list types, amounts covered by insurance and not covered by insurance. For large non-covered items, please provide copies of receipts

Send application and any relevant documentation  
to your ***NSO Regional Director***