

LOWCOUNTRY STRONG FOUNDATION

*Established in partnership with
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry*

Mission and Assistance Guidelines

Our Mission

The Lowcountry Strong Foundation has been established in partnership with the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

Lowcountry Strong Foundation aims to assist and enrich the lives of Beaufort and Jasper County families, and partner with community members, to help serve those less fortunate. The Foundation's initial efforts will focus on providing support for programs and services addressing disaster assistance and/or emergency hardship relief for individuals, families and communities within Beaufort and Jasper Counties of the South Carolina Lowcountry.

Current Focus

Lowcountry Strong Foundation's current focus is to assist families impacted as a result of the Hurricane Matthew disaster with immediate and critical needs. Assistance is intended to help qualified applicants by providing support in one or more of the following areas. Grant support may also be provided to local nonprofit organizations providing services in these program areas:

- Shelter - Housing Repair and Rebuilding
- Food
- Medical

Eligibility for Assistance

Consideration for support is available to qualified applicants who meet all of the following eligibility guidelines:

- Full-time resident living in Beaufort or Jasper Counties in South Carolina.
- Have a critical financial need due to a significant damage to their primary residence and/or family resources resulting in the direct impact of their quality of life and/or value of their home.
- Have annual combined income of \$85,000 or less. *Consideration may be given for applications submitted with income above this amount based on dire circumstances.*

Selection Process

Qualified applicants must submit a completed application with required attachments to be considered for assistance. The Lowcountry Strong Foundation Advisory Board will meet on an ad hoc basis to consider applications. In general, support will not exceed \$15,000.00 nor imply continued commitment. In the event that assistance is offered, payment will be made directly to the appropriate vendors and/or nonprofit organizations providing support and assistance.

LOWCOUNTRY STRONG FOUNDATION

APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE

Complete the following two page application information below. All information will be confidential.

PERSONAL PROFILE

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Are you a full-time resident living in either Beaufort or Jasper County? Yes No

Please indicate county of residence: Beaufort County or Jasper County

How long (months/years) have you lived in this county? _____

Marital Status: Single Married

List any other persons residing in your household (include name, relationship to you and age):

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Applicants seeking assistance must have a critical financial need due to a significant damage to their primary residence and/or family resources resulting in the direct impact of their quality of life and/or value of their home. In addition, applicants must provide documentation of an annual combined income of \$85,000 or less. *Consideration may be given for applications submitted with income above this amount based on dire circumstances.*

Are you currently employed? Yes No If yes, name of Employer: _____

If married, is your spouse currently employed? Yes No If yes, name of Employer: _____

Please indicate your annual combined income amount: \$_____

Annual Income Verification: Include a copy of your most recent signed income tax return to this application or attach a statement of your financial situation explaining why no income tax return is available. For incomes above \$85,000 include a statement regarding dire financial circumstances that currently exist.

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

Indicate the type of disaster assistance and/or emergency hardship relief you are requesting related to the recent disaster:

- Shelter – Housing Repair and/or Rebuilding for your primary residence. Submit these documents with your application:
 - copy of your most recent signed IRS tax return to verify income eligibility
 - copy of your most recent property tax bill to verify property ownership and the property is your primary residence
 - copy of your FEMA determination letter indicating a declination, or award amount, if any
 - copy of insurance coverage and type of insurance, or documentation of declination of benefits, including information on deductibles
 - documentation of all other financial assistance applied for, received and/or denied
 - quotes from licensed contractor(s) detailing the scope and cost of the repair work
 - current status for the repair/rebuilding, including work already completed, and any payments made to contractors/service providers

- Medical – support for medical needs directly related to emergency hardship relief.

- Food - support for basic food needs directly related to emergency hardship relief.

Amount of assistance requested. \$ _____

Provide a detailed description of the how the funds will be used. Include a project budget, if possible:

CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

I certify that the information listed on this form is true, accurate, and complete. I understand that funding from this program is based on financial need. I give the Lowcountry Strong Foundation Advisory Committee permission to make inquiries they deem necessary to verify the accuracy of the information provided herein. I understand that this information will be used in deciding to grant financial assistance and will be kept confidential. In the event that assistance is offered, I understand that payment will be made directly to the appropriate vendors and/or nonprofit organizations providing support and assistance.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please return the completed application and required additional documents to:

Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
Post Office Box 23019
4 Northridge Drive, Suite A
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, 299225-3019
Attn: Lowcountry Strong Foundation Advisory Committee
Fax: 843.681.9101 Phone: 843.681.9100