

44 Cocoanut Row, M201 Palm Beach, FL 33480 561-655-1919

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Town of Palm Beach United Way hopes to raise additional \$100,000 for hurricane relief with help of new challenge gifts from Claudia and Nelson Peltz and Laura and Isaac Perlmutter

Hurricane Ian Recovery Fund has raised over \$600,000 to date

For Immediate Release - October 14, 2022

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

Palm Beach couples Claudia and Nelson Peltz and Laura and Isaac Perlmutter have each offered \$50,000 matching gifts to help the Town of Palm Beach United Way raise money for hurricane relief efforts in Southwest Florida. Each family will match donations to the United Way's Hurricane Ian Recovery Fund dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000.

"We have been inspired by the superb fundraising efforts of the Town of Palm Beach United Way, and we are honored to help continue those efforts with an additional matching gift," said Laura and Isaac Perlmutter. "Florida Gulf Coast communities haven't seen a storm like this in decades. They need our support."

To date, the Hurricane Ian Recovery Fund has raised over \$600,000 thanks to previous matching gifts from the Cathleen McFarlane Foundation, Sandy and George Garfunkel, Irwin and Ginny Edlavitch, Elizabeth and Jerome Levy, Danielle Moore, Barbara and Richard Rothschild, Susan and Dom Telesco and Norma and Bill Tiefel.

"It has been a few weeks and it is easy for some people to forget about the devastation caused by Hurricane Ian, but relief efforts are still ongoing, and there are still thousands of families in dire situations," said Claudia and Nelson Peltz. "We are proud to help the United Way send much-needed dollars to organizations providing direct aid to those who need it most."

The Hurricane Ian Recovery Fund was created on September 29 to help with short term relief efforts along Florida's Gulf Coast. A total of \$250,000 has been distributed to Americares (\$50,000), Global Empowerment Mission (\$75,000), Project HOPE (\$50,000) and World Central Kitchen (\$75,000). The agencies are using the funds to provide food, water, healthcare, medicines, clothing, hygiene kits, baby supplies, and other emergency aid items to tens of thousands of residents in need.

Global Empowerment Mission has served over 77,000 individuals and delivered aid valued at over \$2 million. With three distribution hubs in the affected areas, Global Empowerment Mission utilizes volunteers to help distribute nonperishable food, water, tarps, hygiene items, and other emergency supplies. They have also helped place 255 families in temporary housing provided by Airbnb.

"We greatly appreciate the support of the Palm Beach community, said Michael Capponi, founder and president of Global Empowerment Mission. "With the level of destruction in Florida's west coast, and with the continued partnership with United Way, we will have tremendous impact on short and long term recovery."

The Town of Palm Beach United Way is in the process of identifying additional organizations providing direct aid to residents in the hardest hit areas of Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties.

To donate visit www.palmbeachunitedway.org, call 561-655-1919 or send a check. Please make checks payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with "Hurricane Ian" in the memo and mail to 44 Cocoanut Row, Suite M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

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