Austin Area Church Accepting Supplies for Alabama Tornado Victims

Celebration Church is mobilizing Central Texans to get involved with aid to devastated families in the aftermath of the storm.

Austin, TX (PRWeb) April 29, 2011 – National attention has turned to Alabama in the aftermath of the nightmare of tornadoes that left hundreds dead and thousands with damage to their homes and properties. In the Austin area, Celebration Church is mobilizing relief teams and serving as the main drop off location for supplies, allowing Central Texans and Austinites to make a substantial difference in the lives of families that were turned upside down in the recent storm.

"There is a place for everyone to get involved in helping others move beyond this devastation. <u>Celebration Church</u> is fortunate to have tremendous connections with organizations that have longstanding relationships in the Tuscaloosa and surrounding area communities. With support from the Central Texas community, together we can make a difference," said Joe Champion, Celebration Church Senior Pastor.

<u>Celebration Church</u> is partnering with the <u>Austin Disaster Relief Network</u> (ADRN) and <u>Church of the Highlands</u>, in Birmingham, Alabama to drive this effort. On location, Celebration Church Relief Teams will work with local organizations in Alabama to reach out to those with extreme need by aiding with cleanup, delivering supplies and serving displaced families in shelters.

"The Austin Disaster Relief Network is asking Greater Austin churches to support our efforts in conjunction with Celebration Church to extend a helping hand and disaster relief support to the people of Alabama. Celebration Church has been a true leader within our community, serving people in need in times of crisis, most recently working with ADRN during the devastating floods that hit Williamson County in 2010," said Daniel Geraci, Executive Director, <u>Austin Disaster Relief Network</u>.

In Alabama, Church of the Highlands began immediately to mobilize relief efforts, where "destruction is everywhere":

"We are serving emergency personnel and anyone from the community who remains. For several miles destruction is everywhere. Someone actually told us, 'Thanks for being here. You are the only ones who came to help.' I am thankful for Celebration Church and the many other organizations who will be here in the coming days and we look forward to joining with them in this great effort to make an impact in this devastated area," said Steve Blair, Associate Pastor, Church of the Highlands.

Currently there are two ways to get involved:

- 1. Donate relief supplies. *Items needed include: blankets, diapers, baby wipes, baby food / formula, socks, bottled water, individual bottles of juice and packaged food for distribution.* Relief teams will transport supplies this week directly to the people who need them most.
- 2. Give financially to the Alabama Relief Fund at http://www.CelebrationChurchTx.com

Drop off Locations & Times: (accepting donations through May 4th)

<u>Celebration Church Westinghouse Campus</u> (located on I-35 North at the Round Rock Premium Outlets exit)

1202 Rabbit Hill Road, Georgetown, TX

Sunday: 8am-8pm, Monday-Wednesday: 9:00am-7:00pm

<u>Celebration Church Northwest Campus</u> (across from Cedar Park High School in the Summit Christian Academy)

2121 Cypress Creek Road, Cedar Park, TX

Sunday: 8am-3pm

RunTex Austin

422 W Riverside Drive, Austin, TX

Sunday: 12:00pm-5:00pm, Monday-Wednesday: 11:00am-7:00pm

For updates on additional drop off locations, visit http://www.adrntx.org.

About Celebration Church

<u>Celebration Church</u> is a non-denominational church serving the Austin area with their Westinghouse Campus (near the Round Rock Premium Outlets) & Northwest Campus (in the Summit Christian Academy across from Cedar Park High School), online and an international campus in Mozambique, Africa. The church is launching an additional campus in

South Austin this year. Members constantly seek ways to combine local efforts to make a positive impact around the globe. To find out more, visit http://www.CelebrationChurchTx.com.

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