



UNITED WAY
Greater Houston



GREATER
HOUSTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Accelerating recovery. Building resiliency.

www.disasteralliance.org

WITH THANKS TO OUR PHASE 1 LEAD SPONSORS



OUR MISSION

To lead our community's philanthropic disaster response, strengthen year-round preparedness, and ensure our region has the networks and systems in place to respond rapidly and effectively in times of disaster.

www.disasteralliance.org

Understanding the Local Landscape



Houston's three county region has faced 28 federally declared disasters since 1980.



Live in a census tract with at least medium-high social vulnerability.

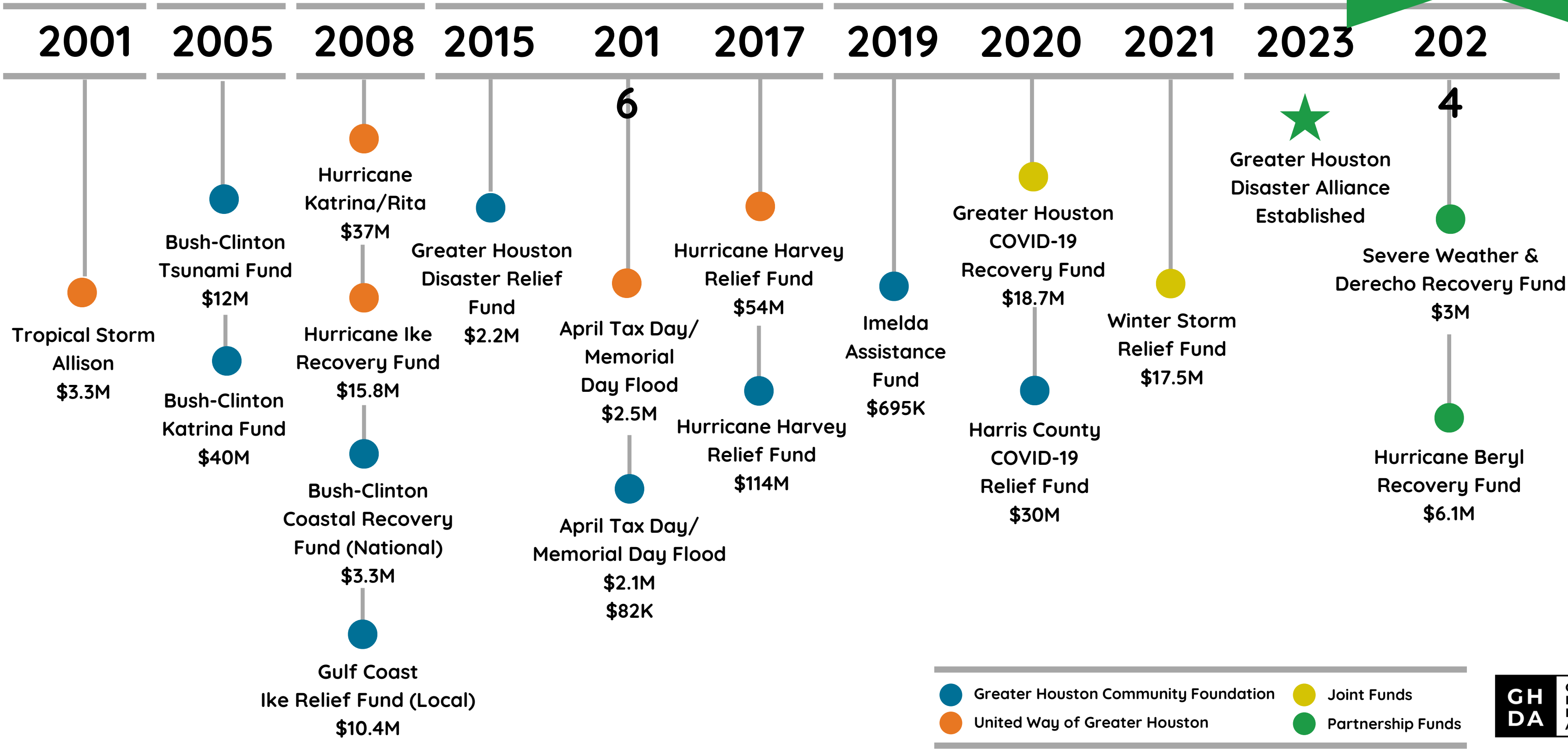


Harris County has the largest number of FEMA-designated Community Disaster Resilience Zones (CDRZ) in the country.

www.UnderstandingHouston.org

Timeline of Local Disasters + Funds

Granting
\$350M+ over
25 years



GHDA Partnership Progression

Harvey Disaster



- Two independent funds fundraising and grantmaking
- Started coordination and information sharing
- Began exploring deeper collaboration via Harris County Long-Term Recovery Committee Steering Committee

2017

7

COVID-19 Pandemic



- Rapid data partnership to assess needs and capacity via nonprofit survey
- Stood up first joint fund to leverage capacity, resources, etc.
- Round 1 within 24 days of Fund launch
- Established MOU for future disaster funds

2020

0

Working Partnership



- Fundraising involvement by the City and County
- Independent grantmaking process
- Adapted MOU partnership to integrate City and County leadership
- Round 1 within 4 days and Round 2 within 16 days of Fund launch

2021

1

Solidified Partnership Strengths



We partner together and leverage each organization's strengths to provide:

- Shared Oversight & Strategy Development
- Joint Fundraising & Governance Management
- Grantmaking Process
- Gift & Grant Payment Processing
- Publicity, Webpage, and Communications
- Data, Evaluation, and Reporting

2023

3

Strategic Goals

1. Raise and Deploy Funds Faster
2. Increase Equitable Access to Resources
3. Catalyze Public and Private Collaboration

Ultimately, accelerate effective disaster recovery and increase the resiliency of our region's most vulnerable residents.

WHO WE ARE

- A philanthropic partner
- A connector & convener
- Committed to disaster preparedness, recovery, and resilience by leveraging funding and partnerships

WHO WE ARE NOT

- Disaster responders
- Direct service provider
- Year-round operational funders

POST-DISASTER

Accelerating Recovery

- Activate recovery funds
- Fundraise
- Grantmake

YEAR-ROUND

Strengthen Preparedness & Resilience

- Convene quarterly
- Maintain internal readiness
- Build partnerships
- Attracting and investing in resilience initiatives

Nonprofit Engagement Strategy

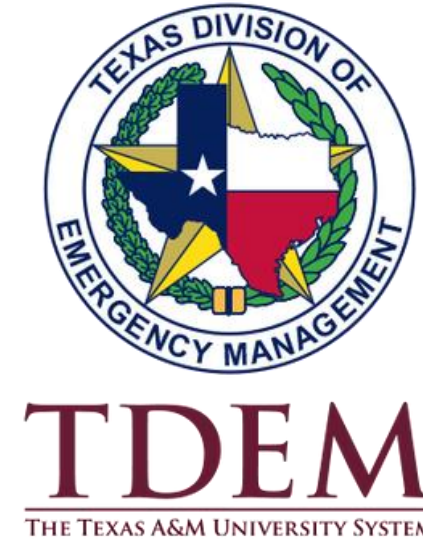
Core PartnersCommunity PartnersFriends of GHDA

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Disaster Services + Scenarios | Can quickly and efficiently activate at least one primary disaster service after any size natural disaster | Provides a primary or secondary disaster service after any type and any size disaster | Does not provide primary or secondary services or does not meet eligibility criteria |
| Population(s) Served | Open to new clients, serves broad population | Open to new clients, serves broad or special/niche population | Not applicable to this classification system |
| Grant Potential When a Fund is Activated | Likely to be funded after most natural disasters if they meet requirements/ services/ geography | May be funded after widespread disasters (less likely) | Unlikely to be funded based on requirements / services / geography |

Data Strategy



connective



- Prioritize data-informed strategies and approaches
- Establish data sharing agreement with trusted sources
- Rapid data analyses post-disaster to identify disproportionately impacted zip codes
- Identify disaster service deserts in blue sky days in support of year-round efforts to increase preparedness and resilience
- Evaluate impact with data from grantees and clients

YEAR 1: Building Infrastructure

- Re-engaged City and County leadership to ensure support of our partnership approach
- Formally and publicly launched the Greater Houston Disaster Alliance
- Welcomed two full-time staff who bring year-round focus and accountability
- Re-engaged nearly 200 nonprofit organizations after 3 years without a disaster
- Established the Disaster Recovery Council, the governing body for GHDA
- Crafted efficient joint fund processes, grantmaking templates, communication protocol
- Rigorously tested new processes through a comprehensive tabletop exercise

2023-2024

YEAR 2: Strengthening Preparedness

- * Launched the Derecho & Beryl Recovery Funds 6 weeks apart, raised \$9.1 million
- * Served 4,100+ households through 35 nonprofits with financial assistance, resource navigation, and home repair
- * Reduced average time from disaster to Round 1 grants from 34 to 22 days
- * Strengthened key data partnerships with FEMA and TDEM
- * Refined and validated a rapid data analysis approach
- * Made our first resilience investment in a low-barrier coordinated intake pilot
- Implemented a transparent nonprofit engagement strategy
- Developed preliminary resiliency framework and pursued national funding opportunities
- Convened 38 nonprofits to build consensus and co-design program improvements
- Engaged 14 donors in thought partnership on sustainable fundraising practices

2023-2024

YEAR 3: Building Resilience

- MOUs with 18 key nonprofit partners to get resources to survivors in as few as 7-14 days
- Convened 100+ nonprofits, implemented learning evaluations
- Developed a first draft disaster recovery and resilience framework
- Invested \$200,000 in Connective to maintain tech required for system coordination
- * Served on Mayor Whitmire's Houston Ready Roundtable
- Through data analysis identified 29 highly vulnerable zip codes
- Pursuing national funding sources to implement strategic "proofs of concept"
- Established GHDA as a national model and produced a shareable toolkit
- Leveraged founding lead sponsorships to secure \$1.47 million in new funding in support of our Phase 2 (2026-2029)

2023-2024

How You Can Support

www.disasteralliance.org

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Think of us as a thought partner, we're happy to collaborate, share insights, and support your resilience work

2

Promote awareness of Disaster Alliance within your networks

3

Share national public or private funding opportunities with us, if they arise

www.disasteralliance.org

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