

**Dear Raymond,**

I wanted to follow up with a second update on our progress and building off your efforts to support our residents impacted by the Sunview Fire.

Today was a productive day filled with victories, hearing the stories of the survivors many recounting pure acts of courage and compassion. Today was also a hard day, as these residents come to grips with the emotional reality of what has occurred and trying to figure out what the future will bring.

### **Today's Victories**

**Gift Cards:** We received nearly \$10,000 in Gift card donations and started immediate distribution for those who have identified an immediate need and we use these cards to help sustain the residents in the weeks ahead.

**Message to Impacted Residents:** Please come forward and make contact with Denise and Michelle if you have an immediate need or are short on cashflow.

**Message to Community Supporters:** We are still accepting gift cards but would ask people to start shifting their efforts to cash donations.

**Cash Donations:** Not including the individual "Go-Fund-Me" Accounts we have received as of 3:00 p.m. today \$3,658.80; this is where we suggest the community and business partners focus continuing efforts. Now that the dust has settled, we see immediate needs for petty cash to cover incidentals cost associated with the fire on these residents. Long-term, we hope to use these funds to help cover the cost of first months rent and security deposits based on greatest need.

**Message to Impacted Residents:** Not only are we going to help with finding suitable apartments, are hopes are to combine these funds with your individuals "Go-Fund-Me" Accounts to cover the cost of first month's rent and security deposit and if possible (based on funding ) fee associated with utility hook-up.

**Message to Community Supporters:** You all have been amazing with offering up your, time talent and treasure. Right now, the single greatest need to get these residents from the fire to the front door of their new home is funds. We estimate we will need approximately \$27,000 to achieve this and we ask that this community rally their efforts around this area. Donations will be accepted at Town Hall. Right now, we are at 12.6% of this funding Goal.

**Support for Sunview Management:** Today the Sunview Management met with impacted residents to issue them their security deposits and retroactive rent. As I highlighted to the Governor's Executive Council, this is a critical first step on a road to recovery.

**Message to Impacted Residents:** If you have not received these funds please let us know.

**Visit with Impacted Residents:** I along with Steve Brewer, were at Sunview as Denise and Michelle continued relief coordination. We informed them of the continued selfless support provided by all of you and the support they can expect from the community going forward. I can tell you after listening to their stories that this was a terrifying event and there is without question, that we have heroes among us who risked their lives to save a neighbor.

**Ongoing Outside Agencies Support:** We also continue our work with Executive Counselor Janet Stevens who in my humble opinion has proven to be a caring, engaged and active elected official for this District. Our discussion continued the request to secure support for:

**Mid-Term Housing;** Requested 20 units; the current number of the people needing longer-term support at the hotels is 10 as of now, however, we anticipate this to grow as people transition from the emergency housing with friends, neighbors that they arranged for themselves after the fire.

**Critical Documents:** As suspected residents have lost their Social Security Card so this will need to be addressed as discussed. We will also be seeking from the State to waive fees for these lost critical documents.

**Crisis Intervention/Metal Health Support;** This is going to be a critical one, we have met with residents and want to ensure resource for these people as soon as possible.

**The Continuation of the Plan; *From the Fire to the New Front Door:*** Our goal continues to be helping these residents through this process to the front door of their new home. Each resident has different needs and resources so this will require significant engagement. Here are the basic concepts:

- 1) Work with each impacted resident to identify and develop a tailored plan to transition to their new home and address issues along the way.
- 2) Long-Term Housing and Reestablishment Plan: We are compiling information regarding available apartments in the area and will be helping the residents through this process by:
  - Providing them with Up-To-Date information on available Housing Stock
  - Securing refunds from previous Landlord
  - Support in filing rental insurance claims
  - Security Deposit and First Month's Rent Support
  - Negotiating security deposits with landlords (if needed)
  - Attempting negotiation of hook-up fees with utility providers
  - We are also compiling a list of furniture donations and coordinating the delivery of these items if need when these people get to their new home
- 3) Remote Learning: For children (and there are 12) who are impacted by this event we will offer up the Town Library to these children and their parents to conduct schooling on remote days and restrict access to the library to only these people during these times if required

What Can you Do? As promised, we would identify the Pledges needed and the primary area of focus are: Pledges Needed

- 1) Cash Donations to meet funding goals
- 2) Pledged Furniture and Appliance Donations
  - a. Take a Picture
  - b. Type a Description
  - c. Send to Michelle & Denise and e-mail

[mweaver@raymondnh.gov](mailto:mweaver@raymondnh.gov)

[dogrady@raymondnh.gov](mailto:dogrady@raymondnh.gov)

- d. Wait to be notified of when item will be picked up.

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And

Michelle Weaver, Director  
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(603)895-7029  
[mweaver@raymondnh.gov](mailto:mweaver@raymondnh.gov)

In closing, continuing these efforts will not only help these neighbors get back on their feet but the compassion and support displayed by each of you will help heal their hearts and put their minds at ease.

I cannot say it enough, the actions and compassion of all of you has been nothing less than inspiring and I along with the rest of the Staff are so honored to have the privilege to serve a selfless community like Raymond.

Respectfully,

Joe

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