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**After the Flood:
 Cobb County Neighbors Reach Out to One Another**
The Center for Family Resources to Manage Cobb County Flood Relief Fund

Marietta, Ga. (September 24, 2009) On Thursday, September 24, The Center for Family Resources (CFR) hosted a *Community Response to Flooding* forum. The meeting brought together more than 76 representatives from human service organizations, local government and businesses and faith-based groups to discuss ways to effectively and efficiently provide services to the Cobb County victims of historical flood devastation.

The forum came just one day after CFR was approached by the Cobb County Legislative Delegation to organize and manage a Cobb County Flood Relief Fund. Members of the delegation including Representatives Judy Manning, District 32 and Ed Setzler, District 35 attended the forum Thursday to encourage the collaborative efforts across the county.

“We are a community of one and it has hurt everyone, said Representative Manning. We are all impacted whether personally, our families or our neighbors. The members of the delegation are hoping this community will pull together, build good will and help each other.”

In Cobb County, preliminary reports show as many as 1,700 homes are lost or damaged. The water is believed to have crested above a 500-year flood level leading to countless homes and businesses without flood insurance suffering severe damage. Although a presidential disaster declaration has been made, when federal dollars begin to flow, the financial assistance available to homeowners will be in the form of low interest loans and grants funding only a portion of uninsured losses.

AGENCY	Accepting Donations from the Community of:	Providing Services and Items of:
American Red Cross	Non-perishable food items	Food and shelter
The Center for Family Resources (770) 428-2601 www.TheCFR.org	Gift cards (Wal-Mart, Target, etc); monetary donations; food	Financial assistance; food
MUST Ministries 770-427-9862 www.mustministries.org	New (<i>preferred</i>) or gently-used clothing; non-perishable food items;	Food; clothing;
Salvation Army (404) 550-3707 www.salvationarmyatlantia.org	Bottled beverages, non-perishable food items	Flood buckets, hot meals, bottled water
Sweetwater Valley C.A.M.P. (770) 819-0662 www.svcamp.org	New (<i>preferred</i>) or gently-used clothing; non-perishable food items	Clothing, food, flood buckets, school supplies, hygiene kits

As a result, CFR is accepting cash donations through its website at www.TheCFR.org. Checks marked clearly with ‘Flood Relief’ can also be mailed to CFR at 995 Roswell Street, Suite 100, Marietta, GA 30060.

“Since we were founded in 1960, CFR has been proud to be a collaborator,” CFR CEO Jeri Barr said. We know working together with our local nonprofit partners and providing the services each of our organizations are founded on, we can better serve those in need in this county quickly and effectively.”

Trained first responders are acting now. In a couple of weeks, the need will be great for individual and group volunteers to help further the effort. If you are interested in getting on a list to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Cain, CFR Development and Volunteer Coordinator at (770) 428-2601, extension 242 or JenniferCain@TheCFR.org.

Since 1960, CFR has helped thousands of low-income families with employment, education, and housing services; leadership development programs; mentoring opportunities; and temporary financial and food assistance. At CFR, our values come FIRST. Guided by organizational values of Family, Integrity, Results, Service and Teamwork, the staff at CFR is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty by helping families acquire the resources they need to become independent and self-sufficient

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