



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: RaeChelle Davis

RDavis@CatalystCommunicationsGroup.com

American Red Cross Awards \$3 Million to Rebuilding Together Greater Florida for Hurricane Recovery

Funding will support families in Pinellas, Pasco, Sarasota, Hillsborough, and Manatee Counties

Tampa, Fla. (September 4, 2025)— The American Red Cross has awarded Rebuilding Together Greater Florida (RTGFL) \$3 million to help families rebuild and recover after Hurricanes Helene and Milton. The funding will support critical home repairs and recovery services for residents in five counties: Pinellas, Pasco, Sarasota, Hillsborough, and Manatee.

Leaders from the Red Cross joined RTGFL staff, elected officials, and local families to announce the partnership and kick off the first phase of recovery.

“Every day we meet families who are just trying to hold on. We see parents worried about keeping their kids safe, and seniors who don’t know if they can stay in the homes they’ve lived in for decades,” said **Jose Garcia, CEO of RTGFL**. “This funding from the Red Cross gives us the chance to tell them, ‘Yes, we can help you stay home and recover with dignity.’ That’s what this work is all about.”

As part of the announcement, RTGFL and partners placed yard signs at the first home that will receive aid, creating a visible reminder that recovery is underway. The home, located in Tampa’s Progress Village, is owned by Regina Hamilton. She will be receiving a new roof and windows from the grant funding. Additional homeowners impacted in the area were able to apply for assistance at the event.

The grant is set to help 130 homes across the five counties. 40 homes will receive assistance in Pinellas County, 18 in Hillsborough County, 27 in Pasco County, 27 in Manatee County, and 18 in Sarasota.

“The American Red Cross is proud to partner with Rebuilding Together Greater Florida, an organization with proven expertise in disaster recovery and long-term resilience,” said **Mike Brown, executive director of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross**. “This funding is an investment in Florida families and the communities they call home.”

“When I walk through these neighborhoods, I see my own neighbors, people who want nothing more than a safe roof over their heads. Thanks to the Red Cross, we can stand beside them and say, ‘You’re not alone in this recovery. We’re here to help rebuild, together’,” added Garcia.

Over the coming months, RTGFL will continue to assess the needs of residents impacted to determine if they qualify for assistance from this grant. For more information about eligibility and to apply for recovery assistance, visit [RTGFL.org](https://www.rtgfl.org).

###

About Rebuilding Together Greater Florida, formerly known as Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay

Celebrating 25 years of service, Rebuilding Together Greater Florida repairs homes, revitalizes communities, and rebuilds lives. We provide free critical repairs, safety upgrades, affordable housing and education while leading long-term disaster recovery and relief efforts across Southwest, Northern and Central Florida. Since Hurricane Irma, RTGFL has been providing our most vulnerable survivors of disaster with long term recovery services since to rebuild stronger, safer homes. Learn more at www.rtgfl.org and follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).