

**UNITED WAY**

# Area nonprofits get \$147,000 from FEMA

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About \$147,000 in federal money has been awarded to 21 area nonprofits to provide emergency food and shelter services for Jackson County residents.

The United Way of Jackson County announced Monday that it has awarded the money through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

This is the same amount that was given to about a dozen nonprofits last year, officials said.

"We're delighted that it's available," said Jim Brian, spokesman for the United Way. "We see the need every day in the community."

Funding was distributed to the nonprofits based on proposals submitted and re-

viewed by a local board of Jackson County residents.

The Jackson Salvation Army received \$49,000, the same amount as last year, said Maj. John L. Mallett. The money will be primarily used to help people with unpaid or late utility bills, he said.

"It helps us meet the needs of people in Jackson," Mallett said about the grant.

The Community Action Agency — which provides education, housing and economic self-sufficiency programs to residents in Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee counties — received about \$30,000 this year.

Last year, the agency received \$36,000 that went to help about 120 households with utility assistance, said Chris Kilmer, community programs director at the

Community Action Agency. The nonprofit hopes to help that many families this year.

"We're still really happy to get any FEMA funding to help out the community," Kilmer said.

AWARE Inc., which provides shelter and other support services for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, was awarded \$13,000, the same as last year.

The money will provide food and incidentals, such as toiletries, to clients, Executive Director Rebecca Filip said.

The remaining \$55,000 of FEMA funding went to 18 other nonprofits, including churches and food pantries.

About 24 nonprofits applied for funds, and the total requests for funding exceeded the available dollars by more than \$153,000.