



## **SAN BERNARDINO UNITED RELIEF FUND**

### **Final Protocol**

The San Bernardino United Relief Fund was established by Arrowhead United Way to provide a vehicle for donors seeking to make donations to address the needs of people affected by the December 2<sup>nd</sup> tragedy as a result of the terrorist attack which took place at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino on December 2, 2015.

Through the generosity of businesses, labor unions, foundations, faith communities, tribal councils and individuals the Arrowhead United Way has assembled approximately \$2,461,000 for distribution. The Board of Directors of Arrowhead United Way appointed a committee of local leaders to establish a distribution protocol and oversee the disposition of the assembled donations.

The committee has studied materials from and interviewed and consulted with those responsible for the distribution of donated funds following the tragic events in New York City on September 11, 2001, at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia on April 16, 2007, at Tucson, Arizona on January 8, 2011, at Aurora, Colorado on July, 20 2012, at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut on December 14, 2012, and at the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013.

The December 2, 2015 shooting took place inside a meeting room at the Inland Regional Center where the Environmental Health Division of the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health was holding a training event. Seventy-two people were present. The mass shooting took the lives of 14, injured 21 and 37 other county employees witnessed the death of and injuries to their colleagues and friends. Three law enforcement officers responding to these events suffered physical injuries sufficient to require transportation to a hospital.

Given the limited size of the United Relief Fund it is the intention of the Fund Committee to classify as "eligible claimants" only those families of the deceased, those county employees present on December 2<sup>nd</sup> that suffered physical injury requiring medical treatment, those three injured law enforcement officers and those present in the room at the time of the terrorist attack. The distribution of payments from the United Relief Fund will be allocated and distributed according to the following guidelines.

## I. CLAIM CATEGORIES

### A. Deceased Victims

Eighty percent (80%), or approximately \$1,968,800, to be allocated to the families of the 14 deceased victims. Eligible claimants should file a claim form to participate in the distribution. Only one claim form may be filed for each victim. Eligible claimants will receive payment in the amount of approximately \$140,629.

### B. Physically Injured Victims

Fifteen and one half percent (15.5%), or approximately \$381,455, to be allocated to the 24 victims who suffered physical injuries. Each eligible victim will receive a base of \$5000, (for those medically treated) and an additional \$1000, (approximately) for each overnight stay in the hospital. A single claim form should be submitted for each injured victim.

### C. Those that attended the training event and may have been present in the room when the shootings occurred (this category also includes those that were just outside the room)

Four and one half percent (4.5%), or approximately \$110,745, to be allocated to those 37 witnesses present in the room during the shootings. Each of the witness claimants will receive approximately \$2,993. A single claim form should be submitted for each victim.

## II. PROCESS AND PROCEDURE

The process and procedure for consideration of eligible claims will be as follows:

- A. A uniform claim form for each category of claimant (A, B and C) and a copy of the Final Protocol will be made available to all known claimants on Monday, April 4, 2016 by U.S. Mail, by e-mail or may be picked up at the office of Arrowhead United Way, 646 North D Street, San Bernardino, CA 92401 (909-884-9441). Only one claim form may be filed for each victim. Completed claim forms must be submitted to the Arrowhead United Way office by 4:00 PM, Friday, May 20, 2016.
- B. In the event that a claimant submits an incomplete or deficient claim, e.g., the claimant failed to include required documentation or failed to sign the claim form, the staff of the United Relief Committee will informally work with the claimant in an effort to cure any such deficiencies.
- C. Payment will be issued immediately following a final review of all claims by the United Relief Fund Committee. The Arrowhead United Way Board will authorize payment, by check or electronic bank wire, to each eligible claimant.
- D. A claim form for a deceased victim will require the spouse's signature if the deceased individual was married at the time of death. In cases where the victim was not married, the person who is legally responsible for administering the estate: the personal representative, the

executor of the victim's will or the administrator of the estate must sign the claim form. In the case of conflicting claims that cannot be resolved, Arrowhead United Way will deposit the funds into a trust account until a resolution is reached by agreement or court order.

- E. A claim filed for physical injury must include a hospital statement which confirms the date of admission and discharge from the hospital.
- F. In the event that an eligible claimant does not file a claim or chooses to forgo the receipt of funds to which he/she is entitled, those allocated funds will be distributed to the other claimants, spread across all categories, based upon the distribution percentages set forth in the Final Protocol.
- G. Individuals should contact their tax advisor for any questions regarding tax liability for these payments.
- H. The amount of money previously paid to a claimant or on behalf of the claimant or respective victim will be deducted from the amount allocated to the claimant under the Final Protocol.

### **III. OUTREACH**

A public meeting will be conducted by the United Relief Committee on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at the San Bernardino City Hall Council Chambers, 300 D Street, San Bernardino, CA, 92418, at 6:00 PM, to explain the Draft Protocol and claim process and hear comments from victims, families and any and all interested parties.