



SuperStorm Sandy Recovery

NEWS RELEASE

NYC Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable Presents Handicap Van To Staten Island Family Devastated by Superstorm Sandy

What: Presentation and Photo Op, Family Interviews - Replacement Handicap Accessible Van. Donated through the Unmet Needs Roundtable by NYDIS, Convoy of Hope and the United Way of New York City.

When: Friday, October 25, 2013, 3:00pm – 4:00pm.

Where: Client B.S. Residence at 814 Patterson Ave, Staten Island, NY

Why: To mark the one year anniversary of Superstorm Sandy, New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS), administrators of the NYC Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable, will be highlighting a unique donation to a deserving and needy Sandy-impacted family to best illustrate recovery challenges and philanthropic best practices.

Client B.S., an Albanian immigrant, and his family, including two disabled teenage boys, not only suffered major damage to their home, but their primary mode of transportation, a handicap accessible van, which was completely destroyed. Having utilized personal resources, insurance reimbursement, FEMA public assistance, and help from other organizations, the client was able to rebuild his home, but not to replace this critical vehicle. With assistance from Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York (CIDNY) Disaster Case Manager, NYDIS, and other partners organizations, the family are now receiving the final piece in their recovery and self-sufficiency.

With over 20,000 City families still displaced by Superstorm Sandy, we are happy to celebrate the recovery of the B.S. family and look forward to helping many others make the journey home.

Contact: Peter Gudaitis, Chief Response Officer, at pgudaitis@nydis.org or o212-669-6100/c917-449-8605

About NYDIS and the NYC Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable

Founded in response to 9/11, New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) is a faith-based federation of more than 80 service providers and charitable organizations that collaborate to provide disaster readiness, response and recovery services to New York City. NYDIS received funding from the American Red Cross (ARC), Convoy of Hope, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, International Orthodox Christian Charities, Islamic Relief USA, Lutheran Social Services of New York, Metro Baptist Church, the United Way and others to administer the New York City Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable and to distribute grant dollars through the New York City Unmet Needs Fund. The Salvation Army has also partnered with NYDIS to directly distribute its own unmet needs funds via the New York City Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable.

The Unmet Needs Roundtable program is an established long-term recovery resource that customizes assistance for eligible Sandy clients in need. The New York City Sandy Unmet Needs Roundtable was established as a resource of last resort for eligible residents impacted by Superstorm Sandy throughout New York City's five boroughs. It will provide several forms of assistance, including emergency cash grants, sustainable recovery grants, loans and discounted, tax-free appliances, furniture and building supplies, through a partnership with Home Depot.