



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Michigan Realtors® Assist Southwest Michigan Residents Displaced by Tornadoes**

Lansing, Michigan (April 29, 2026) – Michigan Realtors® and the Branch County Association of Realtors®, St. Joseph County Association of Realtors® and Southwestern Michigan Association Realtors® with assistance from the REALTORS® Relief Foundation, are happy to announce a program that provides relief assistance in response to the Tornado that resulted in widespread property damage in Cass, St. Joseph, Calhoun and Branch Counties. On March 6th, an EF-3 Tornado touched down in southwest Michigan. This program will provide financial relief to those impacted by this natural disaster.

In response to the unforeseen burdens that these residents are forced to face, the REALTORS® Relief Foundation has \$70,000 available for individuals and families directly affected by the March 6th Tornado and reside within the State of Emergency Zone (Branch, Cass and St. Joseph counties) as declared by Michigan's Governor, Gretchen Whitmer. Financial assistance will be provided to cover one month's rent or mortgage payment for qualified applicants in an amount of up to \$1,000 per household until the available funds are fully allocated.

If you have been directly affected by the March 6<sup>th</sup> tornadoes and are located within the boundaries of the State of Emergency Zone, please find the REALTORS® Relief Foundation Application at: [www.mirealtors.com](http://www.mirealtors.com).

Applications can be submitted to the following Associations:

St. Joseph County Association of Realtors®	<a href="mailto:info@sjcarhomes.com">info@sjcarhomes.com</a>
Southwestern Michigan Association of Realtors®	<a href="mailto:admin@swmar.org">admin@swmar.org</a>
Branch County Association of Realtors®	<a href="mailto:branchrealtors@outlook.com">branchrealtors@outlook.com</a>

Each applicant will need to provide:

1. Photo Identification that proves your place of residence.
2. Copy of Mortgage Statement or Renters Statement.

One of the following will be required to show proof of damage:

1. Photos of Damage.
2. Insurance Estimates.
3. Copies of Written Claims, Settlement Proceeds or Claim Status Reports.
4. Copies of Repair Estimates from Contractors.

Michigan Realtors® is an integrated advocacy and communications force for the real estate professionals of our State. We are the recognized public policy and legal advocate for private property rights, as well as the acknowledged leading resource for professional development, knowledge exchange, and wide-ranging business services. Our over 35,000+ members understand clearly that the most successful Realtors® in Michigan value the benefits of membership in our association.