## media release





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## Tempe Needs You campaign raises \$23,000 in Community-Funded Storm Relief

Donations made to Tempe Community Council through the citywide campaign will support storm-impacted households

Tempe, AZ – Through the extraordinary generosity of residents and businesses who contributed to the City of Tempe's <u>Tempe Needs You</u> campaign, \$23,000 in storm-relief donations will be granted to Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA) to support Tempe households recovering from the recent microburst.

These funds, comprised of nearly 100 individual donations from community members, underscore Tempe's long-standing commitment to taking care of one another. Every contribution, large or small, made a meaningful difference. The City and Tempe Community Council (TCC) extend sincere thanks to all who donated and helped neighbors continue the path to recovery.

The donation will allow TCAA to provide flexible, needs-based assistance that covers real-life expenses traditional disaster aid sometimes can't. Every family's situation is different, and this support is designed to fill the gaps—whether it's home repairs insurance didn't fully cover, rent or utility payments after missed work, or essential daily costs that become harder to manage during recovery. Assistance may include childcare, baby formula, medication, transportation, insurance deposits or payments, temporary storage, essential household items, and other urgent needs that help families regain stability. Residents affected by the storm are encouraged to connect with Tempe Community Action Agency to learn more about available resources.

Additional donations contributed through Tempe Needs You will continue to be directed to nonprofit agencies assisting with storm recovery. This fund will remain open for additional donations through Dec. 31.

The Oct. 13 microburst occurred as some residents were also being impacted by a disruption in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and the government shutdown, creating new hardships for families already stretched thin.

Tempe Needs You rallied the community to support their neighbors in need through food donations to TCAA's food pantry and financial contributions to TCC's storm relief fund.

"Tempe residents stepped forward with tremendous compassion," said Rabbanni FurQaan, Board Chair of Tempe Community Council. "This funding will help families meet needs that often fall through the cracks. We are grateful to every community member who gave—your kindness is making a real and immediate impact."

"We have seen an outpouring of support from the community unlike anything we have seen in the past, said Phillip Scharf, CEO of Tempe Community Action Agency. "Every day, people are contacting us

asking how they can help and thanking us for the work we're doing. It has been a great reminder of the strength of our community and the willingness of Tempe residents to step forward when our community is in need."

"The Oct. 13 microburst devastated parts of our community and almost immediately, generous residents and businesses began asking how they could help," said Mayor Corey Woods. "Our community showed up for one another, coming together as neighbors, businesses, faith groups and nonprofits to make sure everyone could get the help they needed to start recovering. Time and time again, our community is here with compassion and caring for our neighbors in need."

The City of Tempe is proud to partner with Tempe Community Council and Tempe Community Action Agency in ensuring these community-driven funds reach households who need them most.

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## **About Tempe Community Council**

Founded in 1972, Tempe Community Council (TCC) is a community-based 501(c)3 nonprofit focused on encouraging resident interaction and enhancing human services in Tempe. TCC brings together the community—including government, nonprofits, faith groups and residents—to support Tempeans in need, plan for present and future needs, and build an enduring foundation.