

Money continues to flow into Cumbria Flood Recovery Appeal 2009

The Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund 2009 reaches £145,000.

Money has continued to flow into the recently launched appeal as Foundation staff worked through the weekend to get the Fund up and running and grants out to individuals and voluntary and community groups in need.

Once again staff at Cumbria Community Foundation have been overwhelmed by the level of support from the public and local businesses both in Cumbria and beyond. As the rain continues to fall and roads and bridges remain impassable phone calls have been received offering holiday breaks in Devon, donations of food and clothing and of course money. 'People throughout Cumbria and beyond cannot fail to be affected by the pictures of the devastation in Cockermouth, Keswick, Workington and elsewhere. So many people have expressed their concern and support for our communities in so many ways. We are moved and delighted' said Deb Muscat, Acting Director of Cumbria Community Foundation.

Staff will be manning appeal hotlines throughout the week taking donations, providing guidance for grant applicants and to groups wanting to undertake fund raising events.

If people want to donate cash they can pop along to any branch of the Cumberland Building Society and the Furness Building Society.

Collections are also taking place in Whitehaven and Workington today and the Community Foundation are taking calls from other local people wanting to hold events and collections.

The Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund will provide financial help for people who have been affected. The first phase of grant making will concentrate on the elderly, disabled and families with under 5s. After the Carlisle floods we were able to help people with clothing, bedding, fares, toys, etc.

The Fund will also help community groups that are helping out with advice, information, counselling, and activities for children and young people.

The Foundation will not be accepting **applications** to the fund until 23 November when an application process and special grant allocation committee will be set up. Anyone wanting information about the appeal and who and what will be eligible for funding should log on to Cumbria Community Foundation's website www.cumbriafoundation.org or call the dedicated phone line **01900 820827**