

Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund Appeal 2009 reaches a staggering £340,000

After just four days in operation the Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund Appeal has topped an unbelievable £340,000.

Today has been yet another frantic day at the headquarters of the Appeal Fund, but what a day. It began with a huge donation of £100,000 from James Walkers of Cockermouth. The announcement came live on air when the Appeal's spokesperson Acting Director of Cumbria Community Foundation Deb Muscat was speaking to Radio Cumbria about the appeal. Deb burst into tears when she heard the news. 'We really cannot believe just how well the appeal has gone. It's been a tough weekend working long hours and listening to many first hand stories about the devastation of the floods. Knowing just how important this money will be and what a difference it will make to so many people was almost too much for me.' She said 'I still feel emotional thinking about it now'.

It isn't just the big donations that matter though. Today the fund continues to receive many smaller donations from the general public. In fact there have been so many people trying to make donations that the online facility at the Foundation's website has been experiencing difficulties. Deb says 'Just keep on trying we really do need all the support we can get. And don't forget you can also donate by popping along to any branch of the Cumberland Building Society and the Furness Building Society, or by putting a cheque into the post.' The fund even received a hamper of speciality cheeses today donated by a company in Somerset!

Today has also seen the Appeal start to make concrete offers of support to voluntary and community organisations that are spearheading the relief effort. We are in discussion with a local housing association to co-ordinate furniture and white goods donations in Carlisle, Penrith, Workington and Ulverston and to secure additional premises in which to store the items. In addition they will be buying new kettles, toasters and microwaves as starter kits for displaced families.

© Copyright 2009 Cumbria Community Foundation
All rights reserved 21/11/2009
Registered charity 1075120