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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Nehemiah Charitable Fund Receives \$145,425 Grant
to Implement Emergency Disaster Preparedness Outreach**

San Bernardino – The Nehemiah Charitable Fund (NCF) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$145,425 grant from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The purpose of the grant is to plan and implement Emergency Disaster Preparedness Outreach, Education & Training services to residents in both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Specifically, funds will be used to hire and train outreach staff that will administer the program in the cities of Banning, Beaumont, and Calimesa in Riverside County; including Colton, Fontana, Rialto, Highland, and San Bernardino in San Bernardino County. NCF will outreach and engage a total of 25,000 residents at various community and cultural events to distribute essential emergency preparedness resources, and emergency disaster kits through December 2024. Individuals and families will have an opportunity to register for disaster response training hosted in partnership with county emergency response providers.

The majority of emergency disaster incidents that occur both locally and throughout the state are in response to wildfires, flooding, and earthquakes as well as public health and safety issues involving infectious diseases such as Covid19. According to the San Bernardino County Fire District, there were over 130,000 calls for service for fires within the county. The majority of the fires were due to structural fires (1,540), vegetation fires (1,186), vehicle fires (1,612), and other fires (6,165). (*San Bernardino County Fire, Annual Report 2020/2021.*)

“We are pleased to receive this funding from Cal OES,” stated Pam Grogan, CEO of the Nehemiah Charitable Fund. “This funding will allow our organization to once again, serve vulnerable communities and communities of color with essential emergency preparedness education, resources, and training. Many times, people of color, seniors, and people with disabilities are among those with the greatest need for resources and emergency aid, unfortunately, they are the least likely to receive assistance during incidents of natural disasters.” NCF initially began providing emergency disaster preparedness outreach in Riverside County in 2020, whereby 5,000 residents were successfully educated and engaged on how to respond and plan for emergency disasters.

About Nehemiah Charitable Fund:

Nehemiah Charitable Fund is a nonprofit organization that works to build capacity for stronger communities. Our mission is to provide capacity building resources and promote philanthropic leadership in San Bernardino County. We achieve this by providing training, education, and technical assistance to nonprofits and local communities. As such, our programs and initiatives aim to increase leadership development, technical assistance, community engagement, and outreach, including racial and social equity for communities of color in our region. Since its inception, our organization has provided outreach and education to over 7,400 individuals representing vulnerable and low-income communities in the Inland Empire.

For more information about this program or to learn how you can sponsor our outreach activities, please call Pam at 909-383-0355 or email at pam@nehemiah-fund.org

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