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May. 22, 2013

South Florida charities are collecting donations to help victims of the massive tornado that struck Oklahoma.

Organizations including the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami are taking donations online and through the mail.

“The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami has been in touch with Catholic Charities in Oklahoma and we are stepping forward to help our brothers and sisters who need the help,” said Mary Ross Agosta, director of communications for archdiocese.

“We are appealing to everyone, not just Catholics,” Agosta said. “We are looking for monetary donations that we can quickly send to Oklahoma.”

Local groups are looking to help in other ways, too.

The Miami-Dade Fire's Search and Rescue unit, which has responded to disasters across the world, has not been called to assist Oklahoma authorities, but remains on standby.

“We are ready when they need us,” said fire rescue spokeswoman Cristina Armand.

Capt. Kelly Durant, from the Miami's Salvation Army, has joined the Salvation Army team serving in Moore, Okla.. for the next 14 days starting Friday. Durant will offer emotional support to victims and first responders of the tragedy.

Here is a list of some of the organizations coordinating relief efforts. Donations are being accepted through the listed addresses and websites.

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www.ccadm.org/ok

Designate your gift by noting "Oklahoma" in the memo line.

American Red Cross Disaster Relief

Call 800-RED CROSS

Text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation

www.redcross.org

The Salvation Army

Call 1-800-SAL-ARMY

Text "STORM" to 80888 to make a \$10 donation; to confirm. Respond with "Yes."

www.SalvationArmyUSA.org

Neighbors 4 Neighbors

8900 NW 18 Ter., Miami, FL 33172

www.neighbors4neighbors.org

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