

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2018

HILO, Hawai`i

Mortgage and Rent Assistance for Displaced Residents of Lower Puna

Hawai`i Island REALTORS® has been awarded funds from the REALTORS® Relief Foundation of the National Association of REALTORS® to support Hawai`i Island residents affected by the recent Kilauea East Rift Zone Eruptions. Residents of affected areas who were displaced due to mandatory evacuation, damage, or loss of their primary residence may apply for housing assistance of up to \$1,700 per household.

The REALTORS® Relief Foundation (RRF) is a charitable foundation established to provide housing-related assistance to victims of disasters. Funds are generated by individual member gifts and contributions from state and local REALTOR® associations across the country.

Assistance is available to qualified applicants towards one of the following options: 1) Monthly mortgage expense for the primary residence that was damaged by the Volcanic Eruption/Lava Flow Disaster or; 2) Rental cost due to displacement from the primary residence resulting from the Volcanic Eruption/Lava Flow Disaster. Deadline for application submission is September 7, 2018.

On May 3, 2018 Hawai`i County Mayor, Harry Kim, issued an Emergency Lava Proclamation for Hawai`i County due to the possibility of imminent disaster from the migration of seismicity and deformation downrift of Pu`u `O`o Vent. Shortly after the proclamation was issued lava emerged from the East Rift Zone of the Kilauea volcano prompting the evacuation of 1,700 residents of Leilani Estates subdivision.

To date the eruption has destroyed over 450 residential structures with many other homes and farms becoming inaccessible or uninhabitable due to high sulfur dioxide concentrations and ash.

For more information on the REALTORS® Relief Foundation administered by Hawai`i Island REALTORS®, please contact:

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