



## **News Release**

*"The Voice for Real Estate" in Illinois*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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### **Illinois REALTORS® providing \$15,000 in relief assistance to Chicago Austin Neighborhood Explosion Victims**

**CHICAGO, Ill.** — Illinois REALTORS® announced today that it is donating up to \$15,000 to the residents displaced by a gas explosion in Chicago's Austin neighborhood late last month.

Twenty-five of the families came to the office of 29th Ward Alderman Christopher Taliaferro on October 22 to fill out applications for assistance through the Illinois REALTORS® Relief Foundation. Each family will receive relief assistance up to \$500. Illinois REALTORS® is asking the remaining affected families to stop by Alderman Taliaferro's office and apply for assistance as well. Or do so online at <https://www.illinoisrealtors.org/about/foundations/irrf/>

"We believe in helping our neighbors in their time of need because that is who we are. Our hearts really go out to these families," said Katherine Bezares, Illinois REALTORS® Governmental Affairs Director. "We hope that other organizations and companies will step forward and provide assistance, in any form, as well."

Established in 2015, the Illinois REALTORS® Relief Foundation provides monetary assistance to help those living in the state's communities which have been affected by natural disasters.

Illinois REALTORS® Relief Foundation also is providing assistance to families impacted by floods in Southwest Illinois and Stephenson County. Additionally, the Foundation recently donated \$10,000 to the North Shore-Barrington Association of REALTORS® Cares Fund which is providing assistance to the families of victims of the Highland Park July 4 parade shooting.

Illinois REALTORS® is a voluntary trade association whose more than 50,000 members are engaged in all facets of the real estate industry. In addition to serving the professional needs of its members, Illinois REALTORS® works to protect the rights of private property owners in the state by recommending and promoting legislation to safeguard and advance the interest of real property ownership.