

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2026

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Rain-Wrapped Tornadoes Tear Across Southern Mississippi; Midwest Food Bank Responds with Critical Food Assistance

LOCATION, ST. – Midwest Food Bank is responding to the devastating tornado outbreak and severe storms that swept across southern Mississippi on May 6–7, 2026, leaving widespread destruction across multiple counties in the Pine Belt region. The outbreak produced at least seven confirmed tornadoes, including multiple EF3 tornadoes, damaging homes, businesses, and infrastructure while thousands of residents were left without power.

In response to the disaster, Midwest Food Bank is deploying 1,040 family food boxes to support emergency relief operations and provide immediate assistance to impacted families across southern Mississippi.

“We know many families are facing overwhelming loss and uncertainty right now,” said John Cirilli, Executive Director in Morton at Midwest Food Bank “Our goal is to move essential food supplies into these communities as quickly as possible so local partners and first responders can focus on helping families begin the recovery process.”

Impact on the Community

A dangerous storm system moved across southern Mississippi on May 6–7, 2026, producing multiple tornadoes, destructive winds, and heavy rainfall across the Pine Belt region. The severe weather caused widespread damage to homes, businesses, and infrastructure while leaving thousands without power.

As communities begin assessing the destruction, local agencies and nonprofit organizations are mobilizing to support families affected by the storms.

Midwest Food Bank is working with local partners to provide immediate food assistance to impacted communities. A shipment of critical relief supplies is being prepared that includes:

- 1,040 family food boxes containing essential shelf-stable meals

Relief supplies will be distributed through local partners serving some of the hardest-hit areas across southern Mississippi.

Additional relief efforts are currently being coordinated as damage assessments continue. More response activities are expected in the coming days.

How You Can Help

For those who wish to help, financial donations give Midwest Food Bank the flexibility to quickly and efficiently respond to the needs of the victims. To help cover the cost of the supplies or fuel needed to transport them, visit midwestfoodbank.org/relief to donate. You may also text @MFB to 52014 to donate. Together, we can provide hope and help to those in need.

Midwest Food Bank is a faith-based nonprofit founded in 2003 in Illinois that provides food at no cost to nonprofit agencies. What began as a local effort founded on a family farm has grown to serve communities through multiple U.S. and international locations. Since its origin, Midwest Food Bank has distributed food and relief supplies valued at more than \$4.5 billion to help meet basic needs, including disaster response efforts that support communities during emergencies. Powered by thousands of dedicated volunteers, Midwest Food Bank operates with exceptional efficiency, with more than 99 cents of every dollar going directly to hunger relief and disaster relief programs. The organization is a registered 501(c)(3) organization committed to serving all people with compassion and care, without discrimination.

As a faith-based organization, it is the mission of Midwest Food Bank to share the love of Christ by alleviating hunger and malnutrition and providing disaster relief. Our vision is to serve those in need with excellence, providing physical and spiritual nourishment.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact NAME at PHONE or EMAIL@midwestfoodbank.org