

The Spirit of Community – Sundy Best Hosts Benefit for Johnson County Flood Victims
Thursday, July 22, 2015

Last night thousands of people came together in Johnson County to show support for a community that has suffered tremendous loss in the past few weeks. Kris Bentley and Nick Jamerson, better known as country music duo Sundy Best, hosted a benefit concert to help raise money for families in Johnson County devastated by flooding in the past several weeks.

While countless volunteers worked the crowd and accepted donations on site during the free concert, others were busy working the phones at WYMT in Hazard. The local CBS affiliate carried the event live, prompting and promoting donations throughout the entire evening. In the end, almost \$50,000 was raised to help families begin to put their lives back together.

Pulling together this kind of event in less than a week is no easy feat. The dedicated team from Sundy Best worked tirelessly to ensure everyone stayed safe and had a great time. The television station mobilized their entire cast and crew to set the stage for a long, live, and flawless broadcast that would bring the realization of devastation to people's living rooms across the region.

Last, and behind the scenes, the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky worked to collect, process and account for the thousands of donations that will be pooled and redistributed to those who need it the most – flood victims and their families in Johnson County. Bentley and Jamerson plan to work with local agencies to help get the funds out the door. The Foundation will monitor the distribution and ensure accountability for each dollar donated.

Rapid response is critical to help meet the immediate needs of families who have suffered so much physical and emotional pain. "So many lives have been affected by this horrible flood. Buildings and homes have been destroyed, but our spirit as a region has not," said Gerry Roll, Executive Director of the Foundation. "Together, we can continue to make a big difference as this community puts the pieces of their lives back in place."

By pooling our resources, we can do so much more than any of us could do alone. Sundy Best summed it up this way – "You know, we all got each other's back in this area; in this whole state," said Kris Bentley. "It's very Kentucky for Kentucky."

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