



NSU HOME

GETTING STARTED

ADMISSIONS

CAMPUS LIFE

ACADEMICS

OUTREACH

NEWS

CALENDAR

Joplin Tornado Relief

Many of our students, faculty and staff have indicated willingness to assist with the relief effort in Joplin, including pledges of financial support and engagement in public service. At this time, search and rescue operations are underway in Joplin. Only professional medical personnel and first responder volunteers are needed right now. If you are a medical professional and/or a first responder, information on volunteering is available at [Show-Me Response website](#).



After search and rescue operations are completed, United Way 2-1-1 Information and Referral will provide volunteer opportunities in the Joplin area. General up-to-date volunteer information in the Joplin area is available at 1 (800) 427-4626.

Stuff the Truck for Joplin

NSU continues to support the Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce Stuff the Truck for Joplin campaign along with the Cherokee Nation. The first round of trucks are loaded with formula, non-perishable food items, can openers, batteries, diapers and water and will arrive in the Joplin area May 26.

NSU will continue to serve as a donation site at all three campuses. You can drop off items between 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Tahlequah UC Student Activities, Broken Arrow Administration Building - Student Affairs and Muskogee Administration Office.

Donated items will be delivered to:

[Ozark Food Harvest](#)

The organization is the only food bank in southwest Missouri, serving more than 300 nonprofit hunger relief organizations across 28 Ozarks counties.

[Boys and Girls Club of Springfield](#)

Donations will be delivered to non profit agencies that support the Joplin Boys and Girls Club.

[The Bridge](#)

MSSU is working with The Bridge as a donation and resource site.

Individuals wishing to volunteer can contact Student Activities at (918) 444-2526.

The updated donation request list (May 26) includes:

- Money (Donate securely online)
- Easy-open, ready-to-eat nonperishable food items
- Canned goods and can openers

- Snacks such as crackers and granola bars
- All types of personal hygiene items, including diapers
- Paper products such as paper plates, eating utensils, paper towels & toilet paper
- Cleaning supplies such as Clorox wipes
- Water bottles are not a priority from donors at this time
- Baby clothes

Most Needed Food Items

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken and salmon)
- Canned and boxed foods (soup, chili, stew, macaroni and cheese)
- Peanut butter
- Canned or dried beans and peas (black, pinto and lentils)
- Pasta and rice
- Canned fruits

Community Outreach

RiverHawk Care - NSU community members can request material items for loved ones affected by the Joplin tornado. RiverHawk Care is modeled after the Angel Tree program. NSU community members can submit detailed information on needed items for loved ones. Forms are available in the Student Affairs offices in Tahlequah and Broken Arrow campuses and Muskogee Campus Dean's office. University and local community member are encouraged to adopt a person or family through the RiverHawk Care program. Donation coordination will be handled through Student Affairs at (918) 444-2120.

Counseling Support - NSU Student Counseling Service staff are available for those who need assistance during this time of tragedy at (918) 444-2042.

Additional Response Efforts

NSU Joplin Work Teams - NSU has made arrangements to work through AmeriCorps for our volunteer work team trips to Joplin. NSU will send volunteer work teams to Joplin on the following dates:

- June 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24
- July 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, and 29

Work teams will consist of 15 individuals per trip. The schedule is as follows:

- 5:45 a.m. - depart NSU Tahlequah from University Center circle drive
- 8:00 a.m. - check in with AmeriCorps at MSSU
- 8:15 a.m. - 3 p.m. - AmeriCorps buses volunteers to work sites
- 3:30 p.m. - depart Joplin
- 6:00 p.m. - arrive NSU Tahlequah

If you are interested in volunteering through NSU, please sign up in the Student Activities Office located on the Tahlequah campus, University Center. Each person will receive a volunteer packet with information on clothing, supplies, food and drink, and transportation arrangements. For additional information, contact Student Activities at (918) 444-2526.

Broken Arrow campus community members interested in volunteer work team trips, please contact Student Affairs - BA at (918) 449-6000 to express interest. Arrangements will be made for Broken Arrow based on community interest.

Blood Drive - NSU will host blood drive(s) to support supply needs in the Joplin area. Dates and times TBD

Financial Donations - NSU will set up an account for University community members to donate for supplies that will go in truck distributions. Donations to the NSU account are not tax deductible. Contact information TBD. Everyone is encouraged to donate to American Red Cross or other responder of choice.

Current Information

This webpage will host current recovery efforts supported by NSU and our local community. In addition, [NSU's Facebook page](#) will have current recovery efforts posted.

Those interested in assisting with recovery efforts are encouraged to attend our next meeting on Tuesday, May 31. Meeting time and location TBD.

Additional Information

Victims of Joplin who want to let their friends and family know they are safe, can register on the [Safe and Well website](#).

Friends and family who want to check on their loved ones, can reference [Safe and Well website](#).