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EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE SERVED 122 FAMILIES DURING 20TH REBUILD TRIP

Tupelo, MS – Eight Days of Hope (EDOH) wrapped up its 20th rebuilding trip on Saturday, March 16th, bringing 1,706 volunteers to Amory, MS, and helping 122 families rebuild their homes after last year's EF-3 tornado.

"Forty-one days ago, we announced that we would be serving in Amory. To see such a large number of volunteers from all over the country come to Amory for the outreach was a blessing. The town of Amory welcomed the volunteers with open arms, and lifelong friendships were formed. We left physically tired, but our hearts were full," says Stephen Tybor III, EDOH President and CEO.

Volunteers traveled from 39 states and Canada to Monroe County for 8 days with the desire to simply love and serve those in need – and they did. 62 homes are now move-in ready. 22 full roofs were completed. 28 homes were painted. 7 homes were rebuilt from the ground up. Not only were 122 families served, but volunteers wanted to make an impact on the entire community by revitalizing the Hatley Ball Fields, Carlos Moore Park, and the Amory Community Center. Nearly \$4 million of work was completed!

EDOH partnered with Monroe Strong, the long-term recovery committee handling the case management for all the homes damaged in last year's storm. This organization will continue recovery efforts in the area. In addition, EDOH partnered with Meadowood Baptist Church, First Baptist Amory, the Gilmore Foundation, and the Create Foundation. The support of the local community was unmatched, allowing EDOH to complete more work than originally anticipated.

EDOH is supported by almost twenty National Partners, who help provide resources so we can love and serve across the country as disasters occur. Four of those National Partners are in Northeast Mississippi – American Family Radio, Barnes Crossing Auto Group, Crescent Memorial, and Renasant Bank. To get involved with EDOH, visit <u>www.eightdaysofhope.com</u>. For those still in need of assistance or wanting to volunteer in Amory, please visit <u>https://gomonroe.org/monroe-strong/</u>.

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ABOUT EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE: Except for a small staff, Eight Days of Hope is an all-volunteer organization. We serve all people regardless of race, gender, religion or ethnicity. Please visit <u>www.eightdaysofhope.com</u> for more information, to provide financial support, or to volunteer.