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$350,000 Distributed from Aurora Victim Relief Fund

The 7/20 Recovery Committee announced today that a total of $350,000 dedicated to meeting some immediate financial needs is being distributed among the 70 victims who were physically injured or whose lives were lost in the July 20 shooting. Victims may have financial needs far greater than this initial monetary distribution, and this is one of many steps in providing support as victims continue to move through the healing process. The $350,000 is being distributed from the Aurora Victim Relief Fund at Community First Foundation to the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance. Attempts are being made to contact each family regarding this disbursement.

The 7/20 Recovery Committee is the body that will make recommendations regarding the funds, services and goods donated by individuals and businesses in response to the July 20 tragedy. The committee is made up of volunteers from a variety of non-profit service providers, community foundations, government and community organizations, including the following: The Office of Governor John W. Hickenlooper, Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Aurora Mental Health, Aurora Public Schools, Cherry Creek Public Schools, City of Aurora, Colorado Department of Public Safety, Colorado Crisis Education and Response Network, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance, Community First Foundation, Community Healing Group, Denver Foundation, Aurora Key Community Response Team, University of Colorado and University Hospital. Additional members will be added in the coming weeks.

The 7/20 Recovery Committee will focus on coordinating efforts to identify, prioritize and meet the short, intermediate and long-term needs of victims resulting from the tragedy. A variety of items and services have already been made available and distributed to the victims and family members, including such things as cemetery services, funeral and memorial services, financial planning, legal services, food, lodging, medical services and transportation.

Additional victim information and resources are available through the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance at 800-261-2682. Crisis counselors are available 24 hours per day through Aurora Mental Health by calling 303-617-2300. A variety of tragedy information and resources may be found on the city of Aurora website at auroragov.org/720.