“I was in shock, barely living day to day,” Gilbert Johnson says of the days and months after Hurricane Sandy left a gaping hole in his roof and flooded his entire home.

Fortunately for Gilbert, he picked up the phone and found himself talking to not only a real person, but the right person – Yussef Parris, a case manager working with Lutheran Disaster Response. It wasn’t until Gilbert invited Yussef into his home that the full extent of damage from the storm was realized.

Gilbert was living without a roof, his electricity and heat had been shut off and his septic tank had collapsed, all because of the storm.

Gilbert, legally blind, was unable to see well enough to fill out any forms and having talked to a few people with little progress in helping him, he had almost given up. Gilbert says, “I was skeptical. I didn’t trust anybody to help me, but you [Yussef] proved to me that you will advocate for me – you’re on my side.”

Yussef and the long-term disaster recovery committee are walking with Gilbert on his journey to rebuild his home and his life. He is eager to get back in his home and is very grateful, “I never could have imagined this, it is better than I ever could have dreamed. Now I have hope.”

Because of people like you, Lutheran Disaster Response is able to help those whose homes have been destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. Your gifts help provide healing and hope to people like Gilbert.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response help the church respond to the needs of people after a disaster strikes. Working in collaboration with other disaster response organizations and church entities, this enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response. Will you help with your gift today?

**Will you help with your gift today?**

YES! I would like to support Lutheran Disaster Response.

☐ I have enclosed my gift of $250.

☐ I have enclosed my gift of $100.

☐ Other $__________