

Matthew J. Doherty, Mayor
February 5, 2014



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAYOR DOHERTY ANNOUNCES "HOME BY SUMMER" FUNDRAISER FOR SANDY DISPLACED FAMILIES IN BELMAR

BELMAR- Belmar Mayor Matt Doherty today announced the creation of the "Home by Summer" campaign to raise private money in the effort to return the last two families displaced by Superstorm Sandy to their homes in Belmar. The Keefe and Sperber families sustained significant damage to their homes and have seen the last of the state and federal grant money for Sandy relief programs run out while their home repairs continue to be ongoing and unaffordable. Both families participated with Mayor Doherty in the event unveiling the campaign today and saw early commitments of \$4,250 from the Jersey Shore Chamber of Commerce, \$5,000 from D'Jais and \$5,000 from Maser Consulting for a total of \$14,425 towards the goal of \$200,000 in private donations.

In explaining the motivating forces for the campaign, Doherty said:

"In the immediate aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, Belmar had a few thousand families displaced. Now, over two years later, we still have two families that are not back in their homes. Those are two families too many so we intend to come together as a community and do whatever it takes to try and get both of these families Home by Summer.

Our state and federal representatives have all done a tremendous job of trying to secure funding and distribute it to the many families impacted by Sandy, but that money has come to an end. This has nothing to do with politics or government, it has everything to do with community and taking care of our own. In the midst of our post-Sandy cleanup, when things appeared to be at their lowest, our community came together as one and worked to get our town back on track. At the time, we vowed to make sure every family was able to move back into their home in Belmar and, today, we are taking the next steps to make good on that promise for these last two families.

Professionals in town have met with both families, spoken with their contractors, reviewed their construction plans and their financial situations and assessed what they need to get home. Our goal is to raise \$200,000 and have both families back home by June 1st of this year. Working together, and with everyone's help, we are committed to achieving our goals. For these families there is no Plan B, there is just us, so we cannot fail."

The "Home By Summer" campaign has The Saint Vincent DePaul Society of St. Rose in Belmar as a partner. They are a 501c(3) non-profit and have opened an account at Central Jersey Bank for the express purposes of raising money and paying contractors for work completed. ALL DONATIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Donations can be made online through PayPal by going to www.Belmar.com and clicking the link "Home by Summer" or checks can be made out to "Home By Summer" and mailed to Borough of Belmar, Attn: Home by Summer, PO Box A, Belmar, NJ, 07719

Belmar is a vibrant beach community at the heart of the Jersey Shore
Visit us at 40°10'47"N 74°01'28"W (40.179663,-74.02444)

Home by Summer 2015 The Sperber Family



Hurricane Sandy flooded our home for 7 days; leaving the saltwater eating away the mortar from our home's foundation, making it unstable and our home unsafe for occupancy. Though we had flood insurance, our insurance company has only paid 10% of our claim, allowing for only \$600 to cover the foundations cracks with stucco and paint. We have moved 5 different times over the past 2 1/2 years. Our children, Jack (14) and Maisie (12) are desperate to get back home.

Thank you for considering to help our family.

~ Krista Sperber

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Home by Summer 2015 The Roberts/Keefe Family



We are the Keefe/Roberts family and we have lived in Belmar all of our lives. On October 29, 2012 our home was destroyed by Super Storm Sandy. We lost EVERYTHING, and were rescued with only the clothes on our backs to take with us. We now reside in a two bedroom condo with my brother in Lakewood. It is myself, my three children, Shayla (14), Shaun (10), and Alyssa (9), my mother who on January 23, 2015 had a health emergency and my brother who is permanently disabled due to a spinal cord injury he had on October 30, 2013.

I work for a doctor in Wall and to keep the only normalcy that my children have in their lives right now, I drive them to school on a daily basis. Shayla to Manasquan HS and Shaun and Alyssa to Belmar Elementary. We want nothing more than to be back in our hometown, safe and sound, where we belong. We just want to come home!

~ Teresa Roberts Keefe

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Home by Summer 2015

To learn more and donate by PayPal visit us at
www.belmar.com

The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation links: HOME, CALENDAR, SANDY, CONTACT, and GET BELMAR ALERTS. The main content area is titled "Home by Summer" and features a central graphic of a house with the text "HOME BY SUMMER DONATE NOW!!!". Below the graphic, the text reads: "Belmar and St. Rose's Church/St. Vincent DePaul Society are asking for donations to help two Belmar families rebuild their homes that were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Click below to donate via PayPal!" and includes a "Donate" button with logos for American Express, Discover, VISA, MasterCard, and PayPal. A sidebar on the left contains a menu with items like "Meet the Roberts/Keefe Family" and "Hurricane Sandy Aid for Displaced Families".

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