

Hardee and Sarasota Counties Approved for Direct Temporary Housing Assistance

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BRANDON, Fla. – Hardee and Sarasota counties are now eligible for FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Assistance.

They join Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto and Lee counties previously approved for Direct Temporary Housing Assistance, which provides options for people whose homes are uninhabitable because of the hurricane.

FEMA determined that rental assistance is insufficient to meet the housing need in those counties because of a lack of available housing resources.

FEMA will notify applicants who are eligible for direct housing. It will take time to transport, permit, install and inspect these units before they are available.

The Direct Housing Program Provides Three Primary Options

- **Multi-Family Lease and Repair**, where FEMA enters into a lease agreement with the owner of multi-family rental properties and makes repairs to provide temporary housing for applicants.
- **Transportable Temporary Housing Units** such as a travel trailer or manufactured home.
- **Direct Lease**, which is leasing existing ready-for-occupancy housing.

Direct Temporary Housing Assistance may be provided for up to 18 months from Sept. 29, 2022, the date of the federal disaster declaration, to March 28, 2024.

Direct temporary housing takes significant time to implement and is not an immediate solution for a survivor's interim and longer-term housing needs. Additionally, not everyone impacted by the disaster will be eligible for direct housing. It is important that partners at all levels – local, state, other federal, nonprofit and private sector – work together to fill any gaps.



Survivors who have applied to FEMA for assistance do not need to reapply to be eligible for direct temporary housing assistance. If you haven't yet applied, you can apply online at DisasterAssistance.gov, use the [FEMA app](#) for smartphones or call 800-621-3362. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Lines are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week.



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