Federal Support for Hurricane Ian Totals $1.93 Billion; FEMA Provides $719 Million in Individual Assistance to Jumpstart Survivor Recovery

Release Date: November 4, 2022

WASHINGTON -- More than $1.93 billion in federal grants, disaster loans and flood insurance payments has been provided to the state of Florida and households to help survivors jumpstart their recovery after Hurricane Ian.

FEMA has provided $719 million to households and $322 million to the state for emergency response, while the U.S. Small Business Administration has provided $562 million in disaster loans and the National Flood Insurance Program has paid $332 million in claims.

How FEMA is Helping Floridians

- **FEMA has made individual assistance available to 26 counties in Florida.** Residents in Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns and Volusia counties are eligible to apply for Individual Assistance.
- **FEMA is meeting survivors where they are to help jumpstart their recoveries.** Disaster Survivor Assistance specialists are going door-to-door in Florida neighborhoods to help individuals register for assistance. These teams have interacted with more than **90,000** survivors in counties designated for Individual Assistance.
- **Survivors can visit one of 23 Disaster Recovery Centers** operating in Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee (2 locations), Manatee, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns and Volusia counties. More centers are planned. Interpretation services and translated

materials are available at these centers to help survivors communicate in the language they feel most comfortable. Disaster Recovery Center locations are chosen for their accessibility, with the goal of reaching as many people as possible. As centers are added, real-time locations will be updated at FloridaDisaster.org.

- **FEMA expanded Transitional Sheltering Assistance to seven more counties, for a total of 26 counties that are eligible for temporary hotel stays for survivors who cannot remain in their homes because of storm damage.** As of today, the program is providing housing for **2,449** households with **6,157** members**.**
- **Hundreds of FEMA inspectors** have performed over **191,648** home inspections for survivors who applied for federal disaster assistance.
- **FEMA will provide temporary housing to eligible Hurricane Ian survivors in Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Hardee, Lee and Sarasota counties.** FEMA approved Direct Temporary Housing Assistance to provide options for those 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. 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.
- **The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved $562 million in low-interest disaster loans** to homeowners, renters and business owners. Business Recovery Centers are located in Collier, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee and Seminole counties.
- **As of Nov. 3, FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has received more than 43,000 flood insurance claims and paid more than $332 million to policyholders, including $166 million in advance payments.**
- **NFIP policyholders may receive up to $1,000** to reimburse the purchase of supplies like sandbags, plastic sheeting and lumber. They may also receive up to $1,000 in storage expenses if they moved insured property. Policyholders should file a claim for flood loss avoidance reimbursement, regardless of whether it was successful in preventing flood damage.
- FEMA is conducting local hiring for more than 300 jobs in Brandon, Fort Myers, Kissimmee, Orlando and Sarasota. These positions are full-time, 120-day appointments that may be extended depending on operational needs.

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply online through USAJobs.gov. Click here for instructions on how to apply.

- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance is available to eligible survivors**. Floridians can file a claim for loss of income caused by Hurricane Ian by going to Disaster Unemployment Assistance - FloridaJobs.org and selecting “Apply for Hurricane Ian DUA,” visiting a local CareerSource Career Center, or calling 800-385-3920. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET.
- **Low-income Florida residents recovering from Hurricane Ian may be eligible for assistance from the Department of Agriculture’s Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP).** Survivors can find more information on Florida’s D-SNAP program by visiting the Florida Department of Children and Families’ Hurricane Ian Response & Recovery website.
- **As of Nov. 3, Operation Blue Roof has installed 18,569 roofs.** This is a free service provided to homeowners and is currently operating in Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Lee and Sarasota counties. Final blue roof installations are scheduled to be completed by Nov. 9, 2022.
- **National Flood Insurance Program Florida policyholders who had flood damage from the hurricane have a 90-day window to renew their policies.** The extension applies to policies with renewal dates beginning Aug. 25, 2022 through Oct. 23, 2022. Policyholders whose renewal date is in this range should contact their agent or insurance company. FEMA also extended the proof of loss requirement for flood insurance policyholders in Florida who experienced flood damage from Hurricane Ian from 60 to 365 days. For more information on how to file a flood insurance claim, visit How to Start Your Flood Insurance Claim.
- If you or a member of your household uses adaptive or accessibility items that were damaged by Hurricane Ian, you may be eligible for FEMA assistance for those items. For homeowners, items can include an exterior ramp, grab bars and a paved pathway to the home’s entrance from a vehicle. Awards do not count toward your Housing Assistance or Personal Property maximum awards. For more information for homeowners and renters, visit Update to FEMA’s Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide.