

More Than \$200 Million in Federal Assistance Approved for Cook County Survivors

Release Date: September 26, 2023

CHICAGO – As of Tuesday, September 26, federal assistance to Cook County survivors affected by the June 29 – July 2 storms and flooding topped **\$200 million**.

This funding is a combination of nearly **\$36 million** in low-interest loans provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and **\$166 million** in grants through FEMA's Individual Assistance program.

Here is a snapshot of the FEMA disaster assistance as of September 26:

- Nearly **46,600** households have been approved for FEMA grant funding totaling **\$166 million**, including:
 - Nearly **\$142 million** in housing grants, including short-term rental assistance and home repair costs.
 - More than **\$24 million** approved for other essential disaster-related needs, such as expenses related to medical, dental and lost personal possessions.
- Nearly **63,000** home inspections have been completed.
- To-date, **8,500** Cook County homeowners and renters have been helped at **one of seven** FEMA recovery centers.
- FEMA's Disaster Survivor Assistance teams have visited **48,600** homes and nearly **400** businesses; they have interacted with **12,500** survivors and have registered more than **1,100** households for FEMA's Individual Assistance program.

Disaster Legal Services Program Now Available

Disaster Legal Services is now in place to provide free legal assistance to low-income Cook County survivors affected by the June 29 – July 2, 2023, disaster.



FEMA

Individuals can call **312-341-1070**, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to get help with legal issues such as home repair contracts, insurance claims, FEMA and SBA benefits, disaster fraud and landlord or tenant problems. To make a request online, visit [Legal Aid Chicago](#).

This service is a partnership between FEMA, the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and Legal Aid Chicago.

Reminder: Register with FEMA

Residents of Cook County with uninsured or under insured losses from the June 29 – July 2 severe storms and flooding are encouraged to apply for federal assistance if they haven't done so already.

There are several ways to start the process:

- Go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](#).
- Use the [FEMA mobile app](#).
- Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362. Multilingual operators are available. If you use video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service.
- Visit a disaster recovery center. The centers serve as one-stop shops for survivors who need one-on-one help. Survivors can visit any center for assistance. To find center locations and current hours, visit [FEMA.gov/DRC](#).

For more information about Cook County's recovery, visit [www.fema.gov/disaster/4728](#). The deadline to apply for disaster assistance is October 16, 2023.

