

How Displacement Assistance Can Help You

Everyone experiences disasters differently, and FEMA assistance is designed to be flexible so people can make the best decision for their immediate housing needs.

FEMA's Displacement Assistance was created for people who cannot return home right after a disaster. This assistance provides eligible people with up-front funds to assist with immediate, short-term housing options of their choice, such as staying with family and friends.

EMILY'S STORY:



Name: Emily
Age: 49
Location: Kansas
Disaster: Tornado
Job: Server
Family: Married with two children and two dogs
Home: Owner
Home Insurance: Yes
Flood Insurance: No

The Scenario

When Emily's home was left uninhabitable by the tornado, she had to decide what was best for her family, including her two dogs. **Because the dogs weren't allowed in a shelter, she accepted her friend's offer for her family and dogs to stay with them.**

The Process

She was nervous about not having the cash to cover the additional meals, dog food and extra utilities expenses. **After learning that FEMA may be able to help, Emily applied for assistance, and explained her temporary living situation.**

The Result

FEMA determined that Emily's household was eligible for Displacement Assistance, and she received money to help cover the cost of groceries, dog food and increased utilities usage.



The above story uses fictional characters and events to help explain the disaster assistance process for disasters declared on or after March 22, 2024. If you live in an individual assistance area and want to learn more about how FEMA can help you, call [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362), visit disasterassistance.gov or [download the FEMA app](#) to apply for FEMA assistance.

To learn more about FEMA's disaster assistance programs, please visit: fema.gov/ia

