

*Voluntary Agency Liaison*

# VAL Snapshot



FEMA



# Highlights

*The VAL Snapshot is intended to provide FEMA’s non-governmental partners with situational awareness of current events to assist in determining if, where, and how they may deploy resources.*

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# Meet the FEMA Leadership Team



FEMA



**Gregg Phillips**

Associate Administrator  
Office of Response and Recovery



**Frank Matranga**

Assistant Administrator  
Recovery Directorate (A)



**Zachary Usher**

Director  
Individual Assistance Division (A)



**Victoria Barton**

Associate Administrator  
Office of External Affairs



## FEMA INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE SPOTLIGHT

# FEMA Hosts Kickoff Meeting for Individual Assistance Modernization with Non-Governmental Partners

FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) Voluntary Agency Liaisons with the IA Modernization Team launched a collaborative effort to test the upgrade in identity assurance levels on DisasterAssistance.gov for survivors who register for FEMA assistance.

Over 80 participants from more than 40 organizations engaged in these efforts, including **voluntary agencies, philanthropic groups, community-based organizations, private sector entities, associations, and academia.**

These organizations play a vital role in community recovery efforts by providing direct services such as case management, sheltering, rebuilding, emotional care, and long-term recovery for disaster survivors. Their expertise and feedback are essential in shaping FEMA's modernization efforts, ensuring upgrades like a streamlined **DisasterAssistance.gov** process and enhanced survivor support are effective, accessible, and do not create new barriers. By engaging trusted partners, FEMA ensures that program improvements are survivor-centered and responsive to real-world needs.

### PARTICIPATION INCLUDED:

**84**  
individuals

**42**  
partner organizations



**91%**  
success rate  
with identity verification

## VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT





# Registration Information

DATA AS OF 1/12/2026 AT 9:15 AM ET

This data is intended to provide aggregate survivor data to be used for planning purposes. Only those disasters with an open registration period are included in this report.

If you are unable to read this information, or would like amplifying information, please email [FEMA-VAL@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-VAL@fema.dhs.gov). For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).

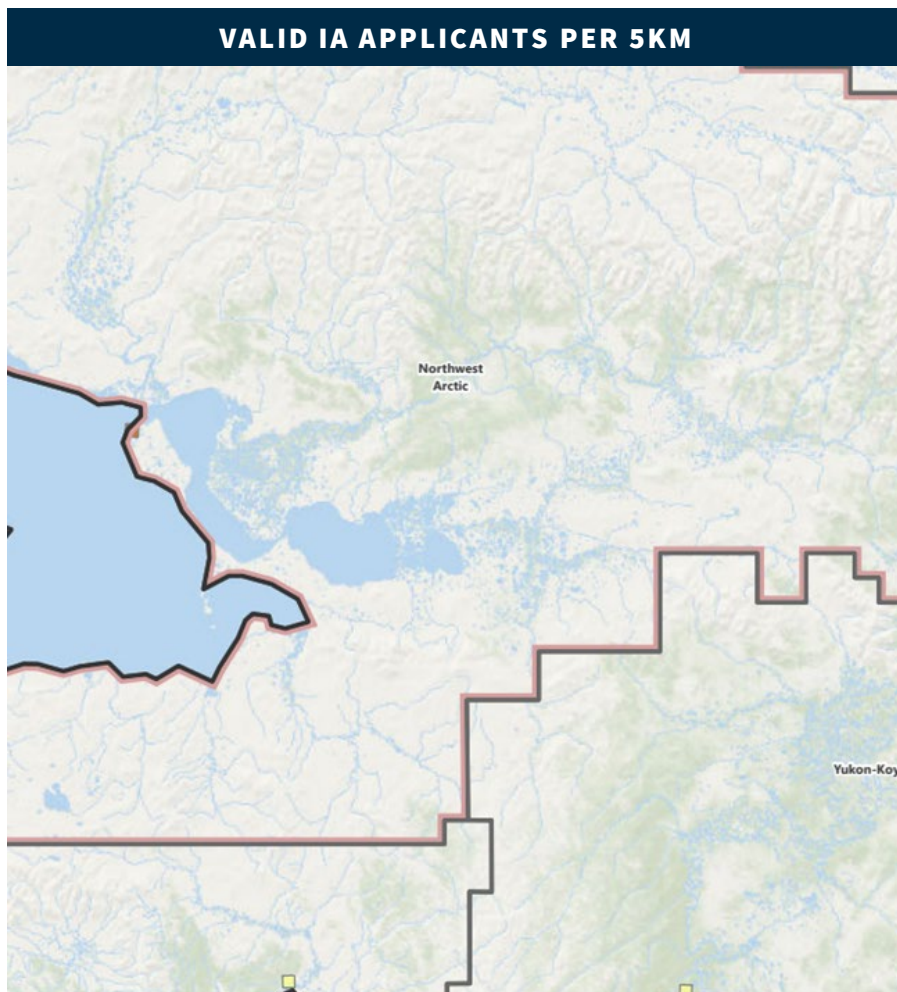


FEMA

## DR-4893-AK

**INCIDENT TYPE:***Flood***DECLARED:***10/22/2025***LAST FILING:***02/20/2026***MAP LEGEND:**

- States
- Designated Counties
- IA
- PA
- IAPA
- No Designation
- IA Applicants (All) per 5KM
  - ≤ 14
  - ≤ 24
  - ≤ 36
  - ≤ 79

**Top 3 County with FEMA Applicants**

Lower Kuskokwim REAA	Lower Yukon REAA	Northwest Artic (Borough)
<b>1,394</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>45</b>

**FEMA Registrations**

**Total**  
**1,659**

**Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown**

Referred Individuals	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	<b>1,629</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>1,594</b>
Approved Amount	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	<b>\$30,138,172</b>	<b>\$1,328,512</b>	<b>\$28,755,660</b>

**Applicant Reported Damages**

Owners	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	<b>1,420</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>4%</b>
Renters	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	<b>319</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>12%</b>

# FEMA VAL Impacts

*FEMA VAL Impacts captures the outcomes generated by faith based and nongovernmental organizations, facilitated by the coordination, information sharing, and technical assistance offered by FEMA's Individual Assistance Voluntary Agency Liaisons (VALs).*

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## Region 4 (KY, TN, SC, NC, GA, AL, MS, FL)

### DR-4860/4864/4875-KY

- Accelerated survivor transition to permanent housing by coordinating with **Good Community** in distributing welcome kits, supporting families transitioning into direct housing, and enhancing state-led housing operations and move-in readiness.
- Expanded local recovery capacity by engaging **Lincoln Trail Area Development District** and **Martin County Emergency Management** to assess community service gaps and increase local nonprofit and faith-based partner participation.
- Strengthened state cost-share documentation by supporting **American Red Cross** in capturing volunteer labor and donated goods.
- Stabilized households with unmet needs through coordination with **Anderson County Emergency Management**, **Daniel Boone Community Action Agency**, **Knott County Unmet Needs Table**, and **United Way Metro** to deliver financial assistance, housing support, and seasonal recovery initiatives for households with unmet needs.

### DR-4827-NC

- **Sustained long-term recovery** operations by aligning partner capabilities and resources across more than 20 Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs).
- **Mobilized local partners** providing free or reduced-cost heating resources, including propane, kerosene, oil, firewood, and other essential energy sources to support survivors during the winter.
- **On-going engagement and support to survivors** transitioning into newly constructed homes through FEMA's Direct Housing programs by assessing needs and connecting them with local recovery resources.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
  - **Samaritan's Purse** has rebuilt or repaired more than 43 bridges and completed hundreds of site assessments, enabling survivors to regain access to homes and advance permanent recovery.
  - **Baptists on Mission Disaster Recovery Ministry** has completed **rebuilding 617 homes** and is actively rebuilding additional housing to expand safe, permanent housing options for survivors.
  - **Sharing House** and **Transylvania Christian Ministry, Inc.** are supporting survivor stability by assisting with housing-related expenses, utilities, transportation, and access to employment and training.
  - **Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM)** is operating a medical clinic providing free care to uninsured residents.
  - **ABCCM** launched the **Faith360 Disaster Recovery Network** across 20 counties, coordinating volunteer mobilization, resource deployment, and training to strengthen long-term resilience.
  - **Crisis Ministries** is providing food, clothing, utility assistance, and essential services across Buncombe County and neighboring areas, supporting recovery.



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## Region 4 (KY, TN, SC, NC, GA, AL, MS, FL) - Continued

### DR-4806/4828/4834-FL

- **Sustained long-term recovery** operations by aligning partner capabilities and resources across more than **35 Long-Term Recovery Groups** (LTRGs) and **13 Community Organizations Active in Disaster** (COADs).
- **Advanced survivor recovery** by coordinating with partners to close 756 of 803 unmet needs cases, including 325 access and functional needs cases.
- **Facilitated 56 Information Sharing and Access Agreements (ISAAs)** to date, enabling partners to more precisely identify and address survivors' unmet needs.
- **Coordinated volunteer support** from **Christian Aid Ministries** and **Mennonite Disaster Service** for **Taylor County Strong LTRG** rebuild projects, accelerating housing recovery efforts.

## Region 6 (TX, AR, OK, NM, LA)

### DR-4795-NM

- Supported **COAD and LTRG** development and collaborating with State Disaster Case Managers to address community needs.
- Advanced and connected **12 Disaster Case Management** cases to resources and are providing guidance on appeals.
- **Connected 11 survivors receiving Direct Housing Assistance** with recovery resources, such as furniture and appliances.

### DR-4886-NM

- Partnered with **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** to support disaster case management training for state, county, and local DCMs, strengthening survivor access to FEMA IA programs and appeals.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address disaster-related survivor unmet needs:
  - **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church** works with local volunteer groups to build wheelchair ramps for survivors with access and functional needs.
  - **Mennonite Disaster Services** and regional partners are coordinating to assess unmet needs in the flood-impacted communities in Doña Ana County.
  - **The Salvation Army (Las Cruces)** is providing food boxes, clothing vouchers, and emotional and spiritual care, while also assisting households with rent, utility support, and gift cards to stabilize recovery.
  - **St. Vincent de Paul Ysidro Conference** hosted a survivor resource event and distributed gift cards to support immediate and long-term recovery needs.
  - **Lincoln County Community Health Council** is delivering resources focused on behavioral health, food access, youth engagement, and suicide prevention to support household well-being.
  - **Tierra Del Sol Housing Corporation** secured federal funding to rehabilitate survivor homes and is advancing additional grant applications to expand recovery.

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## Region 6 (TX, AR, OK, NM, LA) - Continued

### DR-4879-TX

- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address disaster-related survivor unmet needs:
  - **Convoy of Hope** provided reimbursements in Burnet County and is providing building materials and direct financial aid for flood-related needs such as furniture, sheetrock, and other rebuilding materials.
  - **Samaritan's Purse** has reimbursed over **50 funerals**, distributed over **1,400 gift cards to survivors**, conducted over **12 new construction builds**, **29 home repairs**, and **six (6) manufactured homes**.
  - **Salvation Army** has donated RVs and is supporting rebuilding through providing building materials and volunteer teams in San Saba County.
  - **Community Foundation** has allocated \$110 million for Kerr recovery for financial assistance to individuals and businesses, mental health services, housing programs, and community and culture projects.
  - **Habitat for Humanity** supported electrical rewiring of seven (7) homes with an average cost of \$2,500 to \$3,000 per home.
  - Supported **San Angelo LTRG** Unmet Needs efforts by coordinating discounted supplies from **Lowes**.
  - **Howard College staff** is recruiting construction students to support rebuilding efforts in Tom Green County.

## Region 8 (CO, SD, ND, MT, UT, WY)

### DR-4890-SWO

- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address survivor unmet needs:
  - **The Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Emergency Management** collaborated with FEMA VALs to form a **COAD for the Lake Traverse Reservation** with the aim to strengthen community resilience and address unmet needs in long-term recovery.
  - **Center for Disaster Philanthropy**, with support from **Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Emergency Management**, **Southern Baptist Disaster Relief** and **South Dakota Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) partners** are collaborating to design and fund a mold remediation program.
  - **US Department of Agriculture Rural Development** is assisting displaced disaster survivors with securing housing.
  - **The Lake Traverse community** is coordinating with **The Legacy Project**, a medical device warehouse non-profit, to provide needed medical supplies and equipment.



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## Region 8 (CO, SD, ND, MT, UT, WY) - Continued

### DR-4847-Crow Tribe of Montana

- **Strengthening long-term** recovery by coordinating with **Seven Stars LTRG** and local businesses to secure donations of beds, mattresses, appliances, and furniture for shelters.
- **Increasing survivor support sustainability by providing LTRG technical assistance** on grant applications and fiscal management, enabling access to philanthropic funding.
- **Prioritizing the assembly and distribution of winterization buckets** and supplies to prepare homes for winter.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address survivor unmet needs:
  - Enabled winter shelter readiness by coordinating with **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS)** to support tarping, window winterization, and shelter preparations.
  - Expanded shelter capacity by supporting the formation of the **Seven Stars LTRG** and the established the Shelter Taskforce with for Program Design, Donations Management, and Volunteer Management.
- **Augmented in-kind and volunteer support** by developing an Amazon Wish List and coordinated volunteer recruitment for shelter operations, cleaning, and supply distribution.

## Region 9 (CA, NV, AZ, HI, CNMI, American Samoa, Guam)

### DR-4856-CA

- **CAVOAD, California Disaster Case Management Program (DCMP), State VALs and FEMA VALs** are supporting LTRGs in developing disaster case management to help survivors with their recovery plans and to connect survivors with resources.
- Formalized LTRGs under **CAVOAD** guidelines including **Eaton Fire Collaborative (EFC)**, **Malibu Community LTRG (MCLTRG)**, and **Pacific Palisades LTRG (Pali LTRG)**.
- Expanding recovery funding through **CAVOAD coordination** with philanthropic partners contributing to survivor unmet needs.

### DR-4724-HI

- **Addressing critical barriers** preventing survivors from achieving permanent housing plans by working directly with community partners as well as transferring all open cases from DCM providers to designated community-based organizations prior to the program's scheduled closure.
- **Advanced permanent housing transitions** by coordinating cases and cross-sector collaboration prior to the expiration of FEMA assistance.
- **Strengthened post-FEMA recovery continuity** by supporting Ho'ola LTRG and Global Empowerment Mission planning for 2026 operations.

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## Region 10 (AK, OR, ID, WA)

### DR-4893-AK

- **Households** are in **non-congregate sheltering for the winter** with support from AK State and voluntary agencies with the intent to begin rebuild efforts after the spring thaw.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address survivor unmet needs:
  - **AK Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management directs cash donations to the following organizations:** AK Community Foundation, Western AK Disaster Relief Fund, Salvation Army Alaska Division, American Red Cross, and World Central Kitchen.
  - **Organizations providing emotional spiritual care support** include Send Relief, AK State Department of Health, and National Crisis Response Canine Teams.
  - **Send Relief** provided 414 public showers, and 168 public laundry loads across the response.
  - **Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), Tidal Basin, and Cooke Inlet** are coordinating to develop financial literacy training for survivors, case workers, tribal leaders, and voluntary partners.

### EM-3629-WA

- **On-going VAL coordination** with **faith-based** and **non-governmental** partners to advance long-term recovery operations and address survivor unmet needs:
  - Several **local WA and VOAD** partners are addressing immediate needs including **Team Rubion, Minutemen Disaster Response, UMCOR,** and **Southern Baptist Disaster Relief** providing mucking and gutting, debris removal, tree and chainsaw work, cleanup buckets, and mold remediation.
  - **Seventh Day Adventists, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, World Renew, United Cajun Navy, Tzu Chi Foundation,** and **San Juan Islands Prepare** are supporting volunteer and donations management. These groups organize warehousing, provide needed donations, and prepare for long-term recovery.
  - **Save the Children and All Hands and Heart** are providing **financial assistance.**
  - **Direct Relief, Project: Camp,** and **Medical Team International** offer medical assistance.



# Disaster Collaboratives

**In 2025, FEMA IA VALs launched and convened the Disaster Collaboratives initiative to leverage FEMA’s power to bring together public-private partners, address resource gaps and support long-term recovery.**

These collaboratives intentionally connect nonprofits, academia, government agencies, private sector leaders and philanthropic organizations. By fostering trusted relationships *before, during, and after disasters*, VALs ensure communities are prepared, response efforts are efficient, and long-term recovery is streamlined.

The first of these Disaster Collaboratives are focused on financial empowerment (Weatherproofing Finances) and donations management.

## Collaborative Partners in Action:

**FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT SESSIONS**  
**DR-4827-NC**  
PAGE 13

**CROW TRIBE OF MONTANA DONATIONS**  
**DR-4887-CTM**  
PAGE 14

## Weatherproofing Finances



## Donations



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# North Carolina

Appalachian  
STATE UNIVERSITY

OPERATION  
BLESSING

Matthew 25  
Ministries

MONEY MANAGEMENT  
INTERNATIONAL



VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT

DR-4827-NC RECOVERY

## Financial Empowerment Sessions

FEMA Individual Assistance Voluntary Agency Liaisons through the **Weatherproofing Finances Collaborative**, supported **Appalachian State University** and **Operation Blessing** in hosting three financial empowerment sessions for disaster survivors in western North Carolina. These free sessions connected survivors with financial experts, practical tools, and strategies to support recovery.

Former FEMA Administrator **Brock Long** under **President Trump's 45th Administration**, and an Appalachian State alumnus and native of western North Carolina, shared expert insights with participants,

“Financial empowerment is not just about money, it is about giving survivors the confidence and resources to recover stronger after disasters.”

Public private partners who participated in the sessions:

- Appalachian State University
- Matthew 25: Ministries
- On Mission Network
- Texans on Mission
- Operation BBQ Relief
- Western North Carolina Disaster Relief
- Bat Cave Disaster Relief
- Feed the People
- Savage Freedoms
- Financial Empowerment Partners
- VISA
- Operation HOPE
- Information Technology Disaster Recovery Center
- Team Rubicon
- FODAC
- United Cajun Navy
- USIO
- Money Management International

### Community Impact



**250** Survivors and  
**37** Local and National  
Non-Profits Coached



**3** Communities Supported  
*Boone, Hickory & Black Mountain*



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Crow Tribe of Montana



## DR-4887-CTM RECOVERY

**FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) Voluntary Agency Liaisons** convened the public private partners of the **IA Donations Collaborative** following the disaster declaration to support the Crow Tribe of Montana, bringing together trusted faith-based and non-governmental partners with donations and logistics expertise.

Through this coordination, partners are delivering critical winterization support to the Crow Tribe of Montana while FEMA Permanent Housing Construction progresses. Through coordinated donations, partners provided essential household items including blankets, hygiene supplies, cleaning materials, beds for shelter facilities, and other necessities to help tribal members remain safe and stable during recovery.

- Matthew 25: Ministries
- Convoy of Hope
- United Cajun Navy
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- Sister Corps
- The Cincinnati Bengals

“ The people of my district really appreciated everything. ”

— CHARLA TAKES ENEMY - BIG HORN DISTRICT SENATOR

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



Images Courtesy of the Crow Tribe of Montana



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PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Pennsylvania



Following a severe storm in 2025 that impacted western Pennsylvania, [Team Rubicon](#) mobilized after receiving a request from Allegheny County's emergency management team. Team Rubicon is a partner with [Allegheny County VOAD](#).

[Team Rubicon](#) is continuing to respond by providing saw work, roof tarping, debris removal, and directly engaging with people impacted by the storms. As of January 2026, Team Rubicon received more than **500 requests** for assistance.

*Images Courtesy of Team Rubicon*

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Washington



## EM-3629-WA RESPONSE

Following catastrophic flooding in Washington, [United Ways of the Pacific Northwest \(PNW\)](#) is coordinating with local United Ways and trusted community partners to support response and long-term recovery efforts across the region.

As a local partner, **Amazon has donated \$1 million** to United Ways of the Pacific Northwest to support immediate and long-term disaster relief efforts, and **deliver over 50,000 emergency supplies** to affected communities.

This collaboration shows how private-public partnerships work together to accelerate recovery and strengthen local response capacity.



VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT





*“Families throughout the Y-K Delta will have something familiar in their freezers again, as well as a measure of steadiness, warmth, and hope.”*

— THE ALASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Images Courtesy of the KRITFC

#### DR-4893-AK RECOVERY

The impacts of Typhoon Halong in Western Alaska, caused residents to evacuate to locations such as Anchorage and Bethel. Many households lost traditional food supplies, creating immediate and ongoing recovery needs.

[The Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission \(KRITFC\)](#), [Bethel Community Services Foundation](#), [Alaska Sea Grant](#), and the [City of Bethel](#) are mobilizing a coordinated traditional foods donation effort to support displaced households. Together, they are sourcing, packaging, and transporting locally harvested foods while conducting outreach through community networks, helping ensure families have access to winter food supplies.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Texas



## DR-4879-TX RECOVERY

Recovery efforts across Central Texas continue through coordinated action among local Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs), community partners, and philanthropic organizations including:

- [OneStar Foundation](#)
- [Helping Hands](#)
- [Hope House](#)
- [San Angelo Area Foundation](#)

FEMA Individual Assistance Voluntary Agency Liaisons (VALs) are working alongside the [Texas Division of Emergency Management](#) (TDEM) to support long-term recovery across ten counties impacted by the July 2025 flooding.

Millions of dollars in public and private funding, including the **OneStar Foundation's Central Texas Flood Recovery Fund**, are driving recovery by strengthening LTRGs, addressing critical unmet needs, and supporting recovery leadership in **eight (8)** of the **ten (10)** hardest-hit counties.



Images Courtesy of Kerr Together and Partners



A wide network of partners, including **Mennonite Disaster Service, Habitat for Humanity, Texans on Mission, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Convoy of Hope, Samaritan's Purse, UMCOR, and other faith-based and community organizations**, are delivering assistance.

Partner efforts support home repair, volunteer coordination, debris removal, care services, and essential supply distribution. Coordinated outreach and ongoing case management help align resources with survivor needs throughout long-term recovery.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Tennessee



Images Courtesy of Samaritan's Purse

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



## DR-4878-TN RESPONSE

In response to a severe storm in McNairy County, [Samaritan's Purse](#) immediately mobilized **337 volunteers** to assist **more than 90 families**. Samaritan's Purse provided personal content recovery, debris clean-up, roof tarping, tree work, and muck-outs.

[Samaritan's Purse](#) had a robust volunteer response allowing them to act quickly and support families with beginning the recovery process.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Washington



Image Courtesy of Convoy of Hope

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



## EM-3629-WA RESPONSE

In December 2025, heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding across western and central Washington, displacing more than 100,000 people and restricting access to essential services.

Convoy of Hope supported response efforts by **delivering tractor-trailer loads of essential relief supplies**, including water, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and baby care items, to communities affected by flooding and evacuations.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# Florida

DR-4834-FL RECOVERY

[Christian Aid Ministries](#) deployed Disaster Response Services (DRS) teams to support recovery efforts in Florida following Hurricane Helene.

The DRS teams established a self-sustaining base of operations at [Midway Baptist Church](#) in Madison, Florida. The team supported rotating volunteer crews delivering recovery assistance across Madison and Taylor counties. Support included volunteer housing, a mobile kitchen, and logistical coordination. The team continues to coordinate operations to support rebuilding efforts.

DRS teams have supported community members with:

**14 completed projects**  
*assisting survivors to date*

**3 active projects**  
*1 in Steinhatchee and  
2 in Madison County*

**coordinating with county**  
*engineers and permit offices to  
facilitate rebuild projects*

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT

Images Courtesy of Christian Aid Ministries



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PARTNERS IN ACTION

# North Carolina



Images Courtesy of Mercy Chefs

## DR-4827-NC RESPONSE

In response to Hurricane Helene, [Mercy Chefs](#) served more than **315,000 meals**. While families continued to recover, [Mercy Chefs](#) opened a **Beacon of Hope Kitchen**.

During lunch preparation at a **Beacon of Hope Kitchen**, a wildfire started nearby. [Mercy Chefs](#) quickly packed meals and delivered food to the firefighters battling the Crooked Creek Fire, North Fork Fire, and the North Cove Fire.

Many of these firefighters had not eaten all day. The meals provided by Mercy Chefs gave these emergency personnel the relief they needed to continue their work in protecting communities recovering from Hurricane Helene.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

# North Carolina

OPERATION  
BLESSING

## DR-4827-NC RESPONSE

After Hurricane Helene's impact on Asheville, [Operation Blessing](#) delivered critical assistance. Their response resulted in serving more than **32,000** meals and distributing **1,800** meal kits, **367,000** bottles of water, **1,900** hygiene kits, **2,000** cleaning kits and **480** solar lights. Operation Blessing also supported **5** small businesses and installed an **8,000** square foot semi-permanent tent for Foundation Woodworks to sustain operations.

Through a multi-organizational partnership, Operation Blessing is repairing and restoring **more than 150 homes** and rebuilding the livelihood venue for **20 artisans**.

As a result of this coordinated response with organizations and local churches, survivors have access to essential resources and support during the rebuilding process.

## VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT

Images Courtesy of Operations Blessing





## PARTNERS IN ACTION

# North Carolina



### DR-4827-NC RECOVERY

When Tropical Storm Helene swept through North Carolina, it washed away thousands of private roads and bridges – severing vital access for the families behind them.

Through the **Bridging Together Initiative**, [Mennonite Disaster Service](#) and [Lutheran Disaster Response Carolinas](#) are rebuilding damaged private roads, bridges, and culverts, with FEMA VALs partnering to ensure every eligible survivor receives the maximum possible support.

Depending on the size of the repair or rebuild project, FEMA Individual Assistance funds will often cover the cost of the work by hiring contractors. For larger projects, especially for bridges shared by several households, recipients contribute their Individual Assistance funds to the cost of repairs, and the Bridging Together partners perform the work, allowing the program to stretch its resources and serve more families. This dual approach ensures no one is left behind, regardless of financial or logistical barriers.

In parallel, [Samaritan's Purse](#) is leading a similar initiative to repair and rebuild private roads, driveways, bridges, and culverts using its own resources, to support safe, resilient access to affected communities.

### VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



Image Courtesy of Samaritan's Purse



### As of January 2026, these initiatives have completed:

#### BRIDGING TOGETHER

- 15 projects completed (2 culverts, 3 multifamily [MF] bridges, 10 single family [SF] bridges)
- 3 projects in process (1 SF bridges, 2 MF bridges)
- 17 projects in approved, engineering, permitting and materials
- 148 applicants undergoing eligibility review
- The strategic partnership with FEMA VALs has already delivered impressive results: Several dozen survivors have secured awards totaling over \$2.3 million.

#### SAMARITAN'S PURSE

- 99 bridges approved
- 45 bridges completed
- 416 applicants being vetted
- 36 contractors' projects approved for building materials



Voluntary Agency Liaison

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