

Voluntary Agency Liaison

VAL Snapshot 7



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.

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8). Photos and logos featured in this report are shared with permission and credited to their respective organizations. Ownership of these materials remains with the originating organizations and not FEMA.

03
[FEMA
Spotlight](#)

07
[Declaration
Activity](#)

13
[FEMA VAL
Operational
Highlights](#)

18
[Partners
in Action](#)

32
[FEMA Disaster
Collaboratives](#)

34
[In Case You
Missed It](#)

↖ Click on topic above to jump to section



[CLICK HERE
TO SUBSCRIBE](#)

We want to feature you as a Partner in Action, send your great stories and photos to FEMA-VAL@fema.dhs.gov



FEMA SPOTLIGHT

Together In Service



VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT

Volunteerism is a cornerstone of strong, resilient communities. Gregg Phillips, FEMA’s Associate Administrator for the Office of Response and Recovery, understands the value of working alongside partners and the vital role they play in disaster response and recovery.



“Speaking with our faith based and voluntary partners in North Carolina and gaining a deeper understanding of how they continue to support their communities in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene underscores a simple truth: their capabilities are essential to a locally executed, state managed, and federally supported emergency management system. Their commitment to serving survivors with compassion and operational excellence is evident in every operation they lead. FEMA could not accomplish our mission without the work these agencies do each day; we are grateful for the expertise they bring and the difference they make in communities.”

The **United Cajun Navy (UCN)** is proof of the positive impact of volunteer service. Their history began with the spirit of volunteerism in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 - and to this day, volunteers help UCN extend its reach nationwide and strengthen communities during times of need.



“From the moment disaster strikes, the United Cajun Navy stands ready to support survivors in their time of need. True service and volunteerism come from learning how to turn compassion into effective action.” —Brian Trascher, National Vice President, United Cajun Navy

FEMA SPOTLIGHT

Witnessing Partners' Commitment & Compassion

FEMA Headquarters and Region 4 leadership joined our faith-based and voluntary organization partners in North Carolina—including Samaritan's Purse, The Salvation Army, Send Relief, Operation Blessing, Convoy of Hope, and Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

This “Day in the Life of a Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster (VOAD)” engagement organized by the FEMA Voluntary Agency Liaisons provided a firsthand look at how these organizations mobilize, serve, and stand with communities after a disaster.

The engagement served as a platform to strengthen relationships and reinforce collaboration with these organizations, whose capabilities are essential to FEMA’s mission and to a locally executed, state managed, and federally supported emergency management model.



“What stood out most was seeing first-hand the role strong community partnerships play in delivering holistic recovery. Two years later, our partners are still connecting families to resources, bridging gaps, and providing support where it’s needed most. Their work continues to serve as a reminder that recovery is truly a whole-of-community effort, where lasting outcomes are made possible through strong partnerships at the local level.”

- Frank Matranga, Assistant Administrator (A), Recovery Directorate, FEMA



Commitment & Compassion *(Continued)*



Edward Graham

Chief Operating Officer
Samaritan's Purse

“Samaritan’s Purse is grateful for the opportunity to respond in Jesus’ Name when disasters strike across the country. I was recently on the ground after the devastating tornadoes hit Mississippi, and I saw firsthand the need. But I also saw how volunteers were encouraging, comforting and helping families who lost everything start to recover. We are thankful that God has given Samaritan’s Purse both the resources and an army of volunteers to be able to respond quickly after a disaster— reminding families that God loves them, and they are not alone.”



Robert Ashe

Regional Administrator
FEMA Region 4 (A)

“Our partnerships with faith-based and voluntary organizations are integral to our mission of supporting survivors before, during and after disasters. Whether that is providing shelter, food, cleanup, long-term recovery assistance or spiritual care, you can see and feel the difference these organizations make in survivors’ lives. It is invaluable insight to see how these partners collaborate, operate, and show up to support communities.”



Jason Kimak

Vice President of North American
Disaster Relief, Samaritan’s Purse

“When disasters strike across the country, Samaritan’s Purse stands ready to respond immediately— bringing help and hope to families in need. We are thankful for our dedicated volunteers who deploy in the aftermath of storms to help families pick up the pieces and let them know that God loves them. FEMA’s Voluntary Agency Liaisons are an incredible resource to our ministry, and we are grateful for their support.”



Zachary Usher

Division Director
FEMA Individual Assistance (A)

“When we invest in relationships with faith-based and voluntary organizations that serve on the front lines of response and recovery, we reinforce the whole-community approach that makes our nation more resilient. Their work is a force multiplier for every survivor they touch.”

How FEMA's Public Assistance Program Supports the Work of Nonprofits

Since Hurricane Maria impacted Puerto Rico in 2017, FEMA's Public Assistance program has funded around 1,090 permanent work projects for Private Nonprofit organizations. These organizations are key to shaping the daily lives of Puerto Ricans.

One of these organizations, [Bill's Kitchen](#), has been providing free meals and nutritional education for more than 30 years to people suffering from HIV and AIDS. FEMA's allocation of nearly \$470,000 allowed the organization to replace the mezzanine's roof and improve the participants' safety by replacing outdoor security lights and the chain link fence. The funds also covered the cost of facility improvements including replacing air conditioning units, a generator and computer servers.

The organization adopted hazard mitigation measures to be better prepared for similar future disasters. It used more than \$78,400 in mitigation funding to improve the roof's slope, ensure proper drainage and prevent water infiltration into the facility. These updates help provide an adequate facility for the heart of the organization - about 200 volunteers - that help the nearly 2,000 people who benefit from the program.

Another organization, the [Support and Therapy Center of the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Puerto Rico](#), used FEMA funds to continue assisting participants with developmental deficiencies to promote their movement, function, independence and integration in the community. Nearly 1,300 babies in the United States are born with spina bifida annually, out of which Hispanic women have the highest rate of having a child with this congenital disease. Participants in the center benefit from services

such as social work, physical therapy, occupational therapy, support to the family during and after a pregnancy with a diagnosis, assistance with the acquisition of equipment and other services.

After Maria, one of the greatest challenges that Center faced was continuing to provide critical therapy services without power, potable water or adequate therapy space. The organization received nearly \$35,000 to repair essential components for patient development, including air conditioners, and replacing carpet in therapy rooms. The organization also used hazard mitigation funds to create a concrete base for the water cistern tank, secure the tank to the base and improve the roof's drainage system and waterproofing membrane, ensuring they'll have more potable water in future disasters.



“Through the Public Assistance Program, FEMA helps nonprofit and faith-based organizations keep their doors open when communities need them most. By covering eligible recovery costs such as repair, restoration, and continuity of essential services, PA not only strengthens these vital partners but also supports states that work with non-profits to deliver critical missions, like providing shelter and temporary home repairs. This ensures coordinated support for survivors long after the storm has passed.”

**- Robert Pesapane, Division Director
Public Assistance, FEMA**

Declaration Requests in Process

DATA AS OF 6/09/2026 AT 9:15 AM ET

This page details information for ongoing declarations that occurred due to natural and man-made disasters. This information is intended to enable our partners to better serve and assist survivors.



FEMA

State/Tribe/Territory	Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
AZ	Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	10/24/2025
NY	Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	3/25/2026
HI	Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	EM	X	X		4/7/2026
NJ	Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	4/7/2026
MA	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	4/7/2026
RI	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	4/7/2026
NVA ¹	Severe Winter Storm	DR	X	X	X	4/16/2026
ID	Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	4/14/2026
MWT ²	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	4/22/2026
PoA ³	Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	4/23/2026
LLBO ⁴	Fire – Appeal	DR		X	X	4/24/2026
NE	Wildfires	DR		X	X	5/8/2026
GU	Super Typhoon Sinlaku	DR	X	X	X	5/18/2026
MS	Severe Storm	DR	X	X	X	5/19/2026
WI	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	5/22/2026
MO	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	5/22/2026
MI	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	6/4/2026

¹Native Village of Ambler / ²Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe / ³Pueblo of Acoma / ⁴NLeech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Registration Information

DATA AS OF 6/09/2026 AT 11:15 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. For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).



FEMA

DR-4910-MP

INCIDENT TYPE:

Flood

DECLARED:

04/23/2026

LAST FILING:

06/22/2026

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		
Saipan	Tinian	Rota
10,415	654	300

FEMA Registrations
Total
11,455

Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown			
<i>Referred Individuals</i>	IHP 11,013	Housing Assistance 7,986	Other Needs Assistance 10,933
<i>Approved Amount</i>	IHP \$24,980,629	Housing Assistance \$1,631,161	Other Needs Assistance \$23,349,468

Applicant Reported Damages						
<i>Owners</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	4,030	40%	33%	20%	6%	2%
<i>Renters</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	6,844	50%	29%	16%	4%	2%

Registration Information

DATA AS OF 6/09/2026 AT 11:15 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. For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).



FEMA

DR-4909-HI

INCIDENT TYPE:

Flood

DECLARED:

04/07/2026

LAST FILING:

06/14/2026

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		
Honolulu	Maui	Hawaii
1,583	1,079	630

FEMA Registrations
Total
3,350

Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown			
<i>Referred Individuals</i>	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	3,192	2,736	2,953
<i>Approved Amount</i>	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	\$13,245,517	\$6,625,710	\$6,619,807

Applicant Reported Damages						
<i>Owners</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	1,931	39%	39%	17%	2%	3%
<i>Renters</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	1,288	36%	27%	22%	11%	5%

Registration Information

DATA AS OF 6/09/2026 AT 11:15 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. For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).



FEMA

DR-4906-WA

INCIDENT TYPE:

Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides and Mudslides

DECLARED:

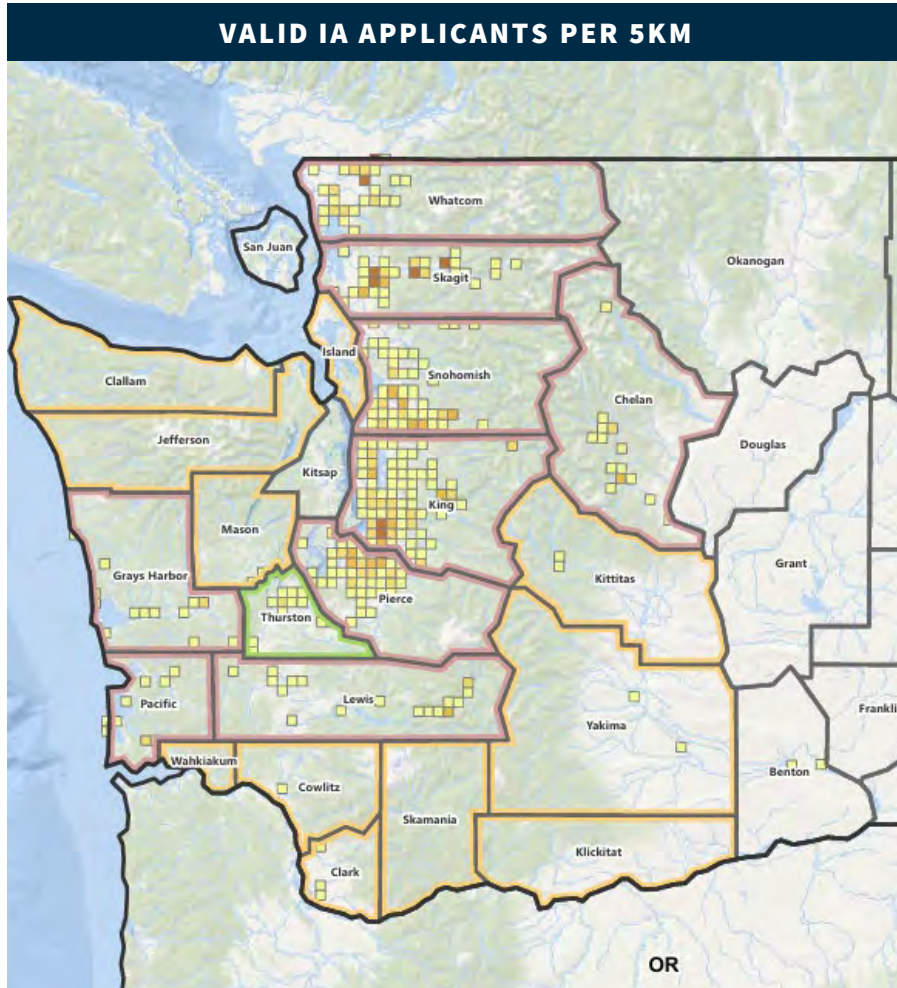
04/07/2026

LAST FILING:

06/10/2026

MAP LEGEND:

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



Top 5 County with FEMA Applicants				
King	Whatcom	Snohomish	Skagit	Pierce
571	360	309	265	230

FEMA Registrations	
Total	2,157

Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown			
<i>Referred Individuals</i>	IHP 2,076	Housing Assistance 1,877	Other Needs Assistance 1,951
<i>Approved Amount</i>	IHP \$9,934,866	Housing Assistance \$4,773,250	Other Needs Assistance \$5,161,615

Applicant Reported Damages						
<i>Owners</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	1,337	34%	33%	20%	11%	3%
<i>Renters</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	766	26%	18%	17%	30%	8%

Registration Information

DATA AS OF 6/09/2026 AT 11:15 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. For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).



FEMA

DR-4899-MS

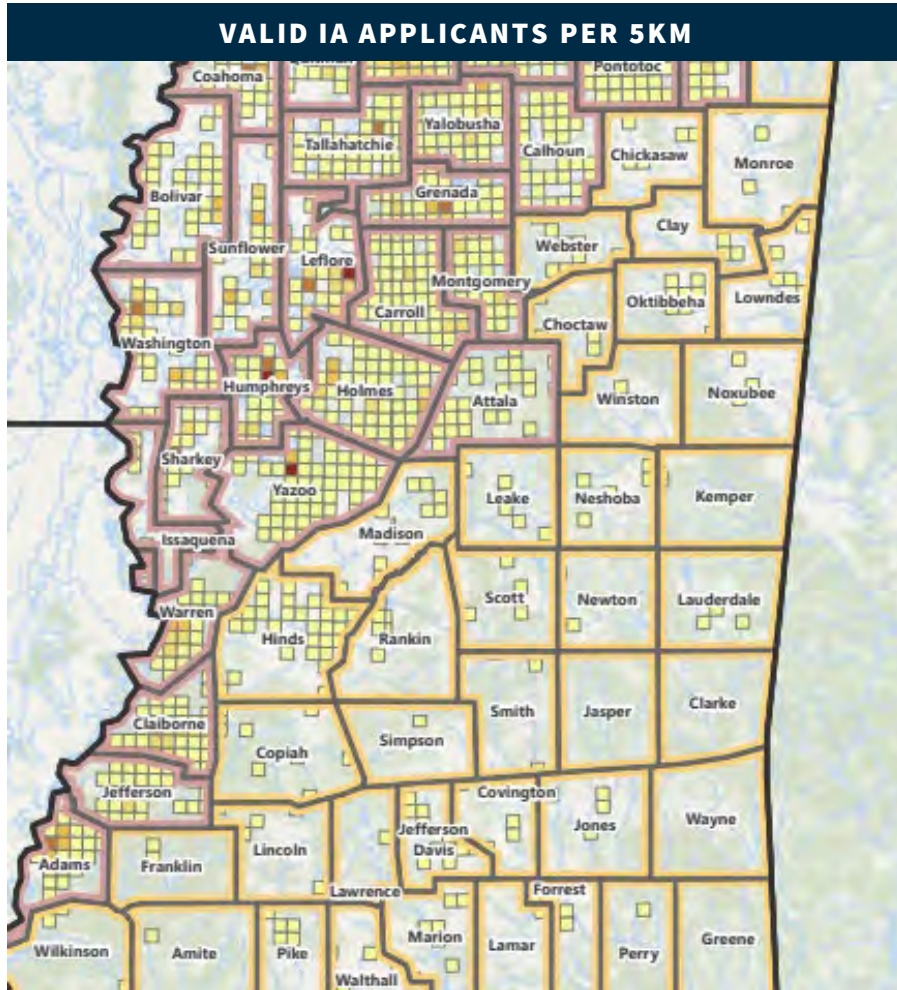
INCIDENT TYPE:
Severe Winter Storm

DECLARED:
02/06/2026

LAST FILING:
06/10/2026

MAP LEGEND:

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



Top 5 County with FEMA Applicants				
Panola	Washington	DeSoto	Leflore	Homes
5,520	5,229	5,118	4,499	4,226

FEMA Registrations	
Total	82,938

Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown			
<i>Referred Individuals</i>	IHP 74,322	Housing Assistance 65,226	Other Needs Assistance 66,140
<i>Approved Amount</i>	IHP \$126,117,661	Housing Assistance \$63,604,283	Other Needs Assistance \$62,513,378

Applicant Reported Damages						
<i>Owners</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	44,187	60%	25%	9%	1%	6%
<i>Renters</i>	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	27,727	66%	18%	6%	1%	8%

Registration Information

DATA AS OF 6/9/2026 AT 11:15 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. For additional valid registration data, please reference [OpenFEMA datasets](#).



FEMA

DR-4898-TN

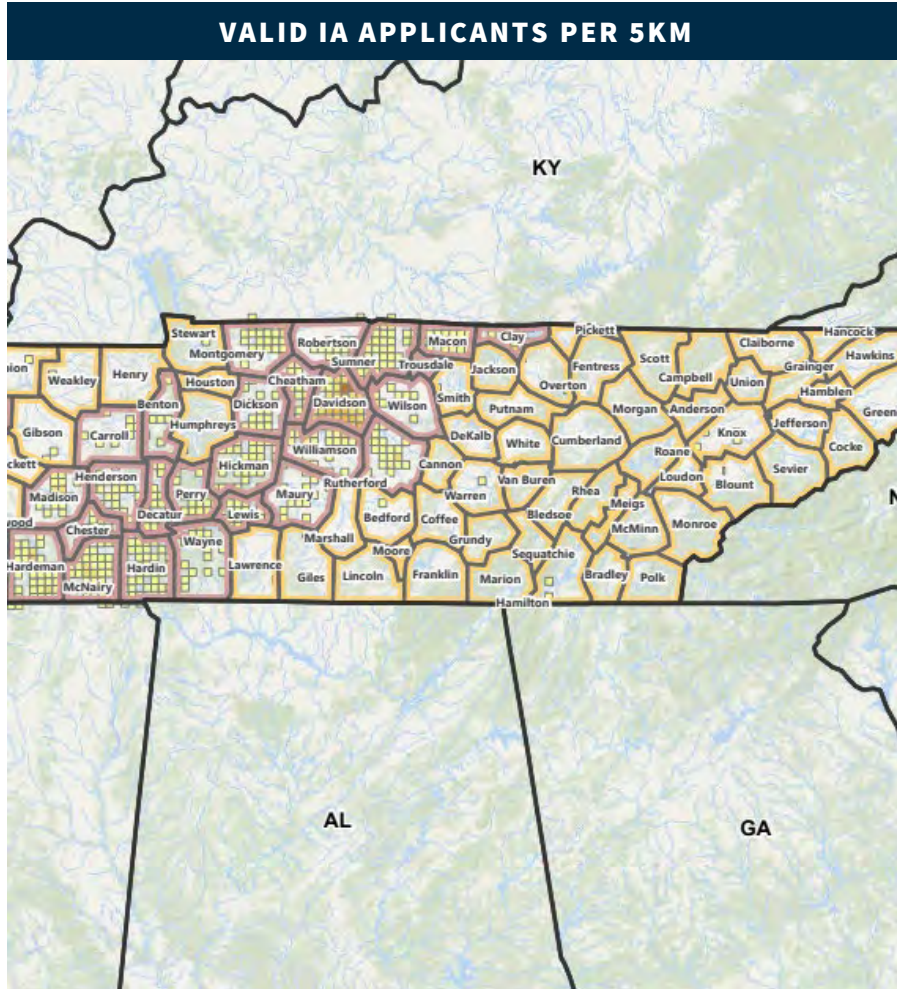
INCIDENT TYPE:
Severe Winter Storm

DECLARED:
02/06/2026

LAST FILING:
06/10/2026

MAP LEGEND:

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



Top 5 County with FEMA Applicants				
Shelby	Davidson	Madison	Hardeman	Fayette
48,138	8,245	2,404	2,050	958

FEMA Registrations	
Total	67,936

Individual and Households Program (IHP) Breakdown			
Referred Individuals	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	61,784	54,374	55,566
Approved Amount	IHP	Housing Assistance	Other Needs Assistance
	\$69,236,537	\$19,160,947	\$50,075,590

Applicant Reported Damages						
Owners	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	20,210	59%	27%	9%	0%	5%
Renters	Total	Minor	Moderate	Major	Destroyed	Unknown
	39,503	66%	19%	7%	1%	7%

FEMA VAL Highlights

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).

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8).



FEMA

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

DR-4860/4864/4875-KY

- FEMA VALs are **providing subject matter expertise** to build capacity and address unmet needs to the remaining operational LTRGs.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **KY Baptist Convention** and **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** are addressing survivor unmet needs in Anderson County.
 - **Red Bird Mission, COAP Inc.,** and **Natural Resources Conservation Office** are addressing unmet rebuilding needs in Leslie County.

DR-4899-MS

- FEMA VALs are **providing subject matter expertise** to build capacity and address unmet needs for 18 operational LTRGs.
- **On-going VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Team Rubicon** has contributed over 1,300 service hours removing more than 325,000 cubic feet of debris, assisting 500 individuals.
 - **Northeast Mississippi Habitat for Humanity** is helping survivors build permanent housing in Lee County.

DR-4827-NC

- FEMA VALs are **providing subject matter expertise** to build capacity and address unmet needs for 19 operational LTRGs.
- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **The Bridging Together initiative** coordinated by **Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS)** and **Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR)**, has completed 33 projects with 4 projects in-process. Volunteers will return in June.
 - **Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corporation, Inc.** is working with **Burke County LTRG** and **Samaritan's Purse** to provide funding to cover mortgage balances and home repair costs.
 - **Renew NC** is supporting local governments and non-profits in revitalizing commercial districts impacted by Helene.

FEMA VAL Highlights

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).

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8).



FEMA



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

The **Brantley County Immediate Needs Resource Committee** brought together more than 15 government agencies and nonprofit and faith-based organizations to establish a Multi-Agency Information Center (MAIC) supporting those impacted by the Highway 82 Fire in Georgia.

Participating resources included the **Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA)**, **Georgia Office of the Insurance Commissioner**, and multiple Brantley County agencies, as well non-governmental organizations such as **Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE)**, **Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief**, **Samaritan's Purse**, **The South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church**, **Mountain2Sea**, **Emerge Ministries**, **The Salvation Army**, and **American Red Cross**, among others.

More than 100 households benefited from the guidance and services available at the MAIC, with NGOs completing intake assessments to help survivors with immediate and short-term needs. The organizations in attendance are working with GEMA and FEMA VALs to organize for long term recovery efforts.



"Working alongside our faith-based and voluntary partners, I've seen firsthand the difference in people's lives. They not only support individuals and families in need but also play a vital role in helping entire communities recover and heal."

**- Adam Heyns, Branch Chief,
Individual Assistance, FEMA Region 4**

FEMA VAL Highlights

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).

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8).



FEMA

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

DR-4898-TN

- FEMA VALs are **providing subject matter expertise** to build capacity and address unmet needs for 11 operational LTRGs.
- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Well Outreach** is operating two food pantries, providing weekend meals to over two dozen schools, running mobile food pantries for local high schools and their Family Coaching Program.
 - **Hope Hohenwald Inc** is distributing food supply boxes to survivors. On distribution days they give out over 500 boxes to the community.
 - **Gallatin Shalom Zone** has a program called Street Feed, where they serve meals to youth 18 and under. The meals are served three times a week in 8 locations, providing 300 meals a day.
 - **South-Central Family Center** is providing food and financial aid to survivors. They serve breakfast and lunch to anyone in need from Monday to Thursday.

DR-4806/4828/4834-FL

- FEMA VALs are **providing subject matter expertise** to build capacity and address unmet needs for 35 active LTRGs and 13 local community organizations active in disaster groups.
- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Capacity Catalyst** is providing ongoing mental health support in Pasco County.
 - **Manatee County Hope Pathways** is supporting home repairs, home rebuilds, and material requests with **World Renew, American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, and Rebuilding Together.**

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

DR-4847-Crow Tribe of Montana

- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Seven Star LTRG** continues meeting to coordinate long-term recovery.
 - **Pryor House** continues developing as a shelter for tribal families to have a place to live while their homes are rebuilt.
 - **Lodge Grass Shelter** is considering shelter guidelines and potential challenges with shelter operations.

FEMA VAL Highlights

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).

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8).



FEMA

Region 9 (AZ, NV, CA, HI, AS, GU, MP)

DR-4910-MP

- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Center for Living Independently** is loaning generators donated by **Samaritan's Purse**, to survivors with medical conditions requiring electricity-dependent durable medical equipment .
 - **Saipan Humane Society** is distributing pet emergency supplies while providing discounted rates for routine medical services.
 - **Typhoon Support Logistics Center** continues receiving containers of in-kind donations from NGO partners at their warehouse.
 - **BoxHouse** donated 10 modular housing units engineered to withstand winds up to 200mph, to **Project Buddy Check 670** for CNMI veterans displaced by the disaster.

Region 10 (AK, OR, ID, WA)

DR-4893-AK

- **Ongoing VAL coordination** with faith-based and non-governmental partners to advance long-term recovery operations:
 - **Halong Alaska Recovery Team (HART) LTRG** is coordinating subsistence events including frozen salmon for brining, seal hunts, gull egg harvesting, and harvesting for medicinal vegetation.
 - **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** is providing disaster case management training to **HART LTRG** case managers in August.
 - **Alaska Legal Services Corporation** and **South Central Foundation Partnership** are providing legal support with obtaining remaining FEMA Continued Temporary Housing Assistance.

FEMA VAL Highlights

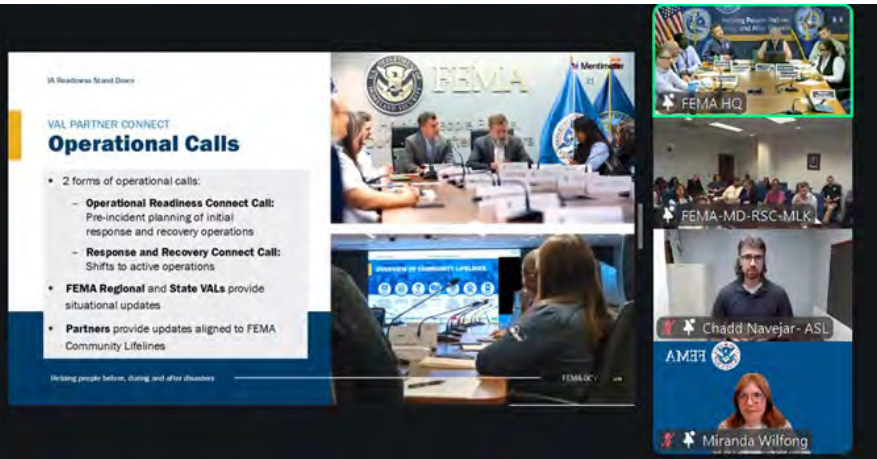
FEMA VAL Impacts captures the outcomes generated by faith based and nongovernmental organizations, facilitated by the coordination, information sharing, and technical assistance offered by FEMA's Individual Assistance Voluntary Agency Liaisons (VALs).

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8).



FEMA

FEMA Enhancing Coordination, Modernization, and Readiness



In preparation for the 2026 Hurricane Season, **FEMA's National Response Coordination Center (NRCC)** held "**Silent Echo**," an annual readiness exercise to test FEMA's operations and the teamwork between federal agencies during disasters. The one-day exercise brought together over 170 participants from more than 15 DHS components, federal departments and agencies, faith-based and voluntary agencies. During National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) activations, the FEMA VALs are ready to support and coordinate with the voluntary, faith-based, community-based, academic, philanthropic and private sec-tor partners who are responding to the disaster.

FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) Division hosted a division-wide event focused on two central themes: **Modernizing IA for Today and Tomorrow** and **Strengthening Readiness Across Individual Assistance**.

The event featured a presentation by FEMA VALs during the VAL Partner Connect calls, highlighting how VALs facilitate information sharing and operational coordination. The session included real-world examples of effective partner coordination in action, demonstrating the critical role VALs play in supporting voluntary, faith-based, community-based, academic, philanthropic, and private sector partners during disaster response.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Alaska



DR-4893-AK RECOVERY

Halong Alaska Recovery Team (H.A.R.T) LTRG is connecting community members with Maqqii (steam bath) services available through South Central Foundation. The team is planning a healing circle at **Birchwood Camp**, supported by **United Methodist Church Anchorage**, which will include a sweat lodge as part of traditional healing practices.

Subsistence and cultural activities are ongoing in coordination with tribal leadership, including traditional food harvesting and preservation practices, gull egg gathering, and the collection of medicinal plants. H.A.R.T LTRG is developing social media platforms and a new logo, with support from **Lutheran Social Services of Alaska** and **Company Grade Officers Association (CGOA)**.

Interim case managers with H.A.R.T LTRG will complete **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** Disaster Case Management training on August 19, including presentations on state and FEMA funding processes, appeals, and privacy. UMCOR has provided **\$220,000** to support interim case management for a two-year period, helping ensure consistent, coordinated services for survivors throughout the recovery process.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

North Carolina



DR-4827-NC RECOVERY

Rebuild Haywood empowers Haywood County's long-term recovery and resilience after Hurricane Helene.

In the immediate aftermath, over **400 volunteers** distributed nearly **488,000 pounds** of essential goods, addressed more than **60 job sites**, and inspected over **50 homes**. Volunteer labor and donated services totaled **\$122,191**, including **2,800 hours** and **\$20,000** in plumbing.

Since then, the team placed over **75 households** in campers for safe, temporary housing and completed dozens of critical repairs. They also installed water mitigation systems and provided professional mold remediation in multiple homes.

The seven-person team continues to help residents navigate FEMA, SNAP, Medicaid, and connects families to mental health and legal resources, ensuring ongoing support for recovery and resilience.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



Images Courtesy of Rebuild Haywood

PARTNERS IN ACTION

California



EM-3646-CA RESPONSE

During the recent hazmat incident in Garden Grove, more than 1,400 residents sought refuge across seven [American Red Cross Southern California Region](#) shelters, with dozens more visiting daily for food, water, support, and information.

Medical teams from [Wound Walk OC](#) and [Lestonnac Free Clinic](#) continued to serve all Red Cross shelters, ensuring evacuees received essential care and support throughout the crisis.

This collaborative effort highlights the power of community partnerships in meeting urgent needs and supporting residents during challenging times.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



Images Courtesy of ARC and Wound Walk OC

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Images Courtesy of ASPCA

DR-4910-MP RESPONSE

When Typhoon Sinlaku impacted Guam and CNMI, the **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Disaster Response Team** mobilized to support animal welfare and recovery efforts.

Their teams, at the request of the **Guam Department of Agriculture** and in partnership with the **National Animal Rescue & Sheltering Coalition (NARSC)** and **Saipan Humane Society**, are assisting with disaster relief efforts following the storm's devastation, delivering critical care and supplies for displaced and injured animals – and reuniting pets.

ASPCA teams will remain on the ground to ensure all companion animals on Saipan and the neighboring islands receive the urgent resources they need for recovery.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Multi-State



Images Courtesy of SVDP-USA



RECOVERY

The [Society of St Vincent de Paul Disaster Services](#) is working with the **American Red Cross**, FEMA VALs and local partners to deliver its **House In A Box™** program across the nation. The program provides new furniture, furnishings, and small and large appliances to families impacted by disaster.

House in a Box was created to fill gaps left by insurance and other relief efforts, ensuring that families can recover with dignity. It's not just a box. It's a fresh start.

The organization is currently operating in Louisiana, California, North Carolina, and Texas, in partnership with the American Red Cross - and in Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Wisconsin, with Vincentian and funder support.

St Vincent de Paul Disaster Services has also provided furniture and appliances to over 185 families in Texas impacted by Hurricane Beryl over the course of nine weeks, with a value of over \$800,000.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Tennessee



HANDS ON

Powered by United Way
of Greater Nashville

Images Courtesy of Hands On



DR-4898-TN RECOVERY

Winter Storm Fern left Middle Tennessee communities facing extensive debris removal and recovery needs. [Hands On](#) volunteers quickly mobilized to support cleanup efforts, while Disaster Volunteer Leaders (DVLs) coordinated and volunteer activities.

After receiving more than 2,500 requests for debris and tree removal in the first month and a half, [Hands On Nashville](#), powered by [United Way of Greater Nashville](#), is leading volunteer efforts across impact areas. Many of the incoming requests are from neighbors who are older, living alone, physically unable to do the work or unable to afford the cost of cleanup.

Hands On is grateful to the team of volunteers from corporate partner, [UBS](#), for their help with debris cleanup efforts.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Mississippi



DR-4899-MS RESPONSE

The [Baptist Missionary Association \(BMA\) of Mississippi](#) is responding to communities impacted by the tornadoes that caused substantial loss in Bogue Chitto and Purvis, Mississippi.

Teams from their **BMA Disaster Relief Fund** and its affiliated ministry, **Just the Crumbs**, are on the ground serving hot meals, cleaning up, providing support, and ministering to affected families during this difficult time.

Special thanks to [Rebuilding Hope](#), which partnered with BMA to clean up properties with chainsaw work and debris removal.

Images Courtesy of Missions

PARTNERS IN ACTION

North Carolina

DR-4827-NC RECOVERY



[United Cajun Navy](#) continues to support Lake Lure, Chimney Rock, and Bat Cave communities as they recover from Hurricane Helene.

Partnering with [Delivering Good](#), they hosted the **Rural Communities Resource Giveaway** at Lake Lure Classical Academy, where students and families selected from **26 pallets** of furnishings, home décor, clothing, and more.

The event also equipped local agencies addressing food insecurity, utility support, homelessness, and family services with much-needed supplies. Nurses from the local children's unit received items for their youngest patients, ensuring continued support for the community beyond the event.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



Images Courtesy of United Cajun Navy



PARTNERS IN ACTION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



DR-4910-MP RESPONSE



Following Typhoon Sinlaku's impact on CNMI, [Information Technology Disaster Resource Center \(ITDRC\)](#) Disaster Tech Task Force helped restore critical communications capabilities that support public safety radio dispatch capabilities in the CNMI State Warning Center, as well as mobile tsunami warning systems, ensuring they were operational to warn residents in advance of future disasters.

ITDRC's connectivity support for CNMI also included restoring network functionality at fire stations across Saipan, expanding connectivity at emergency management facilities, and engineering redundant communications pathways for Land Mobile Radio systems between islands.

ITDRC's diverse team of technical subject matter experts and rapid response capabilities enabled them to function as both a single resource and force multiplier alongside public and private sector response personnel.

Many of these relationships were formed well in advance of the storm, through ITDRC's participation in the Region 9 OCONUS Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG).

PARTNERS IN ACTION Georgia



FM-5629/5630-GA RECOVERY

While wildfires burned in Clinch and Brantley counties in Georgia, [God's Pit Crew](#) mobilized semi-trucks and trailers loaded with emergency relief for evacuated families and first responders. Teams also distributed **Blessing Buckets**.

These five-gallon buckets are packed with bottled water, food, hygiene supplies, first aid kits, flashlight, and other essentials. Children received **Play Pails**, which are filled with fun activities, comforting items, hygiene supplies and a bit of joy during the period of displacement and uncertainty.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



PARTNERS IN ACTION

Oklahoma

FM-5617-OK RECOVERY

In response to the devastating **Ranger Road Fire**, **Farm Rescue** activated **Operation Hay Lift** to deliver critical livestock feed and essential supplies to ranch families across Oklahoma and Kansas.

The Ranger Road Fire burned more than 283,000 acres, becoming the largest wildfire in the United States during the 2026 wildfire season. The fast-moving blaze destroyed pastureland, damaged infrastructure, and created urgent feed shortages for cattle producers throughout the region.

Through **Operation Hay Lift**, Farm Rescue coordinated donated hay bales and monetary contributions to help ranchers access the resources needed to sustain their herds and begin recovery efforts.

Fellowship of Christian Farmers supported this mission by helping offset transportation costs and expanding outreach efforts to connect with affected producers and additional hay donors.

Farm Rescue will continue coordinating relief efforts in partnership with agricultural communities and supporters as recovery efforts move forward.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT

Farm Rescue

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS
INTERNATIONAL
Serving, Sowing, Reaping for Christ Around The World



PARTNERS IN ACTION

Multi-State



DR-4909-HI / FM-5629-GA / FM-5630-GA RECOVERY

[Convoy of Hope](#) responded across the country this spring, meeting urgent needs after tornadoes, fires, severe weather, and flooding.

After tornadoes impacted Mississippi, **Convoy of Hope** delivered **64,000 pounds of supplies** to include food, water, cleaning items, hygiene kits, and totes.

Tornadoes in Oklahoma brought **Convoy of Hope** to Enid, where teams worked with local church partners to deliver hygiene items, illumination kits, totes, and tarps to **1,675 residents**.

In Georgia, **Convoy of Hope** responded to fires by providing essential supplies to displaced families and first responders. Providing water, food, sports drinks, hygiene kits, and other essentials to support recovery.

Severe weather in Michigan and Wisconsin saw **Convoy of Hope** working with state emergency management and local partners to deliver food, clean water, cleaning supplies, box fans, and hygiene kits to affected families.

After the Kona low in Hawaii, **Convoy of Hope** delivered over **38,400 pounds** of supplies and served more than **2,200 warm meals**, reaching **4,128 individuals** across seven communities.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT



PARTNERS IN ACTION

Tennessee

DR-4898-TN RESPONSE



[United Ministries Food Bank of Robertson County](#), a volunteer-managed nonprofit, partnered with [Second Harvest Food Bank](#) and [United Way of Greater Nashville](#) to support the community after January's Winter Storm.

In the wake of power outages, the Food Bank assisted **35 to 45 households daily**, totaling **400 to 600 families** each month. Other congregations joined in, operating food pantries across the region and distributing groceries despite challenging weather.

To meet increased demand, **United Ministries Food Bank** relied on **\$4,000–\$4,500 in grocery funding** and partnered with [C.O.P.E. of Robertson County](#) for in-kind donations through their thrift store.

Meanwhile, [The Salvation Army's](#) service unit from Louisville, Kentucky, provided case management, helping families with rent, utilities, and medication as needed.

These organizations ensured families received critical support during recovery.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY LIAISON SNAPSHOT





FM-5629/5630-GA RECOVERY

Georgia Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (GBDR) responded to the wildfires in Clinch, Echols, and Brantley counties, with nearly **40 volunteers** each day. Teams prepared and served almost **9,000 meals**, provided more than **1,000 people** with showers, laundry services, and emotional and spiritual care.

GBDR partnered with local churches, emergency management officials, firefighters, and **Mission Georgia** to support both first responders and displaced residents. Local churches served as ministry hubs and staging areas, ensuring families and firefighters received practical help and comfort.

Through steady, coordinated efforts, Georgia Southern Baptist Disaster Relief helped communities take the next step forward after the fires.

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Multi-State



RECOVERY

FEMA WEATHERPROOFING FINANCES COLLABORATIVE

Operation HOPE has expanded its national Disaster Financial Preparedness and Recovery efforts to help individuals, families, and small businesses build resilience before disasters and recover stronger afterward.

Through **Project Restore HOPE** initiatives in California, Western North Carolina, Maui, Puerto Rico, and other disaster-impacted communities, Operation HOPE delivered financial coaching, disaster recovery planning, preparedness education, and small business resilience support to thousands of survivors.

Working alongside **FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**, voluntary organization partners, local governments, community organizations, and private-sector leaders, **Operation HOPE** helps individuals and families strengthen their Disaster Financial Readiness, access recovery resources, stabilize household finances, and develop long-term recovery strategies.

Their network of coaches, volunteers, and strategic partners continues to advance financial resilience as a critical component of disaster preparedness, ensuring that vulnerable communities are better equipped to withstand, respond to, and recover from future disasters.

Proposed new projects include:

- **Altadena HOPE Village** – A small business Pop-up Market to support economic recovery in Los Angeles, CA. Partners include Altadena Chamber, Altadena Collective, PaaL, NonDesigns and others.
- **CISCO Networking Academies** - A partnership with CISCO to give communities in Puerto Rico and Los Angeles, CA, access to tech and innovative training resource tools that support professional skills development.



"The most resilient communities are not those that avoid disaster - they are those that invest in preparedness, strengthen partnerships, and empower people to recover with dignity and hope."

- Marlon Trone, Operation HOPE Senior Director of Disaster Operations



PARTNERS IN ACTION

Hawaii



COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE
AND HUMAN RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

DR-4909-HI RECOVERY

FEMA ACADEMIC COLLABORATIVE

Following the **Kona low storms**, the **University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR)** has launched a special **[Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center \(ADSC\)](#)** initiative to help farmers assess and recover their land.



To help flood-impacted farmers recover, CTAHR is offering FREE soil and plant testing through July 21, 2026.

The Kona low storms dumped about 2 trillion gallons of water statewide, which officials say likely diluted any pesticide contamination. However, residents and small farmers remain concerned about runoff contamination from upstream farms, food safety risks to organic and local produce, and erosion and sedimentation affecting soil structure and fertility. CTAHR's soil testing can help confirm whether contamination is present and whether land is safe for planting or other uses. It provides guidance to help farmers restore their land safely.

Farmers whose land was impacted by flooding, erosion, or runoff from upstream agricultural operations can submit up to three free samples for each of these testing services:

- **Soil nutrient:** To determine if essential minerals were leached.
- **Plant tissue nutrient:** To learn about the current nutrients and health of surviving crops.
- **Plant disease:** To identify plant pathogens/outbreaks that may impact crops following flooding.
- **Insect identification:** To monitor for shifts in pest populations following the storms.

In Case You Missed It



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grants Notice

FEMA has published the Fiscal Years 2024-25 funding opportunity for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. The application period is open for 120 days and the deadline for submissions is July 23, 2026. Eligible applicants and subapplicants must apply through the FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) portal. The full Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is published on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Previous subapplications submitted for the initial BRIC funding opportunity published in January 2025 will not be reviewed. FEMA encourages applicants and subapplicants to review, update and resubmit new applications in accordance with this new Fiscal Years 2024-25 BRIC funding opportunity.

[GET MORE INFO](#)

USDA Single Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants

What does this program do?

Provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes or grants to elderly low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.

[Eligibility information can be found here.](#)

Is there a deadline to apply?

Applications for this program are accepted through your [local Rural Development office](#) year-round.

Who can answer questions and how do I get started?

[Contact a USDA home loan specialist in your area](#)

[GET MORE INFO](#)

Voluntary Agency Liaison

VAL Snapshot

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.

FEMA does not endorse any nongovernmental entities, organizations, or services, consistent with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(8). Many photos and logos of organizations featured in this report are used with permission and credited to their respective organizations and are not owned by FEMA.

We want to feature you as a Partner in Action. Send your good work to FEMA-VAL@fema.dhs.gov.

 [CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE](#)

 [ALL DISASTER DECLARATIONS](#)

 [FEATURE YOUR WORK](#)



FEMA