

DCF to Initiate Federal Disaster SNAP Food Assistance Program in 12 Counties

The Department of Children and Families (DCF), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), has initiated the federal Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) in 12 counties to assist communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. DCF anticipates serving approximately 130,000 families through the federal DSNAP program as a result of Hurricane Michael. DCF served more than 1.2 million households for Hurricane Irma disaster food assistance last year.

Following DCF's request, the federal government has granted permission to conduct phone applications for those individuals in all 12 counties who may not be able to attend the in-person events. Families in these counties, and those who are displaced as a result of the storm, are strongly encouraged to pre-register and take advantage of the phone application option.

DCF will host D-SNAP events in three phases, based on the order in which they were declared eligible for Individual Assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

County	Pre-Registration Window	Phone Application Window	In-Person Application Window
Bay	October 26 – November 4	October 27 – October 30	October 31 – November 4
Franklin			
Gulf			
Taylor			
Wakulla			
Calhoun	November 1 – 11	November 3 – 5 and November 7	November 7 – 11
Gadsden			
Jackson			
Liberty			
Holmes	November 8 – 18	November 10 - 13	November 14 – 18
Washington			
Leon	November 8 – 19	November 10 - 13	November 14 – 16 and November 18-19

Visit the D-SNAP [website](#) for more information on pre-registration, site locations, and hours of operation.

Resources

[FAC Hurricane Information](#)
[FloridaDisaster.org](#)
[GetAPlan.com](#)

State Emergency Assistance
Line: 1-800-342-3557

[Request for Emergency Declaration](#)
[Executive Order 18-276](#)
[Executive Order 18-283](#)
[FDOT Emergency Order](#)
[FDOT Emergency Road Use Permit](#)

[Map: Hurricane Michael](#)
[Power Outages](#)
[Hurricane Michael Imagery](#)
[FDOT Debris Removal Assistance](#)

[Mutual Aid Form B](#)
[Mutual Aid Agreement](#)
[FEMA Fraud Advisory](#)
[FEMA Rumors & Facts](#)
[Disaster Unemployment Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
[Disaster Survivors Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
[Individual & Household Programs Fact Sheet](#)
[Displaced Survivor Housing Strategy Summary](#)
[FEMA Private Property Debris Removal Fact Sheet](#)

Conference Call Numbers:

11:15 AM / 5:15 PM EOC
Briefing
(888) 670-3525
6185782491#

Virtual Application Briefings regarding Requests for Public Assistance (RPAs)

The Florida Division of Emergency Management will conduct preliminary Virtual Applicant Briefings for Hurricane Michael on **Monday, October 29, 2018, Tuesday, October 30, 2018, and Wednesday October 31, 2018**. These briefings will be held on these three days at **10 AM and 2 PM** each day, Eastern Time. Please register for the date and time that works best for you. To participate you will need internet access and a phone.

To register for the webinar:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/6810865798997514753>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar, which will include system requirements to view and dial in # for the presentation.

Attendee Phone Number for the presentation: **1-888-670-3525**, Passcode: **8304804869#**

Future Applicant Briefings are being scheduled at this time, upcoming releases will provide more information.

Blue Roof Collection Centers Being Relocated

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will relocate most Blue Roof Right of Entry collection centers to FEMA disaster recovery centers beginning Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018, at 8 a.m. Collocating with FEMA disaster recovery centers will give survivors a "one-stop-shop" for disaster assistance programs including Operation Blue Roof.

"Our team is constantly reviewing the best options and locations for Operation Blue Roof, in coordination with FEMA, in order to streamline services for those affected by Hurricane Michael," said Lt. Col. Richard Gussenhoven, USACE Task Force Michael Commander. "We are proud to have installed over 500 blue roofs, at no cost to homeowners, since the program began and will continue to install hundreds daily as long as there is a need."

The schedules will remain 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (local time for their location).

- Bay County DRC - Bay County Public Library, 898 West 11th Street, Panama City, FL 32401
- Bay County - Walmart Supercenter, 2101 S FL-77, Lynn Haven, FL 32444
- Bay County - Walmart, 15495 Panama City Beach Parkway, Panama City Beach, FL 32413
- Calhoun County DRC - Sam Atkins Park, NW Silas Green Street, Blountstown, FL 32424
- Gadsden County DRC - (Old) Gretna Elementary School, 706 Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard, Gretna, FL 32332
- Gulf County DRC - Port Saint Joe Library, 110 Library Drive, Port Saint Joe, FL 32456
- Gulf County, Wewahitchka Information Center, 211 N State Road 71, Wewahitchka, FL 32465
- Jackson County DRC - University Extension Office, 2737 Penn Avenue, Marianna, FL 32448

The Blue Roof program provides a temporary covering of blue reinforced plastic sheeting to help reduce further damage to property affected by Hurricane Michael until permanent repairs can be made. **This program is available at no cost to eligible primary homeowners and landlords.** For photos and video of the program, visit

www.dvidshub.net/unit/usacesad.

Current information is available at www.usace.army.mil/blueroof and at 888-ROOF-BLU (888-766-3258). Information is available in both English and Spanish through this single number.

Eleven Disaster Recovery Centers are now Open

Eleven Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) are now open in counties impacted by Hurricane Michael. DRCs are readily accessible facilities or mobile offices where impacted residents can go for information about disaster assistance programs, and to ask questions about individual assistance applications. Representatives from FDEM, FEMA, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), volunteer groups and other agencies are at the centers to answer questions about disaster assistance and low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses. They can also help survivors apply for federal disaster assistance. A map of open DRCs is available [here](#).

A Message from SERT regarding Generators:

During the response to Hurricane Michael, the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) purchased 5500kw generators for the purpose of running traffic signals throughout impacted areas. In an effort to maximize their utilization, we would like to partner with you to position and maintain these critical assets where they will be most needed when disaster inevitably strikes.

Our offer is the following: to draft a memorandum of understanding that outlines state ownership of assets that are housed and maintained by local communities. This mutually beneficial agreement would detail that:

1. The generator(s) will be state tagged;
2. The generator(s) is/are subject to relocation and redeployment in a future disaster, paid for by the state (transportation, logistics, etc);
3. The county can utilize the generator(s) as they deem necessary during blue and gray sky scenarios;
4. The county will test and maintain the generator(s) to ensure functionality and readiness; and
5. When the county deems the generator(s) is/are no longer serviceable, they will coordinate with the Division of Emergency Management in completing the paperwork for removing the generator(s).

It is my understanding that we have nearly 700 generators available for your use. If you are interested in partnering with the SERT to house and maintain these units in exchange for their use during blue and gray sky events, please contact your Emergency Management Director first or [FDEM Communications Director](#) and advise how many generators you are interested in accepting. Please encompass any and all potential uses when determining how many you need; we can then effectively triage the total number of requests based on the total number on hand.



UPDATE YOUR MOBILE NUMBER

Disaster Declaration

Following Governor Scott's request, President Donald Trump issued a Major Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Michael. See the declaration [HERE](#). On October 7th, Governor Scott declared a state of emergency in 26 Florida counties, and expanded it to include 35 counties total on October 8th. To see his Emergency Order, click [HERE](#).

Following a request by the Governor, the following counties have been approved for FEMA individual assistance:

- Bay
- Franklin
- Gulf
- Taylor
- Wakulla
- Calhoun
- Liberty
- Jackson
- Gadsden
- Holmes
- Washington
- Leon

FEMA approved individual assistance for these counties. This means families in these counties will be eligible for individual FEMA assistance.

FEMA Assistance

Please see below for status and eligibility information for FEMA programming available to Florida counties affected by Hurricane Michael. For Public Assistance, the federal cost share is 75%, while the state and local cost shares are 12.5%.

Transitional Sheltering Assistance, Individual Assistance, Public Assistance (Categories A and B):

- Bay County
- Jackson County
- Gulf County

Individual Assistance, Public Assistance (Categories A and B):

- Holmes County
- Washington County
- Calhoun County
- Gadsden County
- Leon County
- Liberty County
- Franklin County
- Wakulla County
- Taylor County

Public Assistance (Categories A and B):

- Jefferson County
- Madison County
- Hamilton County
- Suwannee County

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- All counties in the State of Florida are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Following the Governor's request, FEMA announced that it is expanding public assistance in Florida to include permanent repairs on roads and bridges, buildings and equipment, utilities, public buildings, and parks and other recreational facilities for Bay, Calhoun, Gadsden, Gulf and Liberty counties. For more information about FEMA's public assistance visit <https://bit.ly/2JeBFTx>.

For various guides and fact sheets regarding procurement, permanent work and private

property debris removal related to Hurricane Michael, visit the [FAC Website](#).

Hurricane Michael RPAs

<https://floridapa.org/> is now accepting Requests for Public Assistance (RPA) for Hurricane Michael. Please contact the Division's Deputy Recovery Bureau Chief Carter Mack at Carter.Mack@EM.MyFlorida.com with any questions or comments.

County-to-County Mutual Assistance

We appreciate all the assistance being offered by counties across the state. In order to facilitate assistance, please make sure you are following the process outlined below.

For those counties requesting and providing county-to-county assistance in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, the following process should be followed to ensure reimbursement:

- The requesting county should place a mission request in WebEOC for the specific assistance requested.
- One [Form B](#) to the [State-wide Mutual Agreement](#) specifying the type of aid should be completed between the two entities. Section I & III should be completed by the requester, and Section II should be completed by the entity providing assistance. A completed copy of Form B should be provided to Alonna Vinson at alonna.vinson@em.myflorida.com and attached to the mission on WebEOC.

Debris Removal

To reduce the administrative, operational and financial burdens on counties most impacted by the catastrophic effects of Hurricane Michael, FDOT will assist fiscally-constrained counties with all remaining debris removal and emergency road clearance.

In Holmes, Washington, Jackson, Calhoun, Gulf, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin and Wakulla counties, FDOT is offering, following the county's voluntary request, to take on responsibility for each county's existing pre-storm emergency debris removal contract at the existing approved contract rate. For more information, please [click here](#).

Voting

Gov. Rick Scott issued [Executive Order 18-283](#) last week which eases voting restrictions in Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Liberty and Washington counties.

According to Scott's order, these eight counties have the ability to extend early voting days and to designate more early voting locations despite the deadline having passed.

In addition, the order also allows counties to send mail ballots to an address other than the address of the voter requesting a ballot and to provide mail ballots to a voter's immediate family member on election day without the need for a signed affidavit declaring an emergency.

Lastly, the order also directs the state Division of Elections and counties to work together to ensure delivery of mail ballots to the thousands of displaced emergency workers so that they can vote.

Resources Available

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) is actively communicating with our state and private sector partners to ensure individuals and communities impacted by Hurricane Michael are receiving the resources they need.

The State Emergency Response Team (SERT) has coordinated the establishment of 25 Points of Distribution (POD) in counties hit hardest by Hurricane Michael. PODs are places where the public can pick up emergency supplies following a disaster. These sites have food, water and other critical supplies. Click [HERE](#) for a complete map of POD locations.

In addition, major retailers in impacted communities have re-opened and are stocked with food, water and other important commodities. 18 Walmart, 24 Publix and 50 Dollar General stores are among the more than 400 individual retail locations currently in operation in impacted communities. Click [HERE](#) for a list of open businesses where food, water and other necessities are available for purchase.

Food and Water

- The state is working to ensure adequate food resources are available for Florida residents impacted by Hurricane Michael. Specific activities include the following:
 - Approximately 11 million meals are being or have been distributed.
 - Approximately 3 million gallons of water are being or have been distributed.
 - Approximately 3 million pounds of ice are being or have been distributed.
 - Emergency Supply Distribution Centers, or Points of Distribution (POD), are places where the public can pick up emergency supplies following a disaster. These sites have food, water, and other critical supplies. Click [HERE](#) for a complete map of POD locations.
- Major retailers in impacted communities have re-opened and are stocked with food, water and other important commodities. Click [HERE](#) for a list of open businesses where these necessities are available for purchase.

Communications

- Governor Scott laid out his expectations for telecommunications companies that are experiencing prolonged service outages in the areas impacted by Hurricane Michael. See the Governor's press release [HERE](#).
- Communications support packages have been dispatched through the Commercial Service Providers and Florida National Guard to Holmes, Liberty, Jackson, Gadsden, Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin and Washington counties.
- The Florida Department of Management Services' (DMS) Division of Telecommunications has worked or is working 210 missions including coordinating the deployment of over 100 public safety mobile communications trailers and towers, mobile cell towers, hot-spots and Mi-Fi's, more than 1,050 public safety portable radios, more than 10,000 cellular devices and more than 30 charging stations at shelters and comfort stations.

Power Restoration

- Florida SERT made first responder fueling depots available to utility crews across the Panhandle. This helps ensure that utility restoration trucks have the fuel they need so they can restore power faster.
- Governor Scott directed the Florida Department of Transportation to organize, lead and mobilize push crews to expedite power restoration.
- Generators have been mobilized to impacted counties to bring traffic lights online, which will alleviate the need for law enforcement to direct traffic.

- Governor Scott also requested assistance from Manny Miranda, Florida Power and Light's Senior Vice President of Power Delivery, to advise and assist the state's power restoration efforts.
- To view the full list of Florida utilities with mutual aid agreements in place, click [HERE](#).
- The current power outage as of 3 p.m. is 17,821 accounts, down from approximately 400,000 after the storm.

Shelters

- Currently eight shelters are open with a population of 962.
- Visit <https://www.floridadisaster.org/shelter-status/> to find information on shelters in your area.

Military Support

- At Governor Scott's direction, the Florida National Guard has authorized the activation of up to 4,000 Soldiers and Airmen to assist with response efforts.
- Following Governor Scott's visit to Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) on October 18th, he sent a letter to President Trump requesting that he direct immediate action to dedicate resources, manpower and funding to return Tyndall AFB to full operations as soon as possible. To see the letter, click [HERE](#).
- On October 25th, Governor Scott toured the damage at Tyndall AFB with Vice President Mike Pence and Second Lady Karen Pence. Following a briefing with Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Heather Wilson and Tyndall AFB Officials, Vice President Pence extended the administration's commitment to rebuilding the Base.
- Joint Task Force - Florida (JTF-FL) has been tasked with a total of 381 missions to date, and is currently executing missions in support of Florida Division of Emergency Management Hurricane Michael relief efforts.
- In the past 24 hours, elements of JTF-FL have supported various missions including (but not limited to):
 - Ongoing support of 11 security missions in support of local law enforcement agencies in Bay County.
 - Supporting nine Points of Distribution (PODs) throughout Calhoun County and Jackson County.
 - Staffing the State Emergency Operations Center with 10 personnel.
 - Operating at the State Logistics Readiness Center in Orlando and at one Logistics Staging Area in Marianna.

Law Enforcement

- More than 2,000 law enforcement officers have been deployed to the impacted areas in the Panhandle and Big Bend. These officers have completed 376 missions.
- Approximately 60 FWC officers and ten support staff, with appropriate equipment assets, continue to work recovery efforts in the panhandle.
- FWC staff are supporting the Unified Command post in Destin to begin the process of mitigating damaged and displaced vessels.
- FWC response teams are operating in 12-hour Alpha/Bravo shifts to provide 24-hour coverage in the affected areas, including maritime patrol.
- Seven members of FWC's Special Operations Group are working with members from the Division of State Fire Marshal conducting welfare checks on a list of residents with special needs in the affected areas.
- The Florida Highway Patrol has approximately 450 state troopers assigned to the Panhandle and Big Bend area of Florida to assist with response and recovery.
- The Florida Highway Patrol has completed 205 missions and has 23 active missions

including:

- The Florida Highway Patrol is providing security escorts to utility crews, commodity convoys and other response vehicles.
- The Florida Highway Patrol is supplementing local law enforcement agency efforts with increased patrol of damaged areas.
- The Florida Highway Patrol is providing traffic control and security at points of deliveries (PODs) for essential commodities.
- DHSMV's Florida Licensing on Wheels (FLOW) mobiles will continue to be in Bay, Gulf, Jackson and Liberty counties to offer driver license and motor vehicle services this week. Each day's schedule can be found on the department's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.
- Since Tuesday, October 16, DHSMV FLOW mobiles have served more than 1,700 customers seeking driver license, ID or motor vehicle services in the impacted areas.
- FDLE is coordinating traffic control assistance with power companies along with FHP and FDOT.
- FDLE's Mutual Aid Team is coordinating more than 600 law enforcement missions assisting local agencies after the storm with search and rescue, patrols and traffic enforcement.

Safety and Security

- Approximately 175 search and rescue personnel are currently deployed to the impacted areas. Including:
 - Two water tender tankers;
 - Seven EOC fire liaisons to support EOC's in impacted areas;
 - Three fire engine strike teams with 15 fire engines and more than 75 firefighters;
 - Two Hybrid Strike Teams consisting of fire engines, water tender tankers and an ambulance;
 - Three Florida Fire Forest Service Incident Management Teams; and
 - More than 100 ambulances with more than 200 personnel.

Transportation & Public Works

- FDOT issued Weigh Station Bypass letter to allow emergency response vehicles such as utility vehicles and bucket trucks to bypass all FDOT weigh stations.
- FDOT issued an Emergency Road Use Permit letter to relieve size and weight restrictions for divisible loads on any vehicles transporting emergency equipment, services, supplies, and agricultural commodities and citrus as recommended by the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- FDOT is coordinating with utility companies to coordinate post storm clean-up activities.
- FDOT is in the process of repairing and restoring damaged traffic signals in Bay County and the surrounding area.

Recovery Branch

- An aggressive recovery effort is ongoing, working with FEMA to identify and activate federal grant programs that can benefit Floridians and their communities.
- To date, FEMA has approved more than \$60 million in Individual Assistance.

Public Health and Medical

- Following Governor Scott's request, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has activated the federal Emergency Prescription Assistance Program, administered jointly by HHS and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),

to help families without health insurance impacted by Hurricane Michael receive prescription medications.

- Florida continues to communicate and monitor pharmacies in the affected areas. Currently there are 53 pharmacy locations open and dispensing medication in the following counties: Bay, Calhoun, Gadsden, Gulf, Franklin, Jackson, Liberty, Okaloosa, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington. To find an open pharmacy, go to RxOpen.org, which maps open and closed pharmacies during disasters.
 - For those with a **Medicare Prescription Drug Plan**, medicare.gov recommends contacting the plan to find the nearest network pharmacy that is open. If one is unavailable, the plan can connect evacuees with an out-of-network pharmacy. Call your plan for more details and instructions. To find your plan's phone number, call 800-MEDICARE.
- At the direction of Governor Scott, AHCA Secretary Justin Senior sent a letter to Florida Healthy Kids requesting a waiver of premiums for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and full pay enrollees premiums for the months of November, December and January. See the letter [HERE](#). The Florida Healthy Kids Board voted to waive the monthly premiums for November, December and January. This step assists the families of 5,604 enrolled children living in the impacted areas.
- An updated evacuation report can be found on the AHCA twitter page: https://twitter.com/AHCA_FL.
- AHCA has activated the Emergency Status System (ESS) for health care facilities in the panhandle to continue to report their ongoing status including generators and utility company information, emergency contacts, and bed availability.
- For the comfort of the those impacted by Hurricane Michael, the state has deployed 50 shower stations, 73 cooling stations, 1,600 portable toilets and 42 laundry stations.
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) staff has deployed to assist at the open Disaster Recovery Centers in affected regions and are providing information to the public on DOEA services and resources.
- DOEA is working with DOH to resolve needs of elders at shelters in Panama City, including screening for long-term care needs and providing education on programs and services.
- 110 ambulances and 27 paratransit vehicles are in the area of operations to assist with rescue operations, health care facility evaluations, local EMS augmentation and patient movement. The Patient Movement Unit has moved 3,993 patients since activation.
- There are currently 14 Active Boil Water Notices: Bay (5), Calhoun (1), Gadsden (1), Gulf (1), Hillsborough (1), Jackson (4), and Leon (1). To view boil water notices in your area, please visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/drinking-water/boil-water-notices.html>.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced steps taken to support Florida in response to Hurricane Michael, including:
 - Temporarily waiving or modifying certain Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP requirements.
 - Making special enrollment periods available for certain individuals seeking health plans offered through the Florida Health Insurance Exchange.
 - Helping patients obtain access to life-saving services such as dialysis.
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) is helping customers access donated items and resources, as well as assisting with the FEMA relief application process.
- Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) Field Services Staff is working with managers at various Disaster Recovery Centers to assist veterans.
- VA Outpatient Clinics in Panama City and Marianna have resumed normal operations. For more information visit <https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/state.asp?STATE=FL&dnum=ALL>
- County Veteran Service Offices are open (some with limited services) during normal business hours. For more information visit http://floridavets.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/CVSO_Directory_Oct-19-2018.pdf#new_tab
- The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has ordered an early release of food assistance benefits for those Florida residents in the 35 counties included in Governor

Scott's pre-landfall emergency order who would have received normal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits between now and October 28th.

- DCF also waived restrictions on purchasing hot prepared food with SNAP benefits through October 31 statewide to assist customers who evacuated to another area or suffered storm damage to their home.
- DCF is providing additional SNAP benefits for customers in Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Wakulla and Washington counties. These benefits are now in the customer's accounts and accessible on their EBT cards. For more information, click [HERE](#).
- The Department of Children and Families (DCF), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), has initiated the federal Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) in 12 counties to assist communities impacted by Hurricane Michael.
 - Telephone applications for the first five counties began 10/27 and applicants should pre-register on www.MyFLFamilies.com/DSNAP.
 - DSNAP is now active in Bay, Gulf, Franklin, Wakulla, and Taylor counties by phone.

Environmental Protection

- At the direction of Governor Scott, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is offering the suspension of up to \$12 million in wastewater and drinking water facility loan repayments and interest accrual for two years.
- DEP has completed 159 requests and is assisting with 10 additional requests for assistance submitted through Florida's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (FlaWARN) in Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Leon, Liberty, Wakulla and Washington counties, and has made outreach calls to 3,852 facilities to assess needs.
- In collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DEP continues to operate a mobile sampling lab in Bay County to fulfill water sampling needs.
- Drinking water and wastewater crews completed on site spot assessments and continue to conduct field work in the impacted areas.
- An online tool for the public to report the location of storm debris in waterways has been deployed; and 522 reports of debris have been received.
- 235 Disaster Debris Management Sites have been pre-authorized for the counties addressed by the Governor's Executive Order, with an additional 128 emergency sites approved in impacted areas.
- Florida State Parks strike teams continue to clear debris and assist individuals in impacted state parks. 60 state parks have re-opened. Current Florida State Park closures can be found at <https://www.floridastateparks.org/StormUpdates>.

Business and Industry

- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) will be holding business roundtables on Monday, October 29 in Bay County and Tuesday, October 30 in Jackson County.
- Executive Director Cissy Proctor and members of the DEO Leadership Team are meeting with area businesses and communities in Gadsden, Taylor, Calhoun, Liberty and Washington counties this week. Last week, DEO Leadership visited Bay, Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla counties.
- The Florida SBDC Network and the U.S. Small Business Administration have opened Business Recovery Centers to assist small businesses impacted by Hurricane Michael. Small businesses can get assistance applying for state and federal business disaster loans. There are currently 10 Business Recovery Centers open throughout the impacted areas. Locations can be found at FloridaDisaster.biz or FloridaSBDC.org.
- DEO has launched the Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to provide short-term, interest-free loans to affected businesses at www.floridadisasterloan.org.

Eligibility changes to the program now allow for small business owners with fewer than two employees located in any of Florida's 35 counties impacted by Hurricane Michael to **qualify**.

- Governor Rick Scott announced that Florida has been awarded federal National Dislocated Worker Grants to provide temporary employment to Floridians affected by Hurricane Michael. This program is administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and provides disaster relief employment in the form of temporary jobs that support storm response and recovery efforts. See the Governor's press release **HERE**.
- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has made the Disaster Reemployment Assistance program available for Florida businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a result of Hurricane Michael. To file a DUA claim go to **www.FloridaJobs.org** or call 1-800-385-3920. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time to assist claimants.
- Disaster cleanup and other related job openings are now available at **<http://disasterrecovery.employflorida.com>** for businesses to post job openings and for individuals to find job opportunities.
- DEO has opened the Business Damage Assessment Survey for businesses impacted by Hurricane Michael. Businesses with damage should complete the survey at **<https://www.floridadisaster.biz/BusinessDamageAssessments>**.
- Businesses can also visit **FloridaDisaster.biz** to view tips for assessing storm damage and to register to receive updates on storm recovery.
- DEO is working with FDEM to identify potential solutions related to homeowners who may not be able to afford to pay for electricians to assist in repairs and connecting to the utility line from the homes, including utilizing funding from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.
- VISIT FLORIDA has activated the Expedia/VISIT FLORIDA Hotel Accommodation Web Portal to support evacuation orders and first responders. Visit **www.expedia.com/florida** to find available hotel rooms.
- Governor Rick Scott announced that VISIT FLORIDA has developed and launched an extensive new marketing campaign to highlight the Sunshine State. This multi-phased campaign includes more than \$5.1 million to support the Panhandle following Hurricane Michael.
- VISIT FLORIDA is working with officials at the State Emergency Operations Center to enhance comfort and morale at shelters throughout the Florida Panhandle.
- DBPR Secretary Jonathan Zachem issued an Emergency Order suspending Florida statutes and rules that may prevent, hinder or delay necessary response and recovery from Hurricane Michael for counties identified in the Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster declaration DR-4399. This includes suspending rules to allow general contractors to perform roof repairs. See the Emergency Order **HERE**.
- Florida Department of Revenue (DOR) Executive Director Leon Biegalski **announced** extended due dates for corporate income tax filers impacted by Hurricane Michael following the recent **declaration from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**. In addition, DOR Executive Director Biegalski issued an **emergency order** to extend certain filing due dates for Florida businesses located in counties impacted by Hurricane Michael. For more information, please visit **<http://floridarevenue.com/Pages/media.aspx>**.
- DOR has posted a webpage for customers regarding DOR-specific Hurricane Michael updates. To view the webpage, please visit **<http://floridarevenue.com/Pages/hurricanemichael.aspx>**.

Education

- The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released updates on school re-openings in impacted areas. More information can be found **HERE**.

- The Department issued guidance to school districts affected by Hurricane Michael regarding student services, including Homeless Student Identification, Immunization Verification, Educational Placement, Exceptional Student Education, and Student and Teacher Support. The guidance document is posted [HERE](#).
- FDOE issued a memo to superintendents in impacted areas to provide additional flexibility related to student reporting. The memo is posted online [HERE](#).
- Some schools in impacted areas are without power. FDOE is coordinating with the associated utility providers to ensure power is restored to these essential buildings as quickly and safely possible.
- Calhoun, Jackson and Liberty County school districts have announced reopening dates:
 - All Calhoun County schools have power and will reopen Monday, October 29, for staff and Thursday, November 1, for students.
 - Jackson County Schools reopened October 26, for staff and will reopen Monday, October 29, for students.
 - All Liberty County schools have power and will reopen Monday, October 29, for students.
- Tentatively, the following Bay County schools will open on November 5, 2018:
 - Northside Elementary School
 - Mosley High School (split schedule with Merritt Brown Middle School)
 - Oakland Terrace Elementary School
 - Parker Elementary School (Patterson Elementary displaced students)
 - Tommy Smith Elementary School
 - West Bay Elementary School
 - Patronis Elementary School
 - Waller Elementary School
 - Beach Elementary School
 - New Horizons Learning Center
 - Southport Elementary School
 - Lynn Haven Elementary School
 - Lucille Moore Elementary School
 - Deer Point Elementary School
 - Callaway Elementary School (Tyndall Elementary displaced students)
- All other Bay County schools (except Springfield Elementary, Tyndall Elementary, and Patterson Elementary) will be opening no later than the week of November 13.
- Bay County charter schools have announced the following tentative start dates:
 - North Bay Haven - Nov. 5
 - Bay Haven - Nov. 12
 - Palm Bay K-12 - Nov. 12
 - Central High School - Nov. 12
- Bay District Schools is hosting a job fair to hire temporary daycare workers to provide emergency child care for district employees. Interested candidates can apply online [HERE](#) or in person Tuesday, October 30th 2018 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Bay District School Board Office: 1311 Balboa Avenue, Panama City.
- Gulf Coast State College will reopen November 5 at the following campuses: Panama City Campus, North Bay Campus and Gulf/Franklin Campus. The Tyndall Education Center remains closed. The college will announce further official updates via text alerts, the temporary website at <http://www.gulfcoast.edu/>, the College's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/gulfcoaststatecollege/>, and WKGK 90.7 FM.
- Florida State University's Panama City Campus will reopen Monday, October 29.
- FDOE will be posting up-to-date information regarding closures and meeting cancellations at www.fldoe.org/hurricaneinfo.

Insurance & Financial Services

- At the direction of Governor Scott, Insurance Commissioner David Altmaier issued an Emergency Order suspending and activating certain insurance rules and statutes for the

health, safety, and welfare of Florida's policyholders. Among other provisions, the Order provides:

- An additional 90 days to policyholders to supply information to their insurance company
- Prohibits insurance companies from canceling or non-renewing policies covering residential properties damaged by the hurricane for at least 90 days
- Freezes efforts to increase rates on policyholders for 90 days. A copy of the Order can be found [HERE](#).
- OIR has ordered property insurers to submit claims information from Hurricane Michael on a daily basis until Friday, October 26. Additional data calls will be scheduled.
- Insurance Commissioner David Altmaier and CFO Jimmy Patronis conducted a conference call with representatives of various insurance companies that have policies in force within the regions forecasted to be impacted by Hurricane Michael to ensure those companies:
 - Have resources positioned and available to respond to consumers' needs.
 - Assess damage and pay claims quickly.
 - Report any challenges or issues as quickly as possible.
 - Report claims to the OIR on time and in accordance with the reporting schedule.
- OIR's Incident Management Team remains fully activated. OIR team members will be actively working throughout the recovery phase with consumer advocates, industry stakeholders and entities licensed under OIR's regulatory authority.
- In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 18-276 and 18-277, OIR has:
 - Notified all health insurers, managed care organizations and other health entities of their statutory obligation to allow for early prescription refills during a state of emergency.
 - Health Insurers
 - AHCA
 - DOH
 - FL Pharmacy Assoc.
- Teams from OIR and CFO Patronis' Office have traveled to various counties to assess insurance-related needs and facilitate resource deployments to impacted regions. Additional resource deployments will be announced in the near future. So far, teams have met with residents to assess needs in Wakulla, Franklin, Gulf, Washington, Leon, Jackson, Bay, and Liberty counties and the following activities will take place in Holmes County to assess needs:
 - **Town Hall in Ponce de Leon (Holmes County)**
 - Monday, October 29, 2018
 - Hosted by the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce
 - Ponce de Leon High School
 - 1477 Ammons Road, Ponce de Leon, FL
 - 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. CDT
 - **Town Hall in Bonifay (Holmes County)**
 - Thursday, November 1, 2018
 - Hosted by the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce
 - Holmes County High School
 - 825 W Highway 90, Bonifay, FL
 - 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. CDT
- The Florida Department of Financial Services' Division of Consumer Services has resources for consumers seeking assistance with the claims-filing process or to file insurance complaints [HERE](#).
- For information on financial services providers, see below:
 - For a list of Florida's state-chartered financial institutions and their websites, click [HERE](#).
 - Find your bank's contact information, click [HERE](#).
 - Find your credit union's contact information, click [HERE](#).
 - Find your mortgage servicer's contact information, click [HERE](#).
 - If you don't have your mortgage servicer's information with you, you can

- [search the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems \(MERS\)](#) or call toll-free at (888) 679-6377 to find the company that services your mortgage.
- Visit the Florida Office of Financial Regulation's Hurricane Michael resources [HERE](#).

Volunteer Efforts

- Volunteer Florida is continuing to work with more than 9,540 registered volunteers to connect them with volunteer opportunities.
- Volunteer Florida's 38 Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) partners are still engaged in response and recovery activities.
- Thousands of tarps have been sent to emergency operations centers (EOCs) and logistical staging areas (LSAs) throughout the Florida Panhandle, and Volunteer Florida is coordinating with Florida VOAD partners to pick them up and help with tarping.
- Volunteer Florida is coordinating the deployment of two Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs).
- Volunteer Florida is coordinating a team of 100+ AmeriCorps members from throughout the country. Members are deployed to work sites in Bay County and Gulf County, where they will assist with debris cleanup and tree removal, tarping and roof repairs and mucking out and gutting of homes.
- Volunteer Florida's partner, Crisis Cleanup, is coordinating voluntary organizations to respond to requests submitted by individuals, as not to duplicate efforts. To submit a request, individuals can call (800) 451-1954.
- At Governor Scott's direction, Volunteer Florida has activated the Florida Disaster Fund, the State of Florida's official private fund established to assist Florida's communities as they respond to and recover during times of emergency or disaster. In partnership with the public sector, private sector and other non-governmental organizations, the Florida Disaster Fund supports response and recovery activities. To donate, visit, www.FloridaDisasterFund.org or text "DISASTER" to 20222 to make a one-time donation of \$10.
- The Salvation Army now has 22 mobile feeding units in Panama City Incident Command (serving Bay, Holmes, and Washington Counties), remaining at 9 mobile feeding units in Apalachicola Incident Command (serving Franklin, Gulf, and Liberty Counties), and remaining at 11 mobile feeding units in the Tallahassee Incident Command (serving Calhoun, Gadsden, Jackson, Leon, and Wakulla Counties).
- The Salvation Army continues to partner with Operation BBQ Relief, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief and Therapy Dogs International.
- As of October 27, The Salvation Army has provided 430,430 meals, 222,563 drinks, 267,523 snacks and 35,269 hours of service. Trained personnel have also provided emotional and spiritual care to 29,160 people.
- As of October 28, The Salvation Army has committed more than \$2,876,432 in resources to Hurricane Michael relief efforts.
- Red Cross has more than 1,000 relief workers in the affected counties.

Hurricane Relief Efforts

Beside assistance from your emergency management departments, work with your communities to coordinate donation drop off centers at fire house, county offices, or houses of worship for supplies to be delivered to those directly impacted by Hurricane Michael. They are in need of: non-perishable packaged or canned goods, disinfectants, flashlights, batteries, first aid kits, snack foods, or paper products.

These donated goods or financial donations should be coordinated through Volunteer Florida.

For commodity donations, email: HurricaneMichael@volunteerflorida.org

For donations: volunteerflorida.org

State Emergency Operation Center/Contacts

- The State Assistance Information Line (SAIL) contact number is 1-800-342-3557.
- The State Emergency Operations Center Media Line: 850-921-0217.
- Follow @FLSert or @FLGovScott on Twitter for live updates on Hurricane Michael.
- Visit <http://www.floridadisaster.org/info> to find information on shelters, road closures, and evacuation routes.

State Disaster Recovery Coordinator Contact

As the agency with statutory authority for leading the state's response and recovery efforts for Hurricane Michael, the Division of Emergency Management (Division) is helping Florida's impacted communities transition from life-safety response activities to long term recovery efforts. Just as with the response to the storm, the Division is directing and coordinating the state agencies and all associated programs involved in the recovery process.

As part of this process, the Director of the Division will serve as the State Disaster Recovery Coordinator (SDRC). Under FEMA's National Disaster Recovery Framework, the SDRC will work closely with the Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator (FDRC) to support, manage and organize recovery efforts on behalf of the state and federal governments.

If you have questions or concerns about your community's recovery from Hurricane Michael, please reach out to the Florida Division of Emergency Management's Deputy Bureau Chief of Recovery Carter Mack at Carter.Mack@EM.MyFlorida.com.

NACo Resources

As Hurricane Michael has passed, NACo is providing a suite of county-specific natural disaster resources through the NACo Disaster Resilience Toolkit for Counties, available as part of the IBTS Online Help and Advice for Natural Disasters (OnHAND) website.

<https://ibtsonhand.org/naco/>

Corporate Partner Resources

T-Mobile Invites You to Tour the Jacksonville Emergency Operation Center (JEOC)

On behalf of T-Mobile, you are invited to see first-hand the Jacksonville Emergency Operations Center (JEOC) located at **7025 AC Skinner Pkwy**. The JEOC serves as the primary recovery center for all of North Florida. T-Mobile has assembled leading RF Engineers and crews, from across the United States.

What you will see:

- Meet local, regional and national T-Mobile leadership
- Experience the War Rooms supporting all recovery efforts
- Ask questions and gain insights into how wireless recovery services impacted communities and beyond

T-Mobile is the only network provider with a command center in Jacksonville. We anticipate (20) minute walkthrough and Q&A as long as required.

Please contact Brandon Reed at SouthRegionAdvocacy@T-Mobile.com for more

U.S. Communities is Here to Help

As you begin clean-up efforts and start to rebuild, U.S. Communities has many suppliers available to help. Working together with U.S. Communities and our suppliers, your agency can access valuable products and solutions to help with your recovery and rebuilding efforts. There are no minimum orders or commitments. All U.S. Communities contracts are competitively solicited by lead public agencies and include FEMA language to accommodate your agencies' requirements to utilize these contracts.

Whether you need rental equipment, facilities solutions or building materials, these suppliers offer **natural disaster recovery services and support**:

- **The Home Depot** – Recovery and Rebuilding Supplies and Support
- **Herc Rentals** – Equipment Rental
- **Safeware-Mallory** – Public Safety Products and Services
- **HD Supply Facilities Maintenance** – Recovery and Rebuilding Supplies
- **SupplyWorks** – Cleaning Supplies and Maintenance and Hardware Supplies
- **Graybar** – Electrical, Lighting and Telecommunications
- **Trane** – HVAC Products and Services
- **Garland** – Roofing
- **Cintas** – Facilities Solutions
- **And more...**

These suppliers can also assist with emergency response planning so you are prepared and ready if there is a future situation. For additional information, **contact your Program Manager** or one of our supplier partners directly to assist with your efforts.

FAC Office Available for Work

FAC OFFICE IS AVAILABLE - The FAC office is your office

The FAC office is online and at your disposal should you need space to work from in the days and weeks to come. Please contact FAC Executive Director, Ginger Delegal, at (850) 294-9295 to coordinate.

All Call for Local Heroes

We want to highlight local heroes! Send us your photos and videos of your county in action before, during and after the storm. Please send to jlaxner@flcounties.com.

Florida Association of Counties
100 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

FOLLOW US

