

FEMA Awards More Than \$3.7 Million to State of Maine for COVID Sheltering Expenses

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The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending more than \$3.7 million to the State of Maine to reimburse the cost of using hotel rooms to isolate vulnerable homeless shelter populations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$3,705,896 Public Assistance grant will go to the Maine Department for Health and Human Services to cover the cost of providing hotel rooms as non-congregate shelter to populations who needed to be isolated from general shelter populations between October 2020 and May 2021.

Approximately 1,022 individuals and 163 families were housed in hotels including brands such as Howard Johnson, Comfort Inn, and Motel 6 as part of the effort to protect persons in congregate shelter facilities from infection.

“FEMA is pleased to be able to assist the State of Maine with these costs,” said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. “Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and our success as a nation.”

So far, FEMA has provided almost \$138 million in Public Assistance grants to Maine to reimburse the state for pandemic-related expenses.

