FEMA Awards $3 Million to Rhode Island Department of Health for COVID-19 Expenses

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REGION 1 – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded $3,055,957 to the Rhode Island Department of Health to help reimburse eligible expenses which incurred as a result of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grant funds, awarded by FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program, were made available to cover various expenses for the Office of the State Medical Examiner and COVID-19 positive nursing homes.

Specifically, the funds were provided for various supplies which included Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), mortuary-related supplies for the state's five refrigerated trucks and supplies for contracted personnel to assist with staging and relocation of hospitalized COVID-positive elderly patients statewide.

"FEMA continues to support Rhode Island with an eye toward recovery," said Regional Administrator and Federal Coordinating Officer Capt. Russ Webster. "These grants help communities meet the costs of responding to the pandemic. FEMA's partnership and expertise will help the state meet its long-term goals to recover stronger, safer and smarter."

The Public Assistance Program provides grants at a 75/25 percent cost share. Eligible applicants include states, federally recognized tribal governments, U.S. territories, local governments, and certain private non-profit organizations. The grant applications are submitted by the state, which coordinates the process with local governments. FEMA obligates the funding for this project directly to the State of Rhode Island.

Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance Program can be found at

https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit

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