

# One Year Later: \$5 Billion Assists Louisiana Flood Recovery

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**BATON ROUGE, La.** — One year ago torrential rains devastated Louisiana communities and tens of thousands of homes and businesses. A presidential disaster declaration made federal help available to individuals and businesses in 22 parishes and local and state government agencies and certain private nonprofits in 26 parishes.

## Disaster Recovery Summary:

- **\$5 billion** in federal disaster assistance, low-interest disaster loans and National Flood Insurance Program payments have flowed to Louisiana for recovery and rebuilding.
- More than 83,000 households have been eligible for FEMA disaster help.
- FEMA has approved about **\$772 million** to help survivors. Of that:
  - Survivors have received about **\$146 million**—an average **\$2,200** per household—to pay for somewhere to stay if their home was uninhabitable.
  - Survivors have received **\$458 million**—an average **\$13,100** per household—for home repairs to make them habitable and nearly **\$164 million**—an average **\$3,800** per household—to replace household items and for other essential needs.
- More than **\$2.4 million** in disaster unemployment assistance has gone to certain workers whose employment was affected by the flood.
- The Transitional Sheltering Assistance program sheltered 4,300 households in 401 hotels.
- About 1,200 households have moved out of Manufactured Housing Units and into long-term housing. The state requested MHUs for some survivors—about 4,600 households received them—who were unable to find temporary housing.
  - About 70 percent of remaining families are on schedule with permanent housing plans.



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- FEMA's Multi-Family Lease and Repair program has funded repairs to 132 rental units for flood survivors.
- **\$1.3 billion** in loans has been approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration for 17,580 homeowners, renters and businesses and businesses affected by the flood.
- FEMA has obligated about **\$436 million** to the state to reimburse local and state

government agencies and certain private nonprofits for eligible emergency response activities and infrastructure projects.

- The amount includes **\$90 million** for temporary facilities and to clean flood debris at schools.
- The state and FEMA have worked with more than 280 applicants in 26 parishes to develop specifications and costs for eligible recovery projects.
- FEMA typically reimburses 75 percent of eligible disaster-related expenses. However, applicants will be reimbursed 90 percent of eligible expenses given the magnitude of the flood.
- More than **29,600** claims have been submitted to the National Flood Insurance Program with more than **\$2.4 billion** paid out to survivors. Policyholders have received an average payment of **\$88,300**.

## Recovery through Partnerships

The state, volunteer agencies, FEMA and other federal recovery partners have coordinated solutions to overcome many recovery challenges after the August flood:

- **300 volunteer groups** coordinate with FEMA to provide resources for unmet needs. Volunteer groups are crucial parts of recovery because federal disaster assistance alone cannot make survivors whole again.
- **19 affected Louisiana communities have long-term recovery committees** comprised of nonprofit groups and FEMA liaisons to create recovery solutions and fill in gaps.
- Three faith-based groups have agreements with FEMA for 181 case managers to work directly with survivors on recovery plans and matching needs to available resources.



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- The state's Shelter at Home program provided **\$26 million** in FEMA funds for emergency repairs to homes.
- Restore Louisiana's Homeowners Assistance Program is providing U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds to help homeowners with repairs.
- The Louisiana Housing Corporation is offering HUD funds to eligible developers and landlords to increase affordable housing in affected areas.
- The state requested FEMA to initiate the Watershed Resiliency Study. Data will be used to determine ways to manage areas where rivers drain—watersheds—and prevent or reduce infrastructure damage.
- **More than 200 private sector entities** in Louisiana coordinated with FEMA to provide helpful information to more than 625,000 people. This help included how to apply for FEMA help and tips on rebuilding safer, stronger and smarter.



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