

More Than \$1 Million in Federal Assistance Approved for Puerto Rico Isaías Survivors

Release Date: Tháng 10 20, 2020

GUAYNABO, Puerto Rico – More than \$1 million has been approved in FEMA grants and U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans to help residents affected by Tropical Storm Isaías, which caused landslides and flooding in western Puerto Rico in the waning days of July.

Here is a snapshot of the disaster recovery effort as of **Oct. 18**:

- **867** people have contacted FEMA for help or information regarding disaster assistance.
- **182** households have been approved for FEMA grants for homeowners and renters, including:
 - More than **\$324,000** approved for housing grants, including short-term rental assistance and home repair costs.
 - Nearly **\$393,000** approved for other essential disaster-related needs such as medical and dental expenses and lost personal possessions.
- **83** homeowners and renters are receiving rental assistance.
- **445** virtual home inspections have been completed.
- **869** visits were made to Disaster Recovery Centers in the four designated municipalities: **Aguada, Hormigueros, Mayagüez and Rincón.**

The SBA has approved more than **\$362,000** in low-interest disaster loans to businesses and homeowners.

No matter the degree of loss or insurance coverage, survivors in the four municipalities are encouraged to apply for help if the damage occurred **July 29 to July 31**. The deadline to apply is **Monday, Nov. 9**.



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There are several ways to apply:

- **Call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (FEMA) or (TTY) 800-462-7585.** Press 2 for a Spanish-speaking operator. Lines are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.
- Visit www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Download FEMA's mobile app. Select Disaster Resources and click on DisasterAssistance.gov. If you have an Apple device: Text APPLE to 43362 (4FEMA). For those with an Android device: Text ANDROID to 43362 (4FEMA). For more information go to: www.fema.gov/mobile-app.

You may receive an application for a low-interest SBA disaster loan. If you receive one, complete and return it to SBA to be considered for additional federal assistance.

To apply for an SBA loan, visit www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance, call **800-659-2955** or email FOCEAssistance@sba.gov.

For more information on Puerto Rico's disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4560 and Facebook: www.facebook.com/femapuertorico.

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*FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters. Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **711** for Video Relay Service. Multilingual operators are available. (Press 2 for Spanish.) TTY call **800-462-7585**.*

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