

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT

Your local migrant/community  
health center:

One-Stop (general):  
1-877-348-0502 or  
[www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)  
One-Stop (local):

Farmworker Justice  
(202) 293-5420  
[www.farmworkerjustice.org](http://www.farmworkerjustice.org)

FARMWORKER JUSTICE

1126 16th Street., N.W., Suite 270  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Phone: (202) 293-5420  
[www.farmworkerjustice.org](http://www.farmworkerjustice.org)



27 years empowering migrant and  
seasonal workers to improve their  
wages and working conditions, health  
and safety, and access to justice.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

# Housing Assistance

FARMWORKER JUSTICE DISASTER RELIEF INFORMATION

When Disaster Strikes

# Housing Assistance

Disaster relief programs can provide funds to repair or replace housing, home furnishings, tools or clothing due to emergencies such as hurricanes, floods, or fires.

Some programs are open to all.

Other programs are limited to U.S. citizens and certain groups of legal residents.

## When Disaster Strikes

## Benefits Available to All Regardless of Immigration Status

Everyone, including undocumented workers, has access to certain immediate, short-term benefits. In the case of a natural disaster, everyone can utilize emergency overnight shelters.

Other immediate services available to all include:

- Soup kitchens, which provide hot meals
- Food pantries, which provide groceries
- Migrant and community health centers
- Crisis counseling services
- Domestic violence shelters

Check with your nearest One-Stop Center or migrant/community health center to find out the local emergency services available.

## Benefits Available to US Citizens and Some Categories of Legal Immigrants



### Federal Emergency Management Agency Programs

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) coordinates state and federal government benefits for disaster victims. Two of its programs, Temporary Housing Assistance (THA) and Individual and Family Grants (IFG), provide funds for repair or replacement of housing and/or home furnishings.

Persons who qualify can apply for themselves and their family members, even if not all family members are eligible. An application for FEMA benefits must be submitted within 60 days of the disaster. If more than one individual in a household applies, FEMA may attempt to recover the money from the person who applied second.

To apply for benefits from FEMA, call:

1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)

TTY: 1-800-462-7585 (speech and hearing impaired)

The FEMA Help Line is available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time from Monday to Friday. It operates in both English and Spanish.

**If no written confirmation is received from FEMA, the applicant should call FEMA or seek assistance from an attorney.**

### Temporary Housing Assistance

Temporary Housing Assistance (THA) can cover rent, mortgage or essential home repairs. To be eligible for THA, applicants must show that the housing is unlivable or that they are no longer living there because of the disaster. Persons who have insurance must first apply for these benefits, and promise to reimburse FEMA to the extent that they later receive insurance benefits.

### Individual and Family Grants to Secure Funds for Housing, Furnishings, Tools and Clothing

Individual and Family Grants (IFG) are available to individuals and families who have disaster-related necessary expenses or serious needs, and who did not receive adequate assistance from other sources, such as insurance.

#### IFG grants cover essential items or services to:

- Repair, replace, or rebuild owner-occupied housing
- Provide clothing, household items, and tools required for employment
- Replace or repair vehicles or provide public transportation
- Pay for funeral expenses

IFG benefits may not be counted either as income or resources in determining eligibility for any income-tested programs supported by the federal government, such as Medicaid. IFG benefits also cannot be taken by any creditor or transferred to anyone else.

#### Persons eligible for THA and IFG include:

- U.S. citizens
- Lawful Permanent Residents (green card holders)
- Refugees
- Asylees
- Parolees for at least one year
- Cuban/Haitian entrants
- A person whose deportation has been withheld
- Victims of domestic violence