

Emergency Resources: Hurricane Helene **Posted October 6, 2024**

ANCBH is compiling this list of organizations and agencies that support hurricane relief efforts in Western North Carolina. The list will be updated as new resources are identified. **There are 3 target audiences: Donors, Volunteers, and Individuals affected by the hurricane.** You are encouraged to scroll through this list. Several links take you to websites with multiple additional resources. If you have suggestions for new entries, please email them to ANCBHBoard@gmail.com. ANCBH is not endorsing or partnering with any organization on this page. All resources and links are provided for informational purposes only.

American Red Cross - Go to redcross.org/shelter to find a shelter or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) if you need assistance - 24 hours a day.

Salvation Army – The Salvation Army provides emergency financial assistance for rent and utilities to help households prevent homelessness. Because each community is unique, the details of financial assistance programs vary between our different commands. There are requirements for assistance that vary by location. These often include but are not limited to, a valid photo identification card, your social security card, and various other supporting documents. You can also call us at: [336.273.5572](tel:336.273.5572)

[Directory of emergency assistance programs in Asheville](#) (Click on link.)

FEMA - Apply for Disaster Assistance

The fastest way to apply is through DisasterAssistance.gov. You can also apply through the [FEMA mobile app](#) or by calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. If you use a video relay service, captioned telephone service, or other communication services, please provide FEMA the specific number assigned for that service.

NCCare360 <https://nccare360.org/> - Help with food insecurity, housing instability, lack of transportation access, or other non-medical social needs. NCCARE360 is the first statewide coordinated care network that better connects individuals to local services and resources.

NC Dept of Public Safety <https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergency-management/disaster-recovery/individual-assistance> Program include:

- Individuals who face displacement from their homes due to disaster-related income loss.
- Homes that are inaccessible due to road, bridge, and culvert or driveway washout;
- High quality inspections of disaster damaged dwellings as the basis for determining the kinds and amounts of assistance to be provided to individuals and families.
- Processing services for disaster applicants to give assistance as quickly as possible while ensuring proper stewardship of federal funds and;
- Providing housing resources through the state of North Carolina or FEMA for disaster victims.

Emergency Assistance (Short-Term Financial Assistance for Families in Crisis) - Work First is North Carolina's Temporary Assistance for the Needy Families program. Families who are experiencing a financial emergency may be eligible for financial help to pay for housing and utilities.

Families that meet the following criteria may be eligible:

- The family must have a child who lives with a relative as defined for Work First Family Assistance

- Total income must be at or below 200% of poverty level
- The family has proof of identity and citizenship

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a grant program for people with low incomes. It provides monthly payments to help pay for food, clothing, housing, utilities, transportation, phone, medical supplies not covered by Medicaid, and other basic needs. (TANF also helps states provide training and jobs for the people in welfare programs.)

A social worker can tell you about your state's plan or contact your local health or social services department. You can visit them online: <https://www.hhs.gov/answers/programs-for-families-and-children/what-is-tanf/index.htm>.

Extended Stay America has partnered with the American Cancer Society to offer discounted rooms for people who have to be away from home for cancer treatment. Contact us to find out more about [this program](#).

Pretty in Pink (Breast Cancer). <https://www.prettyinpinkfoundation.org/>

Pretty In Pink Foundation's mission is to provide uninsured and under-insured breast cancer patients in North Carolina with financial assistance for quality, life-saving medical treatment.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO OPEN FOR CERTAIN HELENE-IMPACTED NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES. The Emergency Prescription Assistance Program, or EPAP, helps people in a federally-identified disaster area who do not have health insurance get the prescription drugs, vaccinations, medical supplies, and equipment that they need. People who are eligible for EPAP can file a claim at more than [72,000 retail pharmacies](#) across the United States and its territories for prescription items that were lost, stolen, or destroyed because of a disaster. EPAP will open soon for certain Helene-impacted North Carolina counties. Pharmacists and the public should monitor this site -- <https://aspr.hhs.gov/EPAP/Pages/default.aspx> - for developments.

FOR HELP (water, food, shelter, etc.): <https://www.bpr.org/bpr-news/2024-10-03/food-water-and-wifi-where-to-find-what-you-need>

TO HELP (volunteer or donate): <https://www.bpr.org/bpr-news/2024-09-28/list-ways-to-donate-and-help-flood-victims-in-western-north-carolina-after-hurricane-helene>

ARTS RECOVERY (emergency resources for artists, craftspeople, and others):
https://artsavl.org/aid?utm_source=Newsletter+subscribers&utm_campaign=f0dce99da5-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_08_21_03_06_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_22398cfc47-f0dce99da5-432414523

PHARMACY FINDER

[Click here for a list of pharmacies that are open for business](#) in the Hurricane Helene disaster area. The open pharmacies are listed by county. Members of the public evacuated and dislocated into areas of North Carolina outside of the Hurricane Helene impact area who need to find a pharmacy may find it helpful to use the [North Carolina Pharmacy Finder](#) website to search for pharmacies where they are now.

Resources for Medicare Beneficiaries

The CMS Regional Office has also shared this information during this challenging time. If a Medicare beneficiary has specific service concerns, they may call CMS at 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227) or reach out to us via email at ROATLORA@cms.hhs.gov. CMS understands that Medicare beneficiaries may have questions about accessing their coverage if displaced and during emergencies. Please refer to the updated document: Getting Care & Drugs in a Disaster or Emergency. It is also available in Spanish: Cómo obtener atención médica y medicamentos en una situación de desastre o emergencia.

NC Medicaid Information: Update on NC Medicaid Temporary Flexibilities Due to Hurricane Helene

As of October 1st, regarding [flexibilities related to Hurricane Helene for NC Medicaid beneficiaries](#). Medicaid provider bulletin article Update on NC Medicaid Temporary Flexibilities Due to Hurricane Helene – October 1, 2024, describes the **extension of flexibilities through Oct. 15, 2024**.

NC Board of Pharmacy Rules: Dispensing prescription medications and controlled substances

<https://www.ncbop.org/heleneaftermath.html>

Catholic Charities: Hurricane Helene response

<https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/what-we-do/disaster-relief/hurricane-helene-response/>

Samaritan's Purse: Responding to Hurricane Helene

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/>

Charity Navigator: Hurricane Helene

<https://www.charitynavigator.org/discover-charities/where-to-give/hurricane-helene-2024/>

WUNC: List of ways to help (includes animals, livestock, and flight-based operations)

<https://www.wunc.org/2024-09-28/list-ways-to-donate-and-help-flood-victims-in-western-north-carolina-after-hurricane-helene>