

CCEH Disaster Response Fund for Shelter Diversion

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Who are we?

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Agenda for the Webinar

1. Introduction
2. Connecticut disaster case management
3. Eligible clients
4. Shelter Diversion approach
5. Submitting Assistance Requests
6. Q&A session



Hurricane Survivors in CT: Assessment of Need

Estimates of total people range from 3,500-5,000

Estimates are based on:

- **1,056** FEMA Registrants
- **2,391** people in FEMA registered households
- **1,846** school enrollments (as of 2/2/18 based on 69 LEAs)
- **3,595** calls handled by 2-1-1 (9/22/17-2/5/18)



Support For Hurricane Survivors

- **State**

- Governor's Office
- Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Department of Housing
- Department of Social Services
- Other Agencies

- **Municipalities**

- School Districts
- Chief Elected Officials
- Emergency Management Directors
- Social Services

Many Have Worked to Help Hurricane Survivors

- **Disaster Case Management Agencies**

- Salvation Army
- Catholic Charities
- Community Action Agencies

- **Nonprofits**

- CT Coalition to End Homelessness
- United Way/2-1-1
- Red Cross

- **Community Leaders**

- Welcome Centers (Junta, CREC, Bridgeport/Career Resources, New Britain, Waterbury)
- Faith Communities
- Many others

Immediate Critical Needs

Housing

Disaster Case Management

Disaster Case Management Criteria:

- Homeless or at immediate risk of homelessness
- FEMA hotel placement (TSA) household
- Medical or special need
- Ineligible for FEMA assistance, with critical need

Disaster Case Management Referrals

Organization	Location of Service
Salvation Army	Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury
Catholic Charities	Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury
CAP Agencies	Balance of State



Shelter Diversion Approach

Shelter Diversion is a strategy that prevents homelessness by helping people identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them maintain/return to permanent housing.

- CCEH Shelter Diversion training is based on the innovative work of Ed Boyte from the Cleveland Mediation Center, and centers on a strengths-based approach to helping clients identify and access housing options
- Connecticut has had good success in reducing homelessness through shelter diversion

Shelter Diversion Training

CCEH has guaranteed grantors who support the Disaster Response Fund that access to this fund will be available only to DCMs trained in the shelter diversion approach

- Special training for Disaster Case Managers: CCEH will provide a specific training for Disaster Case Managers in early March TBD at our office (257 Lawrence St., Hartford)
- Regular trainings offered every month by CCEH in conjunction with the Department of Housing (information at the CCEH website)

Allowable Emergency Financial Assistance Costs

Allowable costs include payments made to third parties (not paid directly to the client OR to the DCM's agency) for:

- Security deposit, first month's rent
- Limited-time subsidy of rent for evacuees staying with relatives
- Utility payment for relatives housing evacuees
- Similar costs that can preserve existing housing or help to secure new housing as needed (Rental Arrearage, Moving Cost Assistance, Rental Application Fees, Childcare expenses, etc.)

Additional Considerations for Emergency Financial Assistance Costs

- **W-9:** for security deposit, rental payments, or childcare payments over \$600 DCM must attach the W-9 for the payee
- **Exception to third-party payee rule for transportation:** CCEH will reimburse to the DCM's agency costs associated with evacuee travel to return home/move to a location where there is a viable housing option (this can include costs of airfare, train, bus or other transportation)

Submitting Assistance Requests

Each DCM will receive a link to the online portal to request client funds. DCM must create an account in Smartsheets (a secure, online service)

- DCMs will be able immediately to begin requesting funds for disaster survivors after creating their own unique accounts.
- [Example.](#)

Questions / Concerns

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Resources:

CCEH Disaster Response Resources: www.cceh.org/disaster