



Hurricane Sandy Recovery Efforts One Year Later

On the evening of October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy made landfall in southern New Jersey, with impacts felt across more than a dozen states. The storm battered the East Coast, particularly the densely-populated New York and New Jersey coasts, with heavy rain, strong winds, and record storm surges.

In Sandy's immediate aftermath, more than 23,000 people sought refuge in temporary shelters, and more than 8.5 million customers lost power. The storm flooded numerous roads and tunnels, blocked transportation corridors, and deposited extensive debris along the coastline.

Since the storm, at the direction of President Obama, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has coordinated the federal government's response and provided support for the critical emergency needs of affected states. Today, FEMA continues to coordinate the ongoing recovery efforts to help survivors rebuild their communities and give residents the assistance they need to move forward.

FEMA and its federal partners continue to work closely with disaster survivors to ensure they receive all eligible assistance as they recover from this devastating event. One year later, more than \$1.4 billion in Individual Assistance has been provided to more than 182,000 survivors, and an additional \$2.4 billion in low-interest disaster loans have been approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration. More than \$7.9 billion in National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) payments have been made to policy holders, and FEMA has approved more than \$3.2 billion to fund emergency work, debris removal, and repair and replacement of infrastructure.

A LOOK BACK AT RESPONSE

Debris Removal - In response to Hurricane Sandy, FEMA supported the removal of more than 15 million cubic yards of debris, providing heavily impacted areas the ability to be accessed for important response and recovery activities. 95 percent of the debris from Sandy was removed within the first 100 days of the storm's landfall. The debris included fallen trees, vehicles, boats, drywall and furniture, washers, dryers, and insulation. FEMA also has approved more than 2,400 projects, totaling over \$1 billion, to help remove storm debris in affected states.

Hurricane Sandy Recovery

As of October 15, 2013

- ◆ **More than \$1.4 billion in assistance to more than 182,000 disaster survivors***
- ◆ **More than \$3.2 billion in assistance to state, local and tribal governments for emergency protective measures, debris removal, and repair and replacement of infrastructure in the hardest hit areas**
- ◆ **More than \$74 million in Hazard Mitigation grants to implement long-term mitigation measures to minimize or prevent future damages**
- ◆ **More than \$2.4 billion in low-interest loans through the SBA to individuals and businesses**
- ◆ **More than \$28 million in Disaster Unemployment Assistance to disaster survivors**
- ◆ **More than \$50 million in Disaster Case Management to connect disaster survivors to resources and services of multiple agencies**

** Represents approved FEMA Individual Assistance grant funding for disaster survivors in Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island.*

Assistance to First Responders – More than \$1.3 billion was obligated to support emergency protective measures including first responder costs for personnel overtime, materials used, and equipment damaged during response activities. This includes uniformed and civilian personnel in areas such as New York City, Jersey City and Hoboken, who patrolled streets; assisted with mandatory evacuations; rerouted traffic away from affected areas; responded to surge 911 calls; and distributed food and in storm affected areas in the path of Hurricane Sandy.

Delivering Disaster Supplies – Before Sandy made landfall, FEMA and the Department of Defense established two Incident Support Bases to position supplies, generators, communications vehicles and other resources closer to areas in the hurricane’s path. Over the course of the disaster response, FEMA and its partners provided needed supplies to the affected states, including more than 20 million liters of water, 16 million meals, 1.7 million blankets, 79,000 cots, 138,000 tarps, 500 generators, and 100 infant and toddler kits.

Power and Fuel Restoration - At the President’s direction, FEMA and the U.S. Department of Energy established an interagency task force to increase public and private sector coordination as we worked collaboratively to confront the major impacts to the regional utility and fuel distribution infrastructure, with a goal of restoring power and addressing fuel needs as quickly as possible. Through the task force, FEMA was able to draw on resources from across the country, including nearly 300 power-restoration vehicles and hundreds of utility personnel which were airlifted into the impacted region from as far away as California to help states restore power and address fuel supply challenges. The federal government also provided more than 500 generators to help critical infrastructure sites and fuel stations operate until power was fully restored.

Dewatering - In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, there was significant water in tunnels and subway systems. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers drained 150 million gallons of water from the New York City metro area, equivalent to 227 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

From the beginning, FEMA worked closely with its partners to help individuals recover and restore critical services as quickly as possible following the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. To date, more than 11,900 grants have been approved for emergency work, to remove debris and to rebuild or replace public infrastructure, and more than \$3.2 billion has been obligated toward these projects.

Sheltering and Temporary Essential Power (STEP) – This innovative initiative was made available to affected states to provide emergency home repairs such as restoration of temporary electricity, heat and hot water so that survivors could remain in their homes while permanent repair work continued. Nearly \$402 million has been obligated to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection for emergency repairs to homes, and infrastructure repairs to waste water treatment plants, pump stations, drinking water facilities and sewers that allowed survivors to remain in their disaster-damaged homes.

Tools to Rebuild Stronger – Within three months following Hurricane Sandy’s landfall, FEMA released Advisory Base Flood Elevations to depict a more current picture of flood risk to communities based on information gathered as a result of the storm’s impacts. By delivering revised flood risk information, FEMA empowered communities and property owners to make more informed decisions about rebuilding and recovery that will increase their resilience to future disasters, and provide potential cost savings on flood insurance premiums. FEMA also has obligated more than \$74 million in FEMA hazard mitigation grants to

prevent or minimize future damages through projects that include elevating buildings and acquiring structures in flood-prone areas, and assisting in the development of county mitigation plans.

Restoring Hospital Services -- Nearly \$180 million was obligated to New York University Langone Medical Center to, among other things, restore critical services and facilities. The New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation was granted \$130 million for emergency work, cleanup, temporary relocation, repairs and replacement of contents at facilities that serve more than 1.4 million New Yorkers every year.

Repairing Schools – To date, more than \$19 million has been obligated to repair schools flooded and damaged by Hurricane Sandy, including \$3.1 million to repair the West Elementary School building that were inundated by three feet of salt water from storm surge.

Recovery Framework – FEMA activated all six Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) outlined in the National Disaster Recovery Framework, for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. These six recovery support functions are helping local communities provide a structure to facilitate problem solving, improve access to resources and foster coordination.