



Hurricane Florence Long Term Recovery Grant Program

Request for Proposals

March 2019

The American Red Cross is addressing the priority needs of the Hurricane Florence survivors by reserving \$3.8 million for a grant program that supports recovery services and extends the impact of our direct relief and financial assistance programs. This phase of recovery will prioritize the most vulnerable survivors in communities with the fewest recovery funding and service resources. These populations include, but are not limited to:

- Children, school-aged and younger
- Seniors
- Low-income households
- Culturally isolated communities, i.e., racial, ethnic or socio-economic groups
- Immigrants of all statuses
- Those with limited English proficiency
- Those with physical, cognitive or emotional disabilities
- Those living in rural or unincorporated areas with limited services
- Those not eligible for Red Cross individual assistance
- Those who lack access to Federal recovery resources

Applicant organizations may propose other populations and needs not yet identified by the Red Cross.

The priority of this Request for Proposals is to support established non-profit organizations with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals impacted by Hurricane Florence in federally-declared counties in North and South Carolina.

Program areas of support include:

- Home rebuild and repair
- Mold remediation
- Debris removal
- Temporary housing (i.e., rental housing)
- Access to licensed contractors
- Assistive/adaptive devices
- Health and mental health services
- Other essential social services

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ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Funded organizations will be expected to scale up recovery services within one (1) month of grant award and deliver, track and report on services provided. An organization must meet the following minimum criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Non-profits with a minimum of three years as IRS-approved 501(c)(3), (i.e. since 2016 or earlier).
- Faith-based organizations with an expertise in community recovery.
- Non-profit or faith organization with a minimum institutional annual budget of \$250,000 (as reported on a 2017 independent financial audit or IRS Form 990).

The Red Cross may consider a limited number of applicants who are not eligible based on the above criteria, but who address a critical geographical or programmatic need. These organizations will be asked to operate under a fiscal agent or eligible non-profit partner.

For more information, please contact FlorenceRecovery@redcross.org.

A. Home Repair and Replacement, Mold Remediation, Debris Removal, Temporary Housing and Access to Licensed Contractors

The goal of this program area is to bring as many hurricane-damaged homes as possible up to FEMA safe and habitable standards. Repair and replacement cost per home will be a key factor in evaluating applications.

Funded organizations must ensure that homes being repaired or in need of replacement services do not fall within a buyout area, are free of delinquent property taxes, and that the resident seeking repair or replacement services has clear title to the property.

Repair and Replacement services include:

Repair

- Removal of debris to allow safe access to home and living areas
- Assessment and removal of unhealthy substances such as lead, asbestos, mold, etc.
- Certified inspections to ensure environmental and safety standards are met
- Utility and electrical repairs to ensure safe heating, HVAC, cooking and refrigeration systems
- Repair to plumbing and sewage systems including septic tanks and drainage
- Roof, flooring and other repairs necessary for safety
- Hiring of licensed contractors, plumbers, electricians to conduct all approved repair
- Other repair services as needed may be considered with appropriate justification
- Temporary housing assistance due to need to vacate for repair

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Replacement

- Dry wall and insulation installation
- Utility and electrical system replacement to ensure safe heating, HVAC, cooking and refrigeration systems
- Replacement of plumbing and sewage systems including septic tanks and drainage
- Hiring of licensed contractors, plumbers, electricians to conduct all approved replacement activities
- Temporary housing assistance when needing to vacate for replacement

At minimum, projects supported under this program category must repair or replace homes to FEMA-defined levels of habitability, e.g. that homes are safe, sanitary and secure, and present no disaster-related hazards to the occupants. Acceptable repairs and replacements will ensure that all essential utilities are functioning, and the home is accessible and habitable.

The measurable outputs for these grants will be the number of homes repaired or replaced to safe and habitable levels as well as the number of households and individuals served. Applicants must include projections of these outcomes in their applications and will be required to track and report progress regularly.

B. Assistive Devices and Health and Mental Health Services

The goal of this program area is to provide funding to non-profit organizations that can assist individuals impacted by Hurricane Florence to access the following:

- Assistive/adaptive devices, including, but not limited to, medical assistive devices and other devices needed to help individuals with disabilities navigate daily living
- Health services, including, but not limited to, basic and specialty physical health services
- Mental health counseling, including, but not limited to, individual and group counseling sessions

The measurable outputs for these grants will be the number of individuals served that either receive an assistive or adaptive device or access to health and mental services. Applicants must include projections of these outcomes in their applications and will be required to track and report progress regularly.

C. Other Essential Social Services

This program area is focused on providing an opportunity for non-profit agencies in the affected areas to seek funding to meet otherwise not yet identified needs of individuals impacted by Hurricane Florence.

The measurable outputs for these grants will depend upon the nature of the services rendered. Applicants must include projections of these outcomes in their applications and will be required to track and report progress regularly.

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GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS

- In general, grants should be completed within six (6) to twelve (12) months and may range from \$25,000 to \$150,000.

ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

- All proposed grant budgets may include project staff and consultants to plan, implement and/or provide the proposed services.
- Capital costs will not be covered.
- Indirect and/or “overhead” administrative expenses may not be included in funding requests of \$50,000 or less. Requests over \$50,000 may include up to three percent (3%) of all expenses for direct services for administrative costs.
- Applicants with project budgets that exceed the proposed grant budget must include lists of confirmed additional funding sources to cover the balance of project expenses.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL AWARDED GRANTEES:

- a) An executed Grant Agreement signed by authorized representatives of both the Red Cross and grantee.
- b) The Red Cross will require grantees to submit reports on project progress and outcomes as well as updates on financial expenditures. Additional or more frequent reporting may be required depending on project scope and grantee capacity.
- c) Organizations funded to provide certain professional services will be required to provide assurances that proper licensing is up-to-date and monitored.
- d) Organizations providing direct services to children or populations with physical or mental disabilities must provide assurances that background checks are conducted on all staff and kept up to date for the duration of the Red Cross grant term.
- e) An initial installment of the grant will be paid upon execution of the grant agreement.
- f) All public acknowledgement of Red Cross grants must be coordinated with the Red Cross and consistent with the guidelines outlined in the grant agreement.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND DATES

Online application process opens: March 18, 2019, at 8 am EDT.

Deadline for application submission: April 14, 2019, at 5 pm EDT.

Grant decisions will be announced as they are awarded.

Supported activities must begin no later than thirty (30) days following grant award.

GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATION

All applicants must register in the Red Cross Grants Management Information System to apply for a grant. See the GMIS Users' Guide for Applicants for instructions on organization registration and application completion.

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REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

In addition to the Application, all proposals must attach the following documents:

1. IRS Letter awarding the organization with 501(c)(3) status (If using Fiscal Agent, the IRS letter and all supporting documentation must be that of the Fiscal Agent.)
2. IRS W9 Form
3. List of the organization's current board and leadership members
4. Most recent two (2) years of audited financials (P&L and Balance Sheet)
5. Most recent two (2) years of 990s
6. Current fiscal year budget
7. Fiscal Agent Agreement
8. MOU between agency and Fiscal Agent

CONTACT

For additional information about the Grant Proposal Application process, please contact:

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