



**FEMA**

January 8, 2010  
FEMA-DR 1791-TX

## Reference Material

### AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO HELP IN THE TRANSITION TO MORE PERMANENT HOUSING PRIOR TO THE END OF PROGRAM

Texas, federal and local governments, the private sector, and charitable groups share the ultimate goal of helping temporary housing unit (THU) occupants to transition into long-term housing after Hurricane Ike.

#### **Texas - 211**

Many state agencies continue to assist individuals and local governments recover from Hurricane Ike. One such group is the State's **2-1-1 Texas**, a program of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission where callers can be connected to nearly every service in the state including government agencies, food pantries, career services, after-school programs, and counseling services.

#### **Texas - Case Management**

Dozens of caseworkers are reaching out to disaster survivors to identify any unmet needs. A disaster case management program, funded by a \$58.2 million federal grant to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), allowed HHSC to contract with three nonprofit organizations tasked with delivering case management referral services and include Neighborhood Center Inc., Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response and Deep East Texas Council of Governments. Meanwhile, **RISE** (Recovery for Ike Survivors Enterprise) also provides **FREE** disaster case management referral services for Ike survivors who have ongoing needs. Survivors can call **1-888-453-7473**.

#### **HUD - DHAP**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP) currently provides rental assistance and case management services to more than 7,800 Texas families. The program is funded by FEMA, and administered by HUD through its network of public housing authorities. All eligible families began contributing \$50 toward their rent starting May 1, 2009. Every month thereafter, the family portion of the rent has increased in increments of \$50, which will continue through March 2010 when the program will end, unless extended. Families in this program are working with their case managers at their assigned housing authority to prepare for transitioning to permanent housing. For questions, call **the DHAP-Ike Referral Call Center at 1-866-785-3239**.

#### **Voluntary Agencies**

Dozens of local volunteer organizations are helping occupants with basic needs such as furniture or household items. Some voluntary agencies may be able to help with utility deposits and payments. Two furniture banks exist to give furniture to families in need and tool banks exist to offer tools to people rebuilding homes. THU occupants wanting to learn more about available monetary resources should check with their FEMA caseworker.

The following local charitable groups are active in Hurricane Ike Recovery:

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|--|---|
| Area on Aging                              | Nehemiah's Vision                             |
| Boat People SOS, Inc                       | Neighborhood Centers, Inc.                    |
| Catholic Charities                         | Presbyterian Disaster Assistance              |
| Christian Care                             | RISE-Recovery for Ike Survivors Enterprise    |
| Deep East Texas Council                    | Resource, Independence, Support & Empowerment |
| East Texas Health Access Network           | Salvation Army                                |
| Fuller Disaster Recovery                   | SER Texas Gulf Coast                          |
| GMC Consultants LLC                        | Society of Saint Vincent De Paul              |
| GRACE                                      | Southeast Texas Interfaith Org                |
| Houston Dept. of HHS                       | Texas Homeowners Assistance                   |
| Houston Works                              | The Gulf Coast Center                         |
| ICNA Relief USA Programs, Inc              | United Cerebral Palsy of Houston              |
| Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response | V-Family                                      |
| Mainland Children's Partnership, Inc.      |   |

### **FEMA – Rental Resources**

FEMA provides at least nine rental resources to each THU occupant. More than 2,700 rental units are now available with over 1,800 being accepted by the Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP).

### **FEMA – Rental Assistance**

THU occupants may qualify for two months of FEMA rental assistance to help them transition into more permanent housing. Rental Assistance eligibility is managed on a case-by-case basis and is limited by the maximum total benefit allowed for each applicant (\$28,800).

### **FEMA - THU Purchase**

Occupants are invited to purchase their units. The purchasing applicant is solely responsible for any applicable sales taxes, city/county permits, or inspection costs associated with the sale and moving of the unit, if needed.

### **FEMA - THU Donation**

With a few restrictions, FEMA can donate a THU to a nonprofit or government agency and allow the applicant to remain in the unit. Entities interested in a possible unit donation for survivors can call FEMA at **409-721-2102** (Kathy Bland) or **409-986-2377** (Gary Dorman)

### **Questions**

Occupants with questions about purchasing their units, or with general questions and concerns or complaints about caseworkers can call **1-866-956-5072 (Nederland Office)**, **1-866-209-2947 (Texas City Office)** or **1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)**, TTY **1-800-462-7585**.

*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards .*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at **800-621-FEMA (3362)**. For TTY call **800-462-7585**.*