



**Swain County Chamber of Commerce**  
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## HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF RESOURCES

**FEMA – Online.** There are several ways to apply: Go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov), use [the FEMA App](#), or call 800-621-3362 from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET daily. Application deadline: March 8, 2025. The telephone line is open every day, and help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as Video Relay Service (VRS), captioned telephone, or other service, give FEMA your number for that service. To view an accessible video on how to apply, visit [Three Ways to Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance – YouTube](#). **The local Swain County Contact is Karen Proctor, 470-417-3881.**

**FEMA Emergency Lodging Assistance** – Lodging businesses can register to accept FEMA vouchers, which are offered to disaster survivors, allowing them to stay at participating hotels and motels while they repair their homes or secure long-term housing. [Register to accept FEMA vouchers.](#)

**FEMA Residential Properties Needed to Lease for Helen Survivors** – FEMA is currently seeking interested, qualified owners or property management companies to help meet the temporary housing needs for disaster survivors by leasing their properties directly to FEMA. FEMA will pay the property management company/vendor the cost of rent, while the survivor is responsible for utility costs and other expenses not covered in the lease. [PDF info](#)

**Dogwood Health Trust** announced yesterday that it will invest a \$10 million lead grant to create the Western North Carolina Small Business Initiative (WNC-SBI), which will be led by [Appalachian Community Capital \(ACC\)](#). The initiative will offer immediate relief grants up to \$25,000 to very small businesses in Dogwood’s 18 counties that experienced physical damage.

**The State of North Carolina Economic Development Partnership** office has a [comprehensive guide to resources](#) for various types of businesses.

[Pisgah Legal Services is available to help with FEMA applications](#) at their various locations and provides some free seminars.

**US Small Business Administration: SBA** – [Low-interest disaster loans](#) from the SBA are available for both physical and economic injury disaster loans. Eligible are small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations.