North Carolina Hurricane Recovery by the Numbers

In the last four years, North Carolina has been hit by four devastating hurricanes – Matthew, Florence, Dorian and Isaias. To date, North Carolina has invested more than $3.5 billion in total state and federal funding to help survivors of Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence, with additional funds invested to help those impacted by Dorian and Isaias.

After Florence, Governor Roy Cooper created the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR) to ensure our state builds back stronger and smarter. NCORR has hired staff experts and expanded capacity to quickly move state and federal disaster funding to people who need it. The office is also focused on building resiliency so North Carolina can better withstand future storms.

Key Hurricane Recovery Numbers
(As of Sept. 11, 2020)

- NC Emergency Management has awarded $89.5 million to local governments through the Hurricane Matthew FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to eliminate future risks by funding the reconstruction, elevation or buyout of properties damaged by repetitive flooding. Local governments impacted by Hurricane Florence have been awarded $21.6 million through FEMA’s Expedited Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to buyout properties that have experienced repeat flooding.

- NC Emergency Management has invested more than $1 billion via the FEMA Public Assistance Program to repair critical infrastructure damaged by Matthew and Florence.

- $250.5 million in FEMA Individuals and Households grants has been awarded to 63,684 homeowners and renters to help with Matthew and Florence recovery.

- The Sheltering Temporary and Essential Power (STEP) program has repaired 2,383 homes to ensure that families are not displaced.
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- NCORR has awarded $183.7 million in HUD Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds to homeowners for repairs and reconstructions, small businesses for recovery, local governments for infrastructure, and the NC Housing Finance Agency for the construction of new affordable housing in areas impacted by Hurricane Matthew.

- There are 229 CDBG-DR-funded home construction projects underway and 444 completed across North Carolina.

- NCORR has sent more than 1,190 grant award letters to homeowners.

- NC Division of Water Resources has awarded more than $22 million to 14 coastal local governments to help with recovery projects that include mitigation of storm damage, surveys to determine hurricane impacts to beaches and channels, and assessments of disposal areas for dredged materials.

- NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Disaster Assistance Program has processed 7,518 applications, with a total of $233.7 million invested in getting farmers back in business after Hurricane Florence.

- NC Department of Environmental Quality’s Hurricane Florence Commercial Fishing Assistance Program paid $11.6 million to commercial fishermen and shellfish harvesters to help make up for income lost due to the storm.

- NC Department of Transportation re-opened over 2,500 roads and bridges that were damaged due to Florence and more than 600 that were damaged due to Matthew.

- NC Department of Health and Human Services helped more than 49,000 people get crisis counseling and ongoing behavioral healthcare.

- $28.6 million in state disaster recovery grants were awarded to 15 local governments to help low-to-moderate income, elderly and/or disabled storm survivors obtain housing. The grants can also be used for home reconstruction and acquisition activities.

- $7.5 million in non-profit grant awards were provided to Habitat for Humanity affiliates to fund emergency housing repairs, mitigation and reconstruction and acquisition activities, which will benefit at least 300 families displaced by hurricanes. Separate $1 million grants have been awarded to Baptists on Mission, United Methodists in Disaster Ministries and the Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry to make critical housing repairs for at least 120 families.

- Governor Roy Cooper raised $5.9 million from thousands of donors to the NC Disaster Relief Fund. Donations have helped the Golden LEAF Foundation and the North Carolina Community Foundation provide grants to more than 77 non-profits and local governments in 21 counties along with nine regional organizations.