

Nov. 6, 2022 DR-4673-FL NR-048 State News Desk: <u>media@em.myflorida.com</u> FEMA News Desk: 813-381-3241 |<u>FEMA-DR-4673-FL-NewsDesk@fema.dhs.gov</u>

## **News Release**

## **Three Disaster Recovery Centers Open in Lee County**

BRANDON, Fla. – FEMA and the state of Florida are opening three new Disaster Recovery Centers in Lee County.

The new centers will open Sunday, Nov. 6 in these locations:

Beach Baptist Church 130 Connecticut St, Fort Myers Beach, Fl. 33931

Pine Island - Phillips Community Park 5675 Sesame Dr, Bokeelia, FL 33922

Sanibel Community Church 1740 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957

Hours for these centers will be 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

Disaster Recovery Centers provide disaster survivors with information from Florida state agencies, FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Survivors can get help applying for federal assistance and disaster loans, update applications and learn about other resources available.

There are several Disaster Recovery Centers operating throughout Florida's designated counties. To find a center close to you, go online to: <u>DRC Locator</u> or <u>floridadisaster.org</u>, or text DRC along with your Zip Code to 43362.

Currently, all centers are operating seven days a week, hours may vary. No appointment is necessary to get assistance.

It is not necessary to visit a center to apply. Survivors can go online to <u>disasterassistance.gov</u>, use the <u>FEMA mobile</u> app or call 800-621-3362. The line is open every day from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA the number for that service. To view an accessible video about how to apply visit: <u>Three Ways to Register for FEMA Disaster</u> <u>Assistance - YouTube</u>.

Interpretation services and translated materials are available at these centers to help you communicate in the language with which you feel most comfortable. Disaster Recovery Center locations are chosen for their accessibility, with the goal of reaching as many people as possible.

In addition to the centers, FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) teams are canvassing neighborhoods in areas impacted by Hurricane Ian to help residents apply for FEMA assistance and answer questions about federal assistance. DSA teams wear FEMA attire and have federal photo identification badges. There is no charge for service.

FEMA Individual Assistance can help with temporary lodging expenses, basic home repairs and other essential disaster-related needs.

For the latest information on Florida's recovery from Hurricane lan, visit <u>floridadisaster.org/info</u> and <u>fema.gov/disaster/4673</u>. Follow <u>FEMA Region 4 (@femaregion4) / Twitter</u> and at <u>facebook.com/fema</u>.

### FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.