



KENTUCKY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Andy Beshear
Governor

Boone National Guard Center
100 Minuteman Parkway
Frankfort, KY 40601-6168

Jeremy C. Slinker
Director

August 5, 2022

Gracia B. Szczech
Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IV
3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd
Atlanta, GA 30341

Re: FEMA-4663-DR-KY Critical Needs Assistance

Dear Ms. Szczech:

The Commonwealth of Kentucky is requesting critical needs assistance for applicants who have been displaced from their primary dwelling and have immediate critical needs.

On July 29, 2022, major disaster declaration FEMA-4663-DR-KY was approved by the President for Public Assistance Category B in 13 Commonwealth of Kentucky counties as a result of severe storms that devastated parts of eastern Kentucky. Since the initial declaration, FEMA has approved Individual and Households Assistance for the counties of Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike, and Whitley.

As of August 5, 2022, hundreds of individuals remain in congregate shelters who cannot return to their pre-incident homes or have no new housing options. In accordance with FEMA Policy, FP 104-009-03, Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide, Version 1.1, Chapter 3, Section VI.B.6, Critical Needs Assistance (CNA), the Commonwealth asserts the following:

The American Red Cross (ARC) has initiated damage assessments in all eight (8) counties FEMA authorized for Individual Assistance for 4663-DR-KY. According to ARC, one thousand one hundred and ten (1,110) homes have sustained a level of damage considered major or destroyed. This figure is preliminary and is expected to significantly increase as ARC damage assessments continue. As of August 2, 2022, approximately three hundred (300) flooding survivors were sheltering in area hotels, motels, and state parks. Outreach is continuing, but the Commonwealth is rightfully concerned that there remains an unmet needs gap for life sustaining items for those in shelters.

Restrictions that are keeping the applicants displaced include the widespread loss of homes to flooding, impassable or destroyed roads and bridges, and widespread utility outages.

At present, non-congregate shelters are not meeting the needs of the displaced population. Hotel and motel rooms in the affected area are limited and occupancy by repair crews, relief organizations, and other responders further reduces their availability to displaced survivors. State parks have sheltered some survivors but those resources are limited. In addition, the increased

Gracia B. Szczech, Region IV Administrator
Request for FEMA-4663-DR-KY Critical Needs Assistance
August 5, 2022
Page 2

distance from existing congregate shelters to survivors' home communities has caused an added burden, furthering critical unmet needs.

There are life-sustaining services that include water, food, first aid, prescriptions, infant formula, diapers, consumable medical supplies, durable medical equipment, personal hygiene items, and fuel for transportation that are unreasonably distant from survivors or are in limited supply due to the disaster.

As of August 5, 2022, the Commonwealth has surveyed 320 registered survivors concerning their current location: among them 153 are staying with family or friends, 18 in hotels, 12 in vehicles, and 8 in tents. The Commonwealth is working with FEMA and other partners to continue to assess the number of families residing outside of their communities with school-aged children.

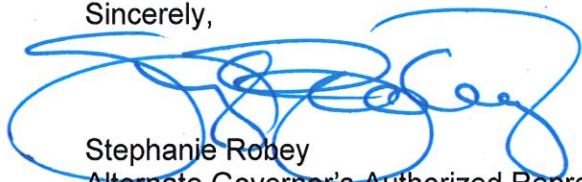
The Commonwealth has a compelling need to ensure that CNA is available for all eligible applicants for individual assistance. Non-congregate sheltering will include hotels and motels that are not suitable for long-term stays. Numerous individuals and households are sheltered in state park lodges that are not properly equipped for extended stays and many survivors have critical needs for life sustaining items not available in these settings. Other survivors are staying with friends or family, in vehicles, or in damaged structures.

The Commonwealth cannot determine the extent to which National VOAD and other resources have been drawn away from Kentucky to support other states. However, it is reasonable to assume that massive wildfires in western states and other disasters are reducing government and relief agency resources available to assist in the aftermath of the July 26 disaster.

After evaluating all available options to address the immediate sheltering needs, I have determined that CNA is desperately needed.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Robey
Alternate Governor's Authorized Representative

Cc: Jeremy C. Slinker
Travis Mayo
Jim Garrett
Jessica Mitchell
Brett Howard