



Hyde County, NC

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FEMA Individual Assistance Denied for Hyde County**

On Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Governor Cooper received a [letter from FEMA](#) denying the Individual Assistance portion of the major disaster declaration request. FEMA stated that "it has been determined that the impact to the individuals and households from this event is not of such severity and magnitude to warrant the designation of Individual Assistance". Hyde County officials are deeply disappointed with this decision and are currently working with our state and federal partners to discuss all available options moving forward.

Though FEMA Individual Assistance is not available, assistance is still available for anyone at the Joint Recovery Center located in the Ocracoke Variety Store parking lot, 950 Irvin Garrish Hwy. We highly recommend that all residents and business owners visit the recovery center to fill out an intake form, even if you are not requesting assistance. This will ensure that we have as much information as possible about the short term and long term needs of the community as we continue the recovery efforts. The form will also help us estimate the total damages suffered on the island. The Joint Recovery Center has representatives from multiple agencies to help with the following:

- Housing Assistance
- Housing Repair
- Medical Needs
- Unemployment Assistance or help finding Employees for Businesses
- Business Recovery
- Insurance Claims
- Mold Remediation
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Utility Payment Assistance
- Small Business Administration (Coming Soon)
- Any other unmet needs

The Joint Recovery Center's hours of operation will be changing on Friday, October 11, 2019. Friday's hours will be from 9:00am to 2:00pm and they will be closed over the weekend. Moving forward the hours of operation will be

Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The Joint Recovery Center can be reached by phone at 984-789-2262 or 984-233-3034.

An Ocracoke Long-Term Recovery Organization has been formed to address unmet needs arising from Hurricane Dorian. This organization is a non-governmental entity and the membership includes, but is not limited to, local faith leaders, Volunteer Organizations Active Disasters (VOADs), and other community leaders. They will unite recovery resources with community needs in order to ensure that even the most vulnerable in the community recover from this disaster. Currently, housing and unmet needs assessments are being conducted through the Ocracoke Joint Recovery Center and the intake data is being utilized to inform the decisions of the organization. To ensure that your needs are being captured for consideration, it is imperative that you or someone within your household register at the Joint Recovery Center.

The County will continue to update residents as new information becomes available. Please follow our social media outlets, [www.facebook.com/HydeCountyNC](https://www.facebook.com/HydeCountyNC) or [twitter.com/HydeNC](https://twitter.com/HydeNC), for the latest information.

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