



Dec. 5, 2024

DR-4827-NC NR-060

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## **News Release**

## FEMA Extends Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program

**HICKORY, N.C.** – At the request of the state of North Carolina, FEMA's Transitional Sheltering Assistance program has been extended to Jan. 11, 2025, for Helene survivors who continue to need temporary shelter.

This allows households additional time to identify other housing solution or make repairs to their home. This will continue providing free hotel and motel rooms to more than 4,900 families who are already checked into area hotels.

"North Carolina is thankful for FEMA's continued partnership as we work together to ensure that all Helene survivors have safe shelter as they begin the recovery process," said North Carolina Emergency Management Director Will Ray. "The approval of our extension request of the Transitional Sheltering Assistance program through the holiday season is another step to helping North Carolinians recover from this disaster."

The program has been extended through the night of Jan. 10, 2025, for North Carolina Helene survivors who continue to need temporary shelter. They will check out of lodging Jan. 11, 2025.

To date, more than 10,000 households have taken temporary shelter in Transitional Sheltering Assistance participating hotels; approximately half have found suitable, longer-term housing and moved on with their recovery.

FEMA will notify households approximately seven days before their checkout dates with the method of communication they selected when originally applying for assistance. A message is also sent to their participants' disaster assistance accounts if they have set them up on <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>.

For more information, survivors should contact the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362.

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For the latest information about North Carolina's recovery, visit <a href="fema.gov/disaster/4827">fema.gov/disaster/4827</a>. Follow FEMA Region 4
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