



For Immediate Release

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Press Release:

State to Open Disaster Assistance Centers to Begin 2012 Severe Storm Recovery
DAC teams in Mat-Su Valley and Tanacross areas to provide information, take applications

Anchorage, Alaska — The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) will open Disaster Assistance Centers (DAC) in the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough and Tanacross to provide information and help disaster survivors utilize the state’s disaster recovery programs. Additional DACs may be established based on requests from communities.

The DACs will take applications for State Individual Assistance, including the Individual Family Grant (IFG) and Temporary Housing programs. **The deadline to apply for individual assistance is November 20, 2012**

“Local, borough and volunteer emergency personnel have done an excellent job responding to this wide-spread event,” said DHS&EM Director John Madden. “There are many individuals and families who sustained damages to their homes and possessions. The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will work with all available partners to ensure that the recovery phase is as swift and well coordinated as the response effort.”

The State Individual Assistance Hotline will be activated on Oct. 3 for those who are unable to visit a DAC in person. Applying for assistance in person is the fastest way to apply for assistance. Those who wish to apply for state assistance by telephone can call the hotline at 1-855-445-7131. TTY 1-855-445-7131. **The deadline to apply for individual assistance is November 20, 2012.**

Please have the following information with you when you visit a DAC or call the IA Hotline:

- Description of damages and/or losses
- Insurance information
- Home Ownership Documentation
- Personal Identification

Prepared applicants will expedite application processing.

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The DACs will be at the following locations:

Interior

Tanacross

Tanacross Community Center – near airport

Oct 3-5, 2012

9am – 7pm

Mat- Su Valley

Butte Fire Station

3355 S Old Glenn Hwy

Oct 4-5, 2012

9am – 7pm

Willow

Willow Community Center

Oct 9-10, 2012

9am – 7pm

Talkeetna

Upper Su Senior Center

16463 Helena

Oct 8-9, 2012

9am – 7pm

Wasilla

Cottonwood Fire Station

Palmer Wasilla Hwy and the Seward Meridian

11-12, 2012

9am – 7pm

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY GRANT (IFG) PROGRAM

The current maximum grant to an individual or family is \$15,700 per disaster when other resources are not adequate, including insurance and Small Business Association (SBA) or other loans. Assistance can include:

- **Housing (primary residences only).** Money to repair, replace, or rebuild; provide access; clean or make sanitary; remove debris relating to life- health- and safety-issues; protective against immediate threat.
- **Personal property.** Money to replace essential clothing; household items, furnishings or appliances; tools and employer-required specialized clothing; subsistence equipment; repair, cleaning or sanitizing of personal property; or moving and storage to prevent or reduce further damage.
- **Transportation.** Money to repair or replace an individual's or family's primary vehicle.
- **Medical and Dental Expenses.** Money to pay for disaster-related medical and dental care or equipment.
- **Funeral Expenses.** Money for funeral and burial/cremation expenses related to a disaster-related death.

TEMPORARY HOUSING PROGRAM

The Temporary Housing Program provides timely assistance to individuals or families without alternate housing whose primary residence is inhabitable as a result of the disaster. Assistance can include:

- **Transient accommodations.** Immediate short-term housing; may include shelters, families, and friends.
- **Rent and eligible utilities.** Initial rental assistance is 30 days for renters and 3 months for home owners. Additional assistance may continue as part of a permanent housing plan.
- **Housing in a temporary housing unit** when rentals and repairs are not practical.
- **Repair of the damaged primary residence** in situations where restoring the essential living areas is less than providing other forms of temporary housing assistance.