1

00:00:12,150 --> 00:00:13,320

- [Priya] Hello, everybody,

2

00:00:13,320 --> 00:00:18,320

and welcome to FEMA 2024

Individual Assistance Reforms

3

00:00:19,110 --> 00:00:20,760

held here with The Partnership

4

00:00:20,760 --> 00:00:23,730

in connection with CIL of South Florida

5

00:00:23,730 --> 00:00:25,260

and Miami Foundation.

6

00:00:25,260 --> 00:00:27,480

My name is Priya Penner

7

00:00:27,480 --> 00:00:31,050

and I am gonna get us started

with some technical assistance

8

00:00:31,050 --> 00:00:32,670

and accessibility reminders

9

00:00:32,670 --> 00:00:35,223

and we can then get started.

10

00:00:37,660 --> 00:00:41,577

(interpreter speaking Spanish)

11

00:00:56,340 --> 00:01:01,340

- [Priya] Today we have

access available in Spanish,

12

00:01:02,700 --> 00:01:04,590

American Sign Language,

13

00:01:04,590 --> 00:01:08,430

and we also have CART captioning available

14

00:01:08,430 --> 00:01:10,270

in English and Spanish.

15

00:01:13,198 --> 00:01:17,115

(interpreter speaking Spanish)

16

00:01:26,130 --> 00:01:28,810

- [Priya] Today we'll be using

the Zoom interpreting feature

17

00:01:30,240 --> 00:01:33,390

and it has been activated for folks

18

00:01:33,390 --> 00:01:35,617

and we'll talk through how to access it.

19

00:01:38,200 --> 00:01:42,117

(interpreter speaking Spanish)

20

00:01:48,810 --> 00:01:50,790

- [Priya] Accessing the

Zoom interpretation feature

21

00:01:50,790 --> 00:01:51,840

looks a little bit different

22

00:01:51,840 --> 00:01:54,330

depending on the device

you're joining us from.

23

00:01:54,330 --> 00:01:56,670

We encourage everyone to

follow these instructions,

24

00:01:56,670 --> 00:01:59,343

even when accessing the

training in English.

25

00:02:00,300 --> 00:02:01,950

If you're using a computer,

26

00:02:01,950 --> 00:02:04,623

click the globe icon at

the bottom of your screen,

27

00:02:05,760 --> 00:02:08,100

or if you're on a tablet or phone,

28

00:02:08,100 --> 00:02:11,520

first click the button titled More

29

00:02:11,520 --> 00:02:14,253

and then the language

interpretation option.

30

00:02:16,807 --> 00:02:20,724

(interpreter speaking Spanish)

31

00:02:56,790 --> 00:02:57,870

- [Priya] Now we're gonna go ahead

32

00:02:57,870 --> 00:03:01,140

and start the simultaneous interpretation.

33

00:03:01,140 --> 00:03:04,650

Again, please make sure you're

choosing the language channel

34

00:03:04,650 --> 00:03:07,080

that best fits your needs.

35

00:03:07,080 --> 00:03:09,720

And if you need to hear the interpreter

36

00:03:09,720 --> 00:03:11,130

and you're not able to,

37

00:03:11,130 --> 00:03:14,160

please let us know via chat,

38

00:03:14,160 --> 00:03:15,480

raise your hand,

39

00:03:15,480 --> 00:03:16,903

or you can email us.

40

00:03:19,024 --> 00:03:22,941

(interpreter speaking Spanish)

41

00:03:43,920 --> 00:03:47,430

- [Priya] Now that we're in

simultaneous interpretation,

42

00:03:47,430 --> 00:03:51,900

our ASL interpreters are

already spotlighted for folks.

43

00:03:51,900 --> 00:03:55,260

To adjust the size of

the interpreters in Zoom,

44

00:03:55,260 --> 00:03:57,390

you can drag your divider

45

00:03:57,390 --> 00:04:00,390

separating the speakers from the slides,

46

00:04:00,390 --> 00:04:02,940

and you're gonna drag

that divider to the right

47

00:04:02,940 --> 00:04:04,680

or to the left.

48

00:04:04,680 --> 00:04:06,510

And again, if you cannot access

49

00:04:06,510 --> 00:04:09,450

or see if you're visually

accessing this training,

50

00:04:09,450 --> 00:04:10,680

our ASL interpreters,

51

00:04:10,680 --> 00:04:13,950

or any of our language

access features here today,

52

00:04:13,950 --> 00:04:15,990

please do let us know in chat

53

00:04:15,990 --> 00:04:20,990

or you're welcome to email

us at Priya, P-R-I-Y-A,

54

00:04:21,097 --> 00:04:23,673

@disasterstrategies.org.

55

00:04:25,170 --> 00:04:28,620

And some just quick

reminders for this webinar.

56

00:04:28,620 --> 00:04:30,690

We highly encourage you all

57

00:04:30,690 --> 00:04:33,570

to ask your questions as they come.

58

00:04:33,570 --> 00:04:36,570

We have plenty of moments for questions

59

00:04:36,570 --> 00:04:39,300

and we are happy to pause

to take questions as well.

60

00:04:39,300 --> 00:04:42,240

So please feel free to

put your questions in chat

61

00:04:42,240 --> 00:04:44,640

or you can use the raise your hand feature

62

00:04:44,640 --> 00:04:48,933

at appropriate times to

come off mute and talk.

63

00:04:50,220 --> 00:04:51,690

And again, if you can't access chat,

64

00:04:51,690 --> 00:04:55,053

we're happy to receive

your questions via email.

65

00:05:00,510 --> 00:05:05,250

And then finally, we encourage

folks to identify themselves

66

00:05:05,250 --> 00:05:07,593

before speaking every time.

67

00:05:09,210 --> 00:05:11,100

We, of course, encourage discussion,

68

00:05:11,100 --> 00:05:14,250

but we encourage you all to avoid speaking

69

00:05:14,250 --> 00:05:15,240

when others are speaking

70

00:05:15,240 --> 00:05:17,190

so that we all are able

71

00:05:17,190 --> 00:05:21,093

to get the information

that you're sharing.

72

00:05:21,930 --> 00:05:24,750

And we ask for ease and for access.

73

00:05:24,750 --> 00:05:27,270

Please do keep yourself on

mute when you're not talking

74

00:05:27,270 --> 00:05:29,973

and defining any acronyms

that you may use.

75

00:05:32,940 --> 00:05:35,283

And with that, I'm gonna

turn it over to Lili.

76

00:05:37,980 --> 00:05:41,760

- [Lili] Thank you, everyone,

for joining this training.

77

00:05:41,760 --> 00:05:42,960

My name is Lili

78

00:05:42,960 --> 00:05:45,930

and I'm the Community Engagement Manager

79

00:05:45,930 --> 00:05:49,353

at the Center for Independent

Living of South Florida.

80

00:05:50,460 --> 00:05:52,290

Today we are hosting a training

81

00:05:52,290 --> 00:05:56,460

with The Partnership for

Inclusive Disaster Strategies,

82

00:05:56,460 --> 00:06:01,170

which is an organization

prioritizing equity and inclusion

83

00:06:01,170 --> 00:06:04,050

for people with

disabilities before, during,

84

00:06:04,050 --> 00:06:06,600

and after natural disaster.

85

00:06:06,600 --> 00:06:08,470

In this training, you will learn

86

00:06:10,350 --> 00:06:12,250

about the recent changes

87

00:06:13,186 --> 00:06:16,740

to FEMA's Individual Assistance Program

88

00:06:16,740 --> 00:06:21,180

and the benefits it has on our community.

89

00:06:21,180 --> 00:06:26,180

These trainings are brought to

you by the Miami Foundation.

90

00:06:26,190 --> 00:06:28,710

Thank you, Juan and his team,

91

00:06:28,710 --> 00:06:31,710

for supporting this important initiative.

92

00:06:31,710 --> 00:06:34,450

I would like to pass it over to Shaylin.

93

00:06:39,395 --> 00:06:40,228

- [Shaylin] This is Shaylin.

94

00:06:40,228 --> 00:06:41,220

Thank you, Lili,

95

00:06:41,220 --> 00:06:43,380

thank you for that great introduction,

96

00:06:43,380 --> 00:06:46,170

and thank you all so much

for joining us today.

97

00:06:46,170 --> 00:06:48,090

My name is Shaylin Sluzalis.

98

00:06:48,090 --> 00:06:49,890

I am Co-Executive Director

99

00:06:49,890 --> 00:06:53,790

of The Partnership for

Inclusive Disaster Strategies.

100

00:06:53,790 --> 00:06:56,130

We go by the name The Partnership in short

101

00:06:56,130 --> 00:06:59,190

as we know that it can

be quite a mouthful.

102

00:06:59,190 --> 00:07:00,423

Next slide, please.

103

00:07:01,320 --> 00:07:02,820

Just to share a little bit more

104

00:07:02,820 --> 00:07:05,340

about who we are at The Partnership.

105

00:07:05,340 --> 00:07:08,760

We are the nation's

disability-led organization

106

00:07:08,760 --> 00:07:11,490

with a focused mission on equity

107

00:07:11,490 --> 00:07:13,110

for people with disabilities

108

00:07:13,110 --> 00:07:15,540

and people with access

and functional needs

109

00:07:15,540 --> 00:07:17,970

throughout all planning programs

110

00:07:17,970 --> 00:07:21,150

and services and

procedures before, during,

111

00:07:21,150 --> 00:07:24,330

and after disasters and emergencies.

112

00:07:24,330 --> 00:07:27,360

In other words, we are your

disability and disaster hub

113

00:07:27,360 --> 00:07:30,090

where we support disabled

disaster survivors

114

00:07:30,090 --> 00:07:32,460

and the organizations that serve them.

115

00:07:32,460 --> 00:07:35,670

We work to build community

resilience across the country

116

00:07:35,670 --> 00:07:38,760

and advocate and create systems change

117

00:07:38,760 --> 00:07:40,110

around the rights, needs,

118

00:07:40,110 --> 00:07:43,650

and inclusion of people with

disabilities before, during,

119

00:07:43,650 --> 00:07:46,173

and after disasters and emergencies.

120

00:07:47,340 --> 00:07:48,573

Next slide, please.

121

00:07:50,820 --> 00:07:53,820

I want to thank Lili, as she mentioned,

122

00:07:53,820 --> 00:07:55,470

and all of our colleagues

123

00:07:55,470 --> 00:07:58,770

at the Center for Independent

Living of South Florida

124

00:07:58,770 --> 00:08:02,100

and the Miami Foundation

for providing this training

125

00:08:02,100 --> 00:08:04,110

and bringing it to all of you today

126

00:08:04,110 --> 00:08:06,630

and having us and being great hosts.

127

00:08:06,630 --> 00:08:10,320

Thank you so much for

providing the resources needed

128

00:08:10,320 --> 00:08:12,120

to be able to provide this information

129

00:08:12,120 --> 00:08:14,940

and continue this

community resilience effort

130

00:08:14,940 --> 00:08:17,970

on learning the details

131

00:08:17,970 --> 00:08:21,630

around FEMA's Individual

Assistance reforms.

132

00:08:21,630 --> 00:08:22,893

Next slide, please.

133

00:08:24,510 --> 00:08:26,940

Today is going to be a jam-packed hour

134

00:08:26,940 --> 00:08:30,210

and I will give a brief

disclaimer that it is,

135

00:08:30,210 --> 00:08:32,220

we have a lot of content to go over,

136

00:08:32,220 --> 00:08:34,170

it may feel a bit overwhelming,

137

00:08:34,170 --> 00:08:36,480

but you will have access to the slides,

138

00:08:36,480 --> 00:08:40,710

and of course, us as an entity

for other follow-up questions

139

00:08:40,710 --> 00:08:42,390

or other ways that we can support you

140

00:08:42,390 --> 00:08:45,630

as you may be supporting

people with disabilities

141

00:08:45,630 --> 00:08:48,000

applying for FEMA assistance,

142

00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:50,460

especially now that

these changes are active

143

00:08:50,460 --> 00:08:52,500

and being implemented.

144

00:08:52,500 --> 00:08:54,180

So one thing that I'll note

145

00:08:54,180 --> 00:08:55,740

as we get through this presentation

146

00:08:55,740 --> 00:08:57,120

is if you have been someone

147

00:08:57,120 --> 00:08:58,950

that has applied to FEMA recently,

148

00:08:58,950 --> 00:09:00,870

and I'll be asking this question soon,

149

00:09:00,870 --> 00:09:04,110

so get your little virtual

hands ready to put up

150

00:09:04,110 --> 00:09:05,943

if you have applied in the past,

151

00:09:07,260 --> 00:09:09,150

that we'd love to hear your experiences,

152

00:09:09,150 --> 00:09:13,080

especially recently as these

changes have become activated

153

00:09:13,080 --> 00:09:15,720

as of March 22nd of this year.

154

00:09:15,720 --> 00:09:18,330

So the recent hurricanes

that we experienced,

155

00:09:18,330 --> 00:09:20,610

Helene and Milton, in your areas

156

00:09:20,610 --> 00:09:23,280

would be eligible for these changes

157

00:09:23,280 --> 00:09:26,610

and you may see them if you

applied through that process

158

00:09:26,610 --> 00:09:28,050

or through that event

159

00:09:28,050 --> 00:09:29,070

or if you've heard of others.

160

00:09:29,070 --> 00:09:30,900

So I would love to hear

your feedback as well

161

00:09:30,900 --> 00:09:32,100

as we go through this

162

00:09:32,100 --> 00:09:34,440

because one thing that

we'll continue to do

163

00:09:34,440 --> 00:09:37,740

is advocate to FEMA around the needs

164

00:09:37,740 --> 00:09:39,660

and making sure that accessibility

165

00:09:39,660 --> 00:09:42,450

is at the forefront of these changes

166

00:09:42,450 --> 00:09:44,703

and throughout implementation.

167

00:09:45,930 --> 00:09:47,370

So today's objectives,

168

00:09:47,370 --> 00:09:48,900

we'll have a brief overview

169

00:09:48,900 --> 00:09:53,130

of the FEMA Individual

Assistance Program overall.

170

00:09:53,130 --> 00:09:54,900

We'll talk about the recent changes

171

00:09:54,900 --> 00:09:57,300

to FEMA's Individual Assistance,

172

00:09:57,300 --> 00:09:59,670

what has changed and what is new.

173

00:09:59,670 --> 00:10:02,010

And we'll briefly go over how to apply

174

00:10:02,010 --> 00:10:05,910

for FEMA's disaster assistance

if you're not familiar.

175

00:10:05,910 --> 00:10:07,023

Next, slide please.

176

00:10:08,280 --> 00:10:09,270

So as I mentioned,

177

00:10:09,270 --> 00:10:10,770

I did have a question for you,

178

00:10:10,770 --> 00:10:12,450

and the question that I have for you all,

179

00:10:12,450 --> 00:10:15,090

and if you could put up your virtual hands

180

00:10:15,090 --> 00:10:16,560

or maybe write in the chat

181

00:10:16,560 --> 00:10:19,140

or let us know through another reaction

182

00:10:19,140 --> 00:10:21,000

in the zoom settings,

183

00:10:21,000 --> 00:10:24,900

have you applied for

FEMA disaster assistance

184

00:10:24,900 --> 00:10:27,210

after a hurricane or another disaster?

185

00:10:27,210 --> 00:10:28,860

Have you recently applied

186

00:10:28,860 --> 00:10:31,563

or have you ever applied

to FEMA's assistance?

187

00:10:32,490 --> 00:10:33,603

Show of hands.

188

00:10:42,570 --> 00:10:44,490

I'm seeing a hand up.

189

00:10:44,490 --> 00:10:46,620

I'm glad at least we

got a couple people here

190

00:10:46,620 --> 00:10:48,600

that have applied.

191

00:10:48,600 --> 00:10:50,673

I'm seeing a couple more reactions.

192

00:10:52,260 --> 00:10:53,100

Great.

193

00:10:53,100 --> 00:10:54,540

And I'm seeing some in the chat.

194

00:10:54,540 --> 00:10:56,283

Yes and nos.

195

00:10:57,300 --> 00:10:58,133

Right.

196

00:11:00,120 --> 00:11:03,060

Of those that did apply,

197

00:11:03,060 --> 00:11:06,540

how many of you have received

assistance in the past?

198

00:11:06,540 --> 00:11:08,520

And I see already someone responding yes,

199

00:11:08,520 --> 00:11:09,600

but no response yet,

200

00:11:09,600 --> 00:11:11,613

so it sounds like you recently applied.

201

00:11:13,050 --> 00:11:16,113

Has anyone received FEMA

assistance after applying?

202

00:11:23,070 --> 00:11:23,903

Great.

203

00:11:25,434 --> 00:11:27,120

And one of the biggest disclaimers

204

00:11:27,120 --> 00:11:31,230

that we really want to let

folks know about when applying

205

00:11:31,230 --> 00:11:34,770

and when preparing your

consumers or community members

206

00:11:34,770 --> 00:11:38,850

or friends and families about

the FEMA application process

207

00:11:38,850 --> 00:11:42,120

is that oftentimes a lot

of people do not receive

208

00:11:42,120 --> 00:11:44,820

enough assistance or

sometimes any assistance,

209

00:11:44,820 --> 00:11:49,820

depending on levels of eligibility,

paperwork malfunctions,

210

00:11:50,370 --> 00:11:51,630

little things that can happen

211

00:11:51,630 --> 00:11:53,970

throughout the process as well.

212

00:11:53,970 --> 00:11:55,290

So we'll get into that as well,

213

00:11:55,290 --> 00:11:58,140

but thank you all for

responding to that question.

214

00:11:58,140 --> 00:11:59,463

Next slide, please.

215

00:12:02,580 --> 00:12:03,900

So first I wanna,

216

00:12:03,900 --> 00:12:06,180

before we jump into some

of the major changes

217

00:12:06,180 --> 00:12:07,590

of FEMA's assistance,

218

00:12:07,590 --> 00:12:08,423

I wanna first go

219

00:12:08,423 --> 00:12:12,630

over how FEMA's Individual

Assistance Program gets activated

220

00:12:12,630 --> 00:12:16,230

and that is through what's

called a disaster declaration.

221

00:12:16,230 --> 00:12:17,160

So next slide, please.

222

00:12:17,160 --> 00:12:19,350

We're gonna jump into this process.

223

00:12:19,350 --> 00:12:22,410

And don't worry if you

feel a little overwhelmed

224

00:12:22,410 --> 00:12:24,090

in these next few slides there,

225

00:12:24,090 --> 00:12:25,770

it does feel like a lot of content,

226

00:12:25,770 --> 00:12:29,160

but it's also because

we have language access

227

00:12:29,160 --> 00:12:30,660

built into this presentation

228

00:12:30,660 --> 00:12:34,110

with English text on the

left-hand side of the slide

229

00:12:34,110 --> 00:12:37,350

and Spanish text on the

right-hand side of the slide

230

00:12:37,350 --> 00:12:39,480

as we go through these together.

231

00:12:39,480 --> 00:12:42,150

So steps to a disaster declaration

232

00:12:42,150 --> 00:12:43,080

when we're talking about

233

00:12:43,080 --> 00:12:45,570

a presidentially declared declaration.

234

00:12:45,570 --> 00:12:48,420

First there needs to be

the threat of a disaster

235

00:12:48,420 --> 00:12:50,370

or a disaster occurs,

236

00:12:50,370 --> 00:12:53,493

much like hurricanes that

you all see in your state.

237

00:12:54,360 --> 00:12:58,350

The next step is that the

state resources are overwhelmed

238

00:12:58,350 --> 00:13:03,150

so that the resources have

reached their capacity

239

00:13:03,150 --> 00:13:06,060

and the state is needing

additional support

240

00:13:06,060 --> 00:13:08,433

in addition to the

resources that they have.

241

00:13:09,540 --> 00:13:11,580

Then the third step is that a governor

242

00:13:11,580 --> 00:13:16,470

or a tribal chief executive

requests federal assistance.

243

00:13:16,470 --> 00:13:19,860

So there's a formal request mechanism

244

00:13:19,860 --> 00:13:22,740

for governors or tribal chief executives

245

00:13:22,740 --> 00:13:25,260

to request assistance from the president,

246

00:13:25,260 --> 00:13:27,600

and then the president makes that decision

247

00:13:27,600 --> 00:13:32,600

and creates a presidentially

declared disaster being issued.

248

00:13:33,210 --> 00:13:34,050

Next slide, please.

249

00:13:34,050 --> 00:13:36,420

We're gonna jump into a

little bit of what this means

250

00:13:36,420 --> 00:13:40,500

once a presidential declaration is made

251

00:13:40,500 --> 00:13:43,950

or once a chief tribal executive

252

00:13:43,950 --> 00:13:46,740

or a governor requests federal assistance.

253

00:13:46,740 --> 00:13:49,770

They can either request

two types of assistance.

254

00:13:49,770 --> 00:13:53,460

One is called emergency declaration.

255

00:13:53,460 --> 00:13:56,340

So that often happens

before a disaster occurs,

256

00:13:56,340 --> 00:14:01,080

usually when that threat

is looming across the state

257

00:14:01,080 --> 00:14:04,980

and that the state has

reached its expectations

258

00:14:04,980 --> 00:14:06,960

or its capacity, I mean,

259

00:14:06,960 --> 00:14:08,730

and needing additional support

260

00:14:08,730 --> 00:14:12,540

in preparing for the imminent

threat of a disaster,

261

00:14:12,540 --> 00:14:14,670

or when a disaster does occur,

262

00:14:14,670 --> 00:14:15,690

a president,

263

00:14:15,690 --> 00:14:18,330

I mean, a governor can

request from the president

264

00:14:18,330 --> 00:14:20,670

a major disaster declaration.

265

00:14:20,670 --> 00:14:23,620

That is what you all are most

familiar with in your state

266

00:14:25,020 --> 00:14:28,680

once a disaster occurs

or a hurricane passes,

267

00:14:28,680 --> 00:14:30,870

the governor requesting federal assistance

268

00:14:30,870 --> 00:14:32,070

from the president,

269

00:14:32,070 --> 00:14:33,960

and that presidential declaration

270

00:14:33,960 --> 00:14:35,973

is a major disaster declaration.

271

00:14:36,810 --> 00:14:40,410

From there, once a major

disaster declaration is made,

272

00:14:40,410 --> 00:14:43,350

then FEMA can start activating

273

00:14:43,350 --> 00:14:45,510

based on the governor's request,

274

00:14:45,510 --> 00:14:49,440

the programs that fall

under that declaration,

275

00:14:49,440 --> 00:14:52,530

which are FEMA's Public

Assistance Program,

276

00:14:52,530 --> 00:14:54,570

which we're not gonna jump into today,

277

00:14:54,570 --> 00:14:56,580

FEMA's Individual Assistance Program,

278

00:14:56,580 --> 00:14:58,200

which we will talk about today,

279

00:14:58,200 --> 00:15:01,200

and FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program,

280

00:15:01,200 --> 00:15:02,430

which, again, we will not cover,

281

00:15:02,430 --> 00:15:05,310

but we will slightly just show you again

282

00:15:05,310 --> 00:15:09,870

that those are the three

programs for FEMA's assistance.

283

00:15:09,870 --> 00:15:11,100

I know that was a lot of text,

284

00:15:11,100 --> 00:15:13,290

but we're gonna keep going

through this content,

285

00:15:13,290 --> 00:15:14,820

and as you have questions

286

00:15:14,820 --> 00:15:16,410

as Priya mentioned at the beginning,

287

00:15:16,410 --> 00:15:18,090

please put them in the chat.

288

00:15:18,090 --> 00:15:20,040

Let us know, raise your hand,

289

00:15:20,040 --> 00:15:22,800

and we'll also have space

for questions throughout

290

00:15:22,800 --> 00:15:24,003

and at the end.

291

00:15:25,110 --> 00:15:26,163

Next slide, please.

292

00:15:28,200 --> 00:15:30,030

So just kind of reviewing again

293

00:15:30,030 --> 00:15:32,220

the steps to receive assistance

294

00:15:32,220 --> 00:15:34,650

or going into the steps

to receive assistance

295

00:15:34,650 --> 00:15:36,450

as an individual or household.

296

00:15:36,450 --> 00:15:39,690

So first is that the

major disaster happens.

297

00:15:39,690 --> 00:15:43,110

Then there was a

presidential declaration made

298

00:15:43,110 --> 00:15:47,250

and FEMA's assistance was

requested and approved.

299

00:15:47,250 --> 00:15:48,270

So just those pieces

300

00:15:48,270 --> 00:15:50,010

that we talked about in the previous slide

301

00:15:50,010 --> 00:15:53,370

with all of that text is

just that a disaster happens,

302

00:15:53,370 --> 00:15:55,320

the president makes a declaration,

303

00:15:55,320 --> 00:15:59,130

and then FEMA assistance is

requested by the governor

304

00:15:59,130 --> 00:16:01,440

and approved then by the president

305

00:16:01,440 --> 00:16:02,940

and through the declaration.

306

00:16:02,940 --> 00:16:04,083

Next slide, please.

307

00:16:06,120 --> 00:16:08,190

And from there, in order to start getting

308

00:16:08,190 --> 00:16:11,160

into the FEMA individual

Assistance Program,

309

00:16:11,160 --> 00:16:15,420

your home or apartment needs

to be damaged or destroyed,

310

00:16:15,420 --> 00:16:19,500

you have filed an insurance

claim if you have insurance,

311

00:16:19,500 --> 00:16:22,440

you always have to go

through insurance first,

312

00:16:22,440 --> 00:16:25,590

and that you've met other

eligibility criteria.

313

00:16:25,590 --> 00:16:26,970

We'll jump into some of that,

314

00:16:26,970 --> 00:16:31,590

but we won't go into all of

the eligibility pieces today.

315

00:16:31,590 --> 00:16:32,703

Next slide, please.

316

00:16:34,110 --> 00:16:36,840

So like I said, we're

just gonna briefly review,

317

00:16:36,840 --> 00:16:41,190

again, the FEMA programs and

services, as I mentioned,

318

00:16:41,190 --> 00:16:43,920

and then jump into a little

bit more of an overview

319

00:16:43,920 --> 00:16:46,290

of the Individual Assistance Program.

320

00:16:46,290 --> 00:16:47,433

Next slide, please.

321

00:16:49,740 --> 00:16:50,640

So as I mentioned,

322

00:16:50,640 --> 00:16:54,360

FEMA has three programs under

the disaster declaration,

323

00:16:54,360 --> 00:16:55,950

which can be Public Assistance,

324

00:16:55,950 --> 00:16:58,710

which is really primarily

focused on governments

325

00:16:58,710 --> 00:17:01,260

and infrastructure support,

326

00:17:01,260 --> 00:17:02,970

things like debris removal

327

00:17:02,970 --> 00:17:07,970

and other infrastructure-related

support for governments,

328

00:17:08,580 --> 00:17:09,750

Individual Assistance,

329

00:17:09,750 --> 00:17:11,730

which is for individuals and households,

330

00:17:11,730 --> 00:17:15,540

which we will jump into and

have a deep dive in today,

331

00:17:15,540 --> 00:17:18,180

and Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program,

332

00:17:18,180 --> 00:17:21,600

which is really focused on

preparedness activities,

333

00:17:21,600 --> 00:17:23,700

primarily for governments and agencies,

334

00:17:23,700 --> 00:17:28,200

but then governments and

agencies can also use those funds

335

00:17:28,200 --> 00:17:30,900

to also support other

preparedness activities

336

00:17:30,900 --> 00:17:32,520

within a community.

337

00:17:32,520 --> 00:17:35,670

So there's potential

opportunities for partnering

338

00:17:35,670 --> 00:17:38,520

with your local emergency

management agency

339

00:17:38,520 --> 00:17:41,940

around potentially some

hazard mitigation programs

340

00:17:41,940 --> 00:17:44,220

that they may be involved

in or applied for.

341

00:17:44,220 --> 00:17:46,950

So do make sure that you're in connection

342

00:17:46,950 --> 00:17:49,500

with your emergency management agency,

343

00:17:49,500 --> 00:17:51,390

which I know we've talked a lot about

344

00:17:51,390 --> 00:17:53,190

together with our partnership

345

00:17:53,190 --> 00:17:55,790

with Center for Independent

Living of South Florida.

346

00:17:56,730 --> 00:17:57,813

Next slide, please.

347

00:17:59,790 --> 00:18:02,520

So, what is FEMA Individual Assistance?

348

00:18:02,520 --> 00:18:03,600

According to FEMA,

349

00:18:03,600 --> 00:18:06,960

it is described as "Individuals

and households programs

350

00:18:06,960 --> 00:18:09,810

provides financial and direct services

351

00:18:09,810 --> 00:18:12,690

to eligible individuals and households

352

00:18:12,690 --> 00:18:14,310

affected by a disaster

353

00:18:14,310 --> 00:18:18,930

who have uninsured or

underinsured necessary expenses

354

00:18:18,930 --> 00:18:20,850

and serious needs."

355

00:18:20,850 --> 00:18:22,830

And that is a direct quote from FEMA,

356

00:18:22,830 --> 00:18:25,500

and we'll jump into a little

bit about what that means.

357

00:18:25,500 --> 00:18:27,420

And you are hearing already,

358

00:18:27,420 --> 00:18:30,600

as I mentioned, I have to always

go through insurance first

359

00:18:30,600 --> 00:18:31,680

if you have it.

360

00:18:31,680 --> 00:18:34,830

And some of these new changes

allow for additional support

361

00:18:34,830 --> 00:18:36,930

for people who do not have insurance

362

00:18:36,930 --> 00:18:41,930

or have costs that are not fully

covered by their insurance.

363

00:18:42,030 --> 00:18:43,233

Next slide, please.

364

00:18:45,600 --> 00:18:46,740

So some of the ways

365

00:18:46,740 --> 00:18:50,100

that Individual Assistance

supports individuals

366

00:18:50,100 --> 00:18:54,330

and households or some of the

sort of subset of programs

367

00:18:54,330 --> 00:18:56,700

or assistance that can be provided

368

00:18:56,700 --> 00:18:59,580

through the Individual Assistance Program

369

00:18:59,580 --> 00:19:03,330

are examples such as financial assistance,

370

00:19:03,330 --> 00:19:05,460

temporary housing,

371

00:19:05,460 --> 00:19:07,650

crisis counseling,

372

00:19:07,650 --> 00:19:10,110

disaster case management,

373

00:19:10,110 --> 00:19:11,520

legal services,

374

00:19:11,520 --> 00:19:13,683

and unemployment assistance.

375

00:19:14,940 --> 00:19:16,590

These are some of the ways

376

00:19:16,590 --> 00:19:20,070

that your governor can say to FEMA

377

00:19:20,070 --> 00:19:23,160

that they need these types

of supports and assistance

378

00:19:23,160 --> 00:19:26,280

through Individual Assistance

to support households

379

00:19:26,280 --> 00:19:29,820

and individuals surviving from a disaster.

380

00:19:29,820 --> 00:19:33,090

We often see that the biggest,

381

00:19:33,090 --> 00:19:35,400

the most used programs, I should say,

382

00:19:35,400 --> 00:19:38,850

is financial assistance

and temporary housing.

383

00:19:38,850 --> 00:19:42,360

And oftentimes in a large-scale event,

384

00:19:42,360 --> 00:19:46,320

especially one that is recovering

for a long period of time,

385

00:19:46,320 --> 00:19:48,360

seeing disaster case management

386

00:19:48,360 --> 00:19:50,460

as another one that gets activated

387

00:19:50,460 --> 00:19:54,363

usually after some time

after the immediate response.

388

00:19:55,590 --> 00:19:56,643

Next slide, please.

389

00:19:58,556 --> 00:20:01,890

And just because I have

seen a couple people jump in

390

00:20:01,890 --> 00:20:04,170

and join us as we're getting started,

391

00:20:04,170 --> 00:20:06,930

I'm just gonna continue

to periodically pop

392

00:20:06,930 --> 00:20:09,480

the CART captions back in the chat

393

00:20:09,480 --> 00:20:11,550

for folks that may need

to view the captions

394

00:20:11,550 --> 00:20:12,753

in a separate window.

395

00:20:15,750 --> 00:20:18,930

So next, talking a little

bit more about eligibility

396

00:20:18,930 --> 00:20:20,913

for Individual Assistance.

397

00:20:22,380 --> 00:20:25,200

This Individual Assistance,

again, is for individuals

398

00:20:25,200 --> 00:20:28,380

and households who have sustained

losses due to a disaster.

399

00:20:28,380 --> 00:20:31,080

So you have to be able

to prove, of course,

400

00:20:31,080 --> 00:20:33,210

that you have some disaster-related losses

401

00:20:33,210 --> 00:20:36,600

or something that has happened

to you due to the disaster,

402

00:20:36,600 --> 00:20:41,520

but also someone in the household

needs to be a US citizen,

403

00:20:41,520 --> 00:20:45,750

a non-citizen national,

or a qualified non-citizen

404

00:20:45,750 --> 00:20:47,280

in order to apply.

405

00:20:47,280 --> 00:20:49,320

Again, this has to be

someone in the household,

406

00:20:49,320 --> 00:20:51,750

it doesn't have to be

the head of household,

407

00:20:51,750 --> 00:20:54,570

it doesn't have to be the

person directly applying,

408

00:20:54,570 --> 00:20:57,750

and it can even be a

minor in the household,

409

00:20:57,750 --> 00:20:59,610

as long as there's somebody in the house

410

00:20:59,610 --> 00:21:02,520

that qualifies as a US citizen,

411

00:21:02,520 --> 00:21:04,890

a non-citizen national,

412

00:21:04,890 --> 00:21:06,750

or a qualified non-citizen.

413

00:21:06,750 --> 00:21:08,670

And we'll have some resources linked

414

00:21:08,670 --> 00:21:12,240

throughout this presentation for folks

415

00:21:12,240 --> 00:21:13,440

to learn more about that

416

00:21:13,440 --> 00:21:15,510

as we're not gonna do a big deep dive

417

00:21:15,510 --> 00:21:17,220

into some of these details,

418

00:21:17,220 --> 00:21:20,100

but just wanted to make sure

we're having a general sense

419

00:21:20,100 --> 00:21:23,100

about the program itself and how to apply,

420

00:21:23,100 --> 00:21:25,263

and eligibility falls into that.

421

00:21:26,370 --> 00:21:27,573

Next slide, please.

422

00:21:29,490 --> 00:21:31,890

Some additional pieces around eligibility

423

00:21:31,890 --> 00:21:33,900

is that the applicant's insurance

424

00:21:33,900 --> 00:21:36,660

or other forms of disaster

assistance received

425

00:21:36,660 --> 00:21:39,240

cannot meet their disaster-caused needs.

426

00:21:39,240 --> 00:21:43,020

This is when I was saying that

if you do not have insurance,

427

00:21:43,020 --> 00:21:45,300

certainly that is a

different piece of this,

428

00:21:45,300 --> 00:21:49,710

but if your insurance doesn't

cover all of your costs

429

00:21:49,710 --> 00:21:52,773

or you have additional needs

that are not covered at all,

430

00:21:53,610 --> 00:21:57,150

that you would be potentially

eligible for assistance

431

00:21:57,150 --> 00:21:59,730

and that your applicant's

necessary expenses

432

00:21:59,730 --> 00:22:01,680

and serious needs are directly caused

433

00:22:01,680 --> 00:22:02,940

by a declared disaster.

434

00:22:02,940 --> 00:22:07,940

So that your damage or any

barriers that you faced,

435

00:22:09,030 --> 00:22:12,960

such as potentially

additional medical expenses,

436

00:22:12,960 --> 00:22:16,620

would be directly caused by the disaster

437

00:22:16,620 --> 00:22:18,030

that you're applying from.

438

00:22:18,030 --> 00:22:21,000

So for instance, if we go

back to Hurricane Milton,

439

00:22:21,000 --> 00:22:24,693

that your house was

damaged by that hurricane.

440

00:22:25,860 --> 00:22:26,973

Next slide, please.

441

00:22:29,640 --> 00:22:33,240

Jumping into FEMA's

Individual Assistance Program,

442

00:22:33,240 --> 00:22:36,810

there's really two big

buckets, if you will,

443

00:22:36,810 --> 00:22:38,970

if we view it in buckets of money

444

00:22:38,970 --> 00:22:42,750

sort of forms of the program,

445

00:22:42,750 --> 00:22:45,420

and the biggest one is housing assistance.

446

00:22:45,420 --> 00:22:48,300

This looks at financial assistance,

447

00:22:48,300 --> 00:22:49,770

direct financial assistance

448

00:22:49,770 --> 00:22:52,890

for things such as lodging

expenses reimbursement,

449

00:22:52,890 --> 00:22:56,370

so staying at a hotel

either during sheltering

450

00:22:56,370 --> 00:22:58,563

or after an immediate disaster.

451

00:22:59,730 --> 00:23:02,460

Also, transitional shelter assistance,

452

00:23:02,460 --> 00:23:04,350

which is a program by FEMA

453

00:23:04,350 --> 00:23:08,490

where they have a list of

hotels that are participating

454

00:23:08,490 --> 00:23:12,960

and you can apply to stay

at one of those hotels

455

00:23:12,960 --> 00:23:16,800

through that FEMA program

at no expense to you

456

00:23:16,800 --> 00:23:19,233

or being reimbursed for those expenses.

457

00:23:20,100 --> 00:23:23,580

Other types of housing assistance

can be rental assistance,

458

00:23:23,580 --> 00:23:26,040

financial support for rental assistance,

459

00:23:26,040 --> 00:23:28,620

and home repair assistance.

460

00:23:28,620 --> 00:23:30,390

Funds to repair your home

461

00:23:30,390 --> 00:23:33,330

if you're able to live in

it during those repairs,

462

00:23:33,330 --> 00:23:36,180

you can receive some

assistance for that as well.

463

00:23:36,180 --> 00:23:37,263

Next slide, please.

464

00:23:38,640 --> 00:23:42,120

And as well in addition

to all of those pieces,

465

00:23:42,120 --> 00:23:45,270

FEMA also has a program called

Direct Housing Assistance

466

00:23:45,270 --> 00:23:47,460

or the Direct Lease Program

467

00:23:47,460 --> 00:23:49,743

or providing temporary housing units.

468

00:23:50,734 --> 00:23:52,740

You may be familiar

with this in past times

469

00:23:52,740 --> 00:23:55,020

when you have seen FEMA trailers

470

00:23:55,020 --> 00:23:57,270

being activated after a disaster

471

00:23:57,270 --> 00:24:00,450

or after a long, prolonged disaster,

472

00:24:00,450 --> 00:24:03,030

or in the case of our colleagues on Maui

473

00:24:03,030 --> 00:24:06,060

who have been continuing

to respond and recover

474

00:24:06,060 --> 00:24:09,270

from the wildfires in August of last year.

475

00:24:09,270 --> 00:24:11,100

They have a direct lease program

476

00:24:11,100 --> 00:24:15,240

where folks are able to

find leasing or apartments

477

00:24:15,240 --> 00:24:18,880

or other rental units

through FEMA's program

478

00:24:20,370 --> 00:24:23,283

and be able to find housing

through that assistance.

479

00:24:25,740 --> 00:24:26,973

Next slide, please.

480

00:24:28,620 --> 00:24:31,830

And then the second big

bucket of funds, if you will,

481

00:24:31,830 --> 00:24:34,110

if we look at this in

terms of buckets of funds

482

00:24:34,110 --> 00:24:37,620

of how the program kind of operates

483

00:24:37,620 --> 00:24:39,570

is other needs assistance.

484

00:24:39,570 --> 00:24:41,130

So this is really everything else

485

00:24:41,130 --> 00:24:44,640

that it doesn't fall under

direct housing-related support

486

00:24:44,640 --> 00:24:47,400

or expenses or reimbursements.

487

00:24:47,400 --> 00:24:50,190

Things like your damaged household items,

488

00:24:50,190 --> 00:24:51,690

your clothing,

489

00:24:51,690 --> 00:24:54,690

cleanup items that you may have bought

490

00:24:54,690 --> 00:24:57,180

in order to clean up your house,

491

00:24:57,180 --> 00:24:59,520

and tools and specialized clothing

492

00:24:59,520 --> 00:25:01,530

required for your job potentially

493

00:25:01,530 --> 00:25:04,380

if you lost those items in the disaster

494

00:25:04,380 --> 00:25:06,210

or they were damaged.

495

00:25:06,210 --> 00:25:09,690

Things also like disaster-related

childcare expenses,

496

00:25:09,690 --> 00:25:13,860

potentially if you were

laid off from your job

497

00:25:13,860 --> 00:25:16,380

and also needing to clean up your home

498

00:25:16,380 --> 00:25:18,360

and have your children

being taken care of,

499

00:25:18,360 --> 00:25:19,740

all at the same time,

500

00:25:19,740 --> 00:25:23,070

and these were not expenses

that you did not have before,

501

00:25:23,070 --> 00:25:26,673

they could be eligible for

reimbursement afterwards.

502

00:25:27,660 --> 00:25:28,863

Next slide, please.

503

00:25:30,210 --> 00:25:32,790

Some other examples of

other needs assistance

504

00:25:32,790 --> 00:25:36,510

is things like disaster-related

medical and dental expenses.

505

00:25:36,510 --> 00:25:38,550

If you were injured during the disaster

506

00:25:38,550 --> 00:25:40,170

or had to go to the hospital

507

00:25:40,170 --> 00:25:45,170

or see a doctor for any

reason due to the disaster,

508

00:25:45,690 --> 00:25:48,840

those expenses may be

eligible for reimbursement.

509

00:25:48,840 --> 00:25:53,100

Things like moving and storage

expenses could be possible

510

00:25:53,100 --> 00:25:55,350

eligible for reimbursement

511

00:25:55,350 --> 00:25:57,780

if you had to move items out of your home

512

00:25:57,780 --> 00:25:59,760

and store them in a unit,

513

00:25:59,760 --> 00:26:01,260

and that storage unit,

514

00:26:01,260 --> 00:26:03,300

as well as the moving expenses,

515

00:26:03,300 --> 00:26:06,450

those things could be

considered reimbursable.

516

00:26:06,450 --> 00:26:10,810

And another example is a damage

to your essential vehicle

517

00:26:11,730 --> 00:26:12,563

if you have,

518

00:26:12,563 --> 00:26:17,520

especially us who may have

wheelchair accessible vehicles,

519

00:26:17,520 --> 00:26:19,170

those are very certainly essential,

520

00:26:19,170 --> 00:26:22,500

but also hard to come by

and can be very expensive,

521

00:26:22,500 --> 00:26:26,700

so that could also be

considered a eligible expense

522

00:26:26,700 --> 00:26:28,260

under other needs assistance

523

00:26:28,260 --> 00:26:32,070

through the FEMA Individual

Assistance Program.

524

00:26:32,070 --> 00:26:33,273

Next slide, please.

525

00:26:37,680 --> 00:26:40,780

Now, this piece that we're

gonna briefly go over

526

00:26:43,650 --> 00:26:46,860

it can be a little bit

policy wonky, if you will,

527

00:26:46,860 --> 00:26:50,040

and it's something that we

continue to learn more about

528

00:26:50,040 --> 00:26:50,970

at The Partnership

529

00:26:50,970 --> 00:26:54,390

and try to educate our

community members about

530

00:26:54,390 --> 00:26:57,747

because it is something that

is not clearly identified

531

00:26:59,460 --> 00:27:02,730

through FEMA's documents and certainly not

532

00:27:02,730 --> 00:27:05,820

through their public-facing

education information

533

00:27:05,820 --> 00:27:08,760

about applying for individual assistance.

534

00:27:08,760 --> 00:27:11,910

But this is really for us

as a disability community

535

00:27:11,910 --> 00:27:13,200

to pay close attention to,

536

00:27:13,200 --> 00:27:16,680

and especially my colleagues

at the CIL of South Florida

537

00:27:16,680 --> 00:27:19,350

and other agencies that

are supporting people

538

00:27:19,350 --> 00:27:21,300

apply for disasters.

539

00:27:21,300 --> 00:27:24,750

We've learned recently

that there is a section

540

00:27:24,750 --> 00:27:26,550

of these two buckets that I talked about,

541

00:27:26,550 --> 00:27:29,880

the housing assistance and

the other needs assistance.

542

00:27:29,880 --> 00:27:32,880

In a few moments, I'll talk

about how they have caps,

543

00:27:32,880 --> 00:27:36,000

financial caps of certain amounts,

544

00:27:36,000 --> 00:27:39,390

but there are a few items

we have learned recently

545

00:27:39,390 --> 00:27:42,780

that do not fall under these

two buckets that have caps

546

00:27:42,780 --> 00:27:45,600

and have their own sort

of bucket, if you will,

547

00:27:45,600 --> 00:27:48,270

and have no financial cap.

548

00:27:48,270 --> 00:27:51,930

And that is essentially to

hopefully help people get access

549

00:27:51,930 --> 00:27:55,860

to these pieces of equipment

easier and without barriers,

550

00:27:55,860 --> 00:27:57,150

such as financial caps.

551

00:27:57,150 --> 00:28:00,480

We know some of our

disability-related equipment

552

00:28:00,480 --> 00:28:02,670

can be very expensive

553

00:28:02,670 --> 00:28:05,640

and so this is to hopefully help

554

00:28:05,640 --> 00:28:07,980

with some of those related items

555

00:28:07,980 --> 00:28:10,680

and potentially some of their expenses

556

00:28:10,680 --> 00:28:14,490

and the compounding amount

of items that you may have

557

00:28:14,490 --> 00:28:16,860

not having to affect your financial cap

558

00:28:16,860 --> 00:28:18,930

under these other places.

559

00:28:18,930 --> 00:28:20,970

So there are no financial cap

560

00:28:20,970 --> 00:28:24,720

for some personal property

accessibility items,

561

00:28:24,720 --> 00:28:28,200

such as a computer if you

use it for communication,

562

00:28:28,200 --> 00:28:29,490

and that could be a tablet,

563

00:28:29,490 --> 00:28:30,900

it could be a phone,

564

00:28:30,900 --> 00:28:32,670

a device that we often...

565

00:28:32,670 --> 00:28:34,830

We have found a lot of

our community members

566

00:28:34,830 --> 00:28:36,810

with speech disabilities

use different types

567

00:28:36,810 --> 00:28:38,433

of communication devices.

568

00:28:39,510 --> 00:28:42,690

A raised toilet seat if you need that.

569

00:28:42,690 --> 00:28:45,420

A bed that may be a hospital type of bed

570

00:28:45,420 --> 00:28:49,680

or a specialized piece of bed equipment.

571

00:28:49,680 --> 00:28:52,200

A washer that may be front-loading

572

00:28:52,200 --> 00:28:54,240

to show that accessibility feature.

573

00:28:54,240 --> 00:28:55,920

Next slide, please.

574

00:28:55,920 --> 00:28:58,650

A refrigerator that could be side by side

575

00:28:58,650 --> 00:29:00,690

for that level of accessibility.

576

00:29:00,690 --> 00:29:02,100

And these are just some examples,

577

00:29:02,100 --> 00:29:03,900

we do think that there is some level

578

00:29:03,900 --> 00:29:07,710

of potentially flexibility

within some of these items

579

00:29:07,710 --> 00:29:10,680

if you can show that you need that

580

00:29:10,680 --> 00:29:12,693

for your disability-related needs.

581

00:29:13,860 --> 00:29:17,910

Some other examples under the

no capped items are a walker,

582

00:29:17,910 --> 00:29:20,580

a wheelchair, a shower chair,

583

00:29:20,580 --> 00:29:23,100

a smoke alarm if it's a specialty kind

584

00:29:23,100 --> 00:29:25,680

for people that may be

deaf or hard of hearing,

585

00:29:25,680 --> 00:29:27,213

having the strobe light,

586

00:29:28,230 --> 00:29:33,230

and a TTY or TDY telephone device as well.

587

00:29:33,420 --> 00:29:34,950

Again, these are some of the items

588

00:29:34,950 --> 00:29:38,220

that as we continue to work with partners

589

00:29:38,220 --> 00:29:40,980

and folks on the ground

and applying for assistance

590

00:29:40,980 --> 00:29:42,240

if you're hearing of folks,

591

00:29:42,240 --> 00:29:46,470

particularly we find it the

biggest issue around this

592

00:29:46,470 --> 00:29:49,350

is around people's wheelchair

or mobility devices.

593

00:29:49,350 --> 00:29:52,200

We know these can be very expensive

594

00:29:52,200 --> 00:29:53,910

and are very specialized.

595

00:29:53,910 --> 00:29:57,690

And so if you were for instance

needing a few of these items

596

00:29:57,690 --> 00:29:59,430

that we just listed,

597

00:29:59,430 --> 00:30:01,920

you wouldn't still not

have that financial cap

598

00:30:01,920 --> 00:30:04,420

that we're about to go

into now in the next slide.

599

00:30:06,660 --> 00:30:07,920

So as I mentioned,

600

00:30:07,920 --> 00:30:10,320

there are these two buckets

that we talked about

601

00:30:10,320 --> 00:30:13,290

and they both have a

financial maximum amount.

602

00:30:13,290 --> 00:30:14,400

As I said at the beginning,

603

00:30:14,400 --> 00:30:18,630

it's often that people do not

receive the full max amount

604

00:30:18,630 --> 00:30:20,700

and often do not receive enough

605

00:30:20,700 --> 00:30:23,883

regardless of how much they receive.

606

00:30:24,840 --> 00:30:28,080

And each year this

maximum amount does change

607

00:30:28,080 --> 00:30:29,160

based on Congress,

608

00:30:29,160 --> 00:30:32,400

so this may be slightly

different next year

609

00:30:32,400 --> 00:30:34,170

or in a few months from now, I should say,

610

00:30:34,170 --> 00:30:37,320

as we're nearing the end

of this year already.

611

00:30:37,320 --> 00:30:39,510

And they are for both,

612

00:30:39,510 --> 00:30:43,650

housing assistance is $42,500 max,

613

00:30:43,650 --> 00:30:47,040

and that is, again, for all of

the housing-related supports

614

00:30:47,040 --> 00:30:49,500

and resources that you may need,

615

00:30:49,500 --> 00:30:52,200

whether it's repairing your home,

616

00:30:52,200 --> 00:30:54,300

temporary housing support,

617

00:30:54,300 --> 00:30:56,970

or other housing-related expenses.

618

00:30:56,970 --> 00:31:00,450

And then the other bucket,

as we've been talking about,

619

00:31:00,450 --> 00:31:02,070

is the other needs assistance,

620

00:31:02,070 --> 00:31:06,453

which also has a maximum amount of 42,500.

621

00:31:07,320 --> 00:31:10,110

And again, unfortunately a lot of times

622

00:31:10,110 --> 00:31:12,630

we don't see people seeing

this amount of money,

623

00:31:12,630 --> 00:31:14,670

but it is important for us as advocates

624

00:31:14,670 --> 00:31:17,190

to know that this is the maximum amount,

625

00:31:17,190 --> 00:31:19,680

and that if folks are not

getting what they need

626

00:31:19,680 --> 00:31:21,240

through FEMA's assistance,

627

00:31:21,240 --> 00:31:23,250

there's always the appeals process

628

00:31:23,250 --> 00:31:25,140

and other resources and supports

629

00:31:25,140 --> 00:31:27,870

that certainly we can navigate and discuss

630

00:31:27,870 --> 00:31:29,553

and brainstorm together as well.

631

00:31:31,508 --> 00:31:33,720

And, of course, as we

are talking about there

632

00:31:33,720 --> 00:31:35,580

is then no financial cap

633

00:31:35,580 --> 00:31:39,150

for some of those personal

property accessibility items

634

00:31:39,150 --> 00:31:40,470

that we just reviewed.

635

00:31:40,470 --> 00:31:41,673

Next slide, please.

636

00:31:44,481 --> 00:31:47,370

And just to reiterate

that FEMA will reimburse

637

00:31:47,370 --> 00:31:49,950

above the maximum amount, if eligible,

638

00:31:49,950 --> 00:31:52,140

for some of the personal property

639

00:31:52,140 --> 00:31:54,060

accessibility items listed.

640

00:31:54,060 --> 00:31:55,410

And that is just, again,

641

00:31:55,410 --> 00:31:59,010

to say that some of those

items do not have a cap,

642

00:31:59,010 --> 00:32:01,140

so they would potentially be eligible

643

00:32:01,140 --> 00:32:04,290

for more than that 42,500 cap

644

00:32:04,290 --> 00:32:07,560

because some of those items may not have

645

00:32:07,560 --> 00:32:10,560

that financial cap that others do.

646

00:32:10,560 --> 00:32:11,613

Next slide, please.

647

00:32:14,190 --> 00:32:17,130

And then a friendly reminder that items,

648

00:32:17,130 --> 00:32:18,570

of course, regardless,

649

00:32:18,570 --> 00:32:21,000

have to be owned by the applicant

650

00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:24,690

or somebody in the household

prior to the disaster

651

00:32:24,690 --> 00:32:28,590

and damaged by the disaster

in order to be eligible.

652

00:32:28,590 --> 00:32:31,860

That's a FEMA overview

of Individual Assistance

653

00:32:31,860 --> 00:32:33,750

as it has been up until this point.

654

00:32:33,750 --> 00:32:35,760

There are some pieces

that we're gonna tweak

655

00:32:35,760 --> 00:32:39,570

as we get into what some of

the changes really look like

656

00:32:39,570 --> 00:32:44,250

and what has changed and what

is new in the FEMA reforms.

657

00:32:44,250 --> 00:32:45,543

But next slide, please.

658

00:32:46,800 --> 00:32:48,990

I'm gonna pause, I know

I've said a lot already,

659

00:32:48,990 --> 00:32:51,630

and see if we have any

questions in the chat

660

00:32:51,630 --> 00:32:55,143

or if anyone wants to raise

their hand or come off mute,

661

00:32:56,765 --> 00:32:58,710

and we're here to address questions.

662

00:32:58,710 --> 00:33:01,110

Again, we just went over a brief overview

663

00:33:01,110 --> 00:33:04,500

of FEMA's Individual

Assistance Program generally

664

00:33:04,500 --> 00:33:06,180

and next we're gonna start jumping

665

00:33:06,180 --> 00:33:08,523

into some of what the changes look like.

666

00:33:16,350 --> 00:33:19,080

Great, I'm not seeing any questions.

667

00:33:19,080 --> 00:33:20,760

Please, Priya, if you see any,

668

00:33:20,760 --> 00:33:22,620

stop me and let me know.

669

00:33:22,620 --> 00:33:25,290

And I just have seen a

few people joining us,

670

00:33:25,290 --> 00:33:30,090

so I'm re-putting in the

chat the CART captions link

671

00:33:30,090 --> 00:33:32,760

to view the captions in a separate window

672

00:33:32,760 --> 00:33:36,090

and the Spanish interpreting instructions

673

00:33:36,090 --> 00:33:38,103

to access the language channels.

674

00:33:39,540 --> 00:33:41,550

If there are no questions at this time,

675

00:33:41,550 --> 00:33:44,550

please write them down as they come to you

676

00:33:44,550 --> 00:33:46,080

or raise your hand and let us know

677

00:33:46,080 --> 00:33:48,210

and we'll make sure we can make space.

678

00:33:48,210 --> 00:33:51,720

We have some other spots for

questions as we go through.

679

00:33:51,720 --> 00:33:52,683

Next slide, please.

680

00:33:54,270 --> 00:33:56,850

So next we're gonna jump into the changes

681

00:33:56,850 --> 00:34:01,290

to FEMA's assistance as of

March 22nd of this year.

682

00:34:01,290 --> 00:34:04,120

We're gonna talk about what's

changed and what is new

683

00:34:06,184 --> 00:34:07,290

and we'll jump into those.

684

00:34:07,290 --> 00:34:08,940

If you have any questions,

again, like I said,

685

00:34:08,940 --> 00:34:09,773

please let us know

686

00:34:09,773 --> 00:34:12,540

'cause that is what a part

of this is all about as well

687

00:34:12,540 --> 00:34:15,720

and we'd love to hear if you've

seen some of this changes

688

00:34:15,720 --> 00:34:18,780

in real time if you've applied recently

689

00:34:18,780 --> 00:34:21,630

or if you are not seeing

some of these changes

690

00:34:21,630 --> 00:34:24,000

and that we need to raise

those issues as well.

691

00:34:24,000 --> 00:34:27,600

So we'd love to hear from

you throughout this as well.

692

00:34:27,600 --> 00:34:28,743

Next slide, please.

693

00:34:29,850 --> 00:34:32,730

So first I wanna talk a little

bit about what has changed

694

00:34:32,730 --> 00:34:35,550

and first starting with the website,

695

00:34:35,550 --> 00:34:38,700

the primary website to apply,

696

00:34:38,700 --> 00:34:41,430

which is disasterassistance.gov.

697

00:34:41,430 --> 00:34:43,800

We'll talk about some other

ways that you can apply

698

00:34:43,800 --> 00:34:45,900

if the website is not accessible to you

699

00:34:45,900 --> 00:34:48,660

or if you don't have access to internet.

700

00:34:48,660 --> 00:34:52,590

But some of the changes as

of March 22nd of this year

701

00:34:52,590 --> 00:34:56,610

is some updates to the

website where folks can apply,

702

00:34:56,610 --> 00:34:58,140

redesigning the website

703

00:34:58,140 --> 00:35:02,640

so that it is hopefully a bit

easier to use and navigate,

704

00:35:02,640 --> 00:35:06,540

having a faster application

process generally,

705

00:35:06,540 --> 00:35:08,970

and trying to reduce the time

706

00:35:08,970 --> 00:35:13,770

that people have to navigate

the system in order to apply.

707

00:35:13,770 --> 00:35:14,793

Next slide, please.

708

00:35:15,630 --> 00:35:19,440

Which allows for some

visual progress tracking

709

00:35:19,440 --> 00:35:21,420

to be able to see sort of where you're at

710

00:35:21,420 --> 00:35:24,720

in the application process

711

00:35:24,720 --> 00:35:27,300

to know if you maybe need to save and stop

712

00:35:27,300 --> 00:35:28,620

and start again later

713

00:35:28,620 --> 00:35:31,500

if your battery is dying on your device

714

00:35:31,500 --> 00:35:34,410

or if you have other things to tend to,

715

00:35:34,410 --> 00:35:35,580

but also to give you a sense

716

00:35:35,580 --> 00:35:38,190

of how long that application actually is.

717

00:35:38,190 --> 00:35:40,290

And it also allows for,

718

00:35:40,290 --> 00:35:41,910

or has changed to allow

719

00:35:41,910 --> 00:35:44,880

for individualized information collection.

720

00:35:44,880 --> 00:35:47,310

So it's saving your information

721

00:35:47,310 --> 00:35:50,370

so that you don't have to

continually update or change

722

00:35:50,370 --> 00:35:53,910

or re-input your information each time.

723

00:35:53,910 --> 00:35:55,260

And this is all supposed

724

00:35:55,260 --> 00:36:00,120

to hopefully have an expected

reduction in registration time

725

00:36:00,120 --> 00:36:02,550

by more than 15%.

726

00:36:02,550 --> 00:36:03,930

This is something that was shared

727

00:36:03,930 --> 00:36:06,450

when the reforms were first announced,

728

00:36:06,450 --> 00:36:07,680

so it'd be interesting to see

729

00:36:07,680 --> 00:36:10,920

now that we've had a few

months of the reforms in place

730

00:36:10,920 --> 00:36:12,990

if this is actually true.

731

00:36:12,990 --> 00:36:15,870

But I will say as somebody

that has supported a few folks

732

00:36:15,870 --> 00:36:19,770

apply for FEMA assistance

throughout this change,

733

00:36:19,770 --> 00:36:22,410

it does seem a little

bit easier to get through

734

00:36:22,410 --> 00:36:23,370

and a bit faster.

735

00:36:23,370 --> 00:36:25,770

I don't know if it's 15% faster,

736

00:36:25,770 --> 00:36:27,720

but we'll see it at some point in time.

737

00:36:28,710 --> 00:36:29,823

Next slide, please.

738

00:36:31,950 --> 00:36:33,810

I see in the chat there's

a question from Bennie

739

00:36:33,810 --> 00:36:35,347

who said he applied,

740

00:36:35,347 --> 00:36:37,680

"So I guess I have to

wait, is there a deadline?

741

00:36:37,680 --> 00:36:40,260

We have another storm coming to Florida."

742

00:36:40,260 --> 00:36:43,230

There is a deadline

after each declaration,

743

00:36:43,230 --> 00:36:47,220

it's usually about 80 days, I believe.

744

00:36:47,220 --> 00:36:49,920

I might need to double-check

on the amount of days

745

00:36:49,920 --> 00:36:53,670

that the application is

open after a disaster,

746

00:36:53,670 --> 00:36:58,290

and then that usually closes

after a certain amount of time,

747

00:36:58,290 --> 00:37:00,030

and when new disasters happen,

748

00:37:00,030 --> 00:37:02,130

like the another storm coming to Florida,

749

00:37:02,130 --> 00:37:05,550

that would require another

disaster declaration

750

00:37:05,550 --> 00:37:08,580

through that same process we

went through at the beginning

751

00:37:08,580 --> 00:37:11,040

in order to be able to

apply for assistance

752

00:37:11,040 --> 00:37:12,930

for that disaster.

753

00:37:12,930 --> 00:37:17,160

So the government has to show

that it's reached capacity,

754

00:37:17,160 --> 00:37:18,870

it needs that additional support

755

00:37:18,870 --> 00:37:21,570

and those other layers

that we talked about.

756

00:37:21,570 --> 00:37:23,730

But I'll get back to make

sure I have the right number

757

00:37:23,730 --> 00:37:26,790

on how long usually the

application period is open

758

00:37:26,790 --> 00:37:28,620

after declaration.

759

00:37:28,620 --> 00:37:29,470

Thank you, Bennie.

760

00:37:32,220 --> 00:37:33,333

Next slide, please.

761

00:37:36,510 --> 00:37:38,280

We are here, perfect.

762

00:37:38,280 --> 00:37:39,830

No, you can go back, I'm sorry.

763

00:37:41,040 --> 00:37:42,930

Looking at some other changes

764

00:37:42,930 --> 00:37:46,950

to also the Transitional

Sheltering Assistance website,

765

00:37:46,950 --> 00:37:50,490

which is separate than the

disasterassistance.gov.

766

00:37:50,490 --> 00:37:51,990

Remember when we were talking a little bit

767

00:37:51,990 --> 00:37:54,450

about the housing type of assistance

768

00:37:54,450 --> 00:37:57,810

and that there is often a website

769

00:37:57,810 --> 00:38:02,460

where folks can find local hotels

770

00:38:02,460 --> 00:38:06,480

that may be open to go

to after a disaster,

771

00:38:06,480 --> 00:38:09,210

and that is through the

Transitional Sheltering

772

00:38:09,210 --> 00:38:10,800

Assistance program.

773

00:38:10,800 --> 00:38:12,750

And we found in past disasters

774

00:38:12,750 --> 00:38:15,690

that that website can be very clunky,

775

00:38:15,690 --> 00:38:17,340

a long wait time,

776

00:38:17,340 --> 00:38:19,710

and there's still other systemic barriers

777

00:38:19,710 --> 00:38:23,550

and issues around this piece

of the program generally.

778

00:38:23,550 --> 00:38:26,840

But some changes that have

happened since these reforms

779

00:38:26,840 --> 00:38:30,390

is that there should be a

streamlined booking process

780

00:38:30,390 --> 00:38:31,560

for lodging

781

00:38:31,560 --> 00:38:35,040

and that there is the

ability for direct contact

782

00:38:35,040 --> 00:38:37,050

with participating hotels.

783

00:38:37,050 --> 00:38:37,920

In the past,

784

00:38:37,920 --> 00:38:41,520

a lot of times people would

try to contact the hotels

785

00:38:41,520 --> 00:38:44,520

to see if they have wheelchair

accessible rooms available,

786

00:38:44,520 --> 00:38:45,540

for instance,

787

00:38:45,540 --> 00:38:47,460

but that information wouldn't be available

788

00:38:47,460 --> 00:38:48,660

through the system.

789

00:38:48,660 --> 00:38:50,730

Now, that should be so that folks can have

790

00:38:50,730 --> 00:38:54,090

a more streamlined way of contacting folks

791

00:38:54,090 --> 00:38:56,010

and having that access,

792

00:38:56,010 --> 00:39:00,240

but we have not seen this in

real time quite yet either.

793

00:39:00,240 --> 00:39:01,233

Next slide, please.

794

00:39:03,240 --> 00:39:04,410

Some other improvements

795

00:39:04,410 --> 00:39:07,230

to the Transitional

Shelter Assistance website

796

00:39:07,230 --> 00:39:11,100

is that there is also

some features for photos

797

00:39:11,100 --> 00:39:13,770

and user-friendly sorting feature

798

00:39:13,770 --> 00:39:17,310

so that folks can navigate

the system a little bit easier

799

00:39:17,310 --> 00:39:20,520

and find hotels hopefully

that are closer to them

800

00:39:20,520 --> 00:39:22,260

or meet their needs in other ways

801

00:39:22,260 --> 00:39:25,410

and being able to see

some of those pictures,

802

00:39:25,410 --> 00:39:28,590

as well as improving

the mobile experience,

803

00:39:28,590 --> 00:39:31,530

so making sure that it's more accessible

804

00:39:31,530 --> 00:39:33,900

and easier to navigate on a cell phone

805

00:39:33,900 --> 00:39:36,213

or a smaller tablet, for instance.

806

00:39:38,160 --> 00:39:39,870

We have not, again, as I said,

807

00:39:39,870 --> 00:39:41,820

I have not heard of these changes,

808

00:39:41,820 --> 00:39:43,500

how they're happening in real time

809

00:39:43,500 --> 00:39:46,230

and folks experience

or reflections on them,

810

00:39:46,230 --> 00:39:49,320

but certainly if you have

or if you know of others,

811

00:39:49,320 --> 00:39:51,270

we always appreciate hearing that feedback

812

00:39:51,270 --> 00:39:53,673

so we can amplify up to FEMA as well.

813

00:39:55,140 --> 00:39:56,283

Next slide, please.

814

00:39:58,860 --> 00:40:03,540

So now we're gonna jump into

some of the application process

815

00:40:03,540 --> 00:40:05,790

and some of the changes that have happened

816

00:40:05,790 --> 00:40:08,490

through the application

and appeals process

817

00:40:08,490 --> 00:40:11,220

by hopefully simplifying it

818

00:40:11,220 --> 00:40:13,980

as most as they could for applicants.

819

00:40:13,980 --> 00:40:17,370

As we know, paperwork is

not something we like to do

820

00:40:17,370 --> 00:40:18,960

in blue-sky times probably,

821

00:40:18,960 --> 00:40:21,720

and when you're in a worst case scenario,

822

00:40:21,720 --> 00:40:24,870

when you've just gone through a disaster,

823

00:40:24,870 --> 00:40:26,610

it's oftentimes something

824

00:40:26,610 --> 00:40:29,040

that folks just don't have the capacity

825

00:40:29,040 --> 00:40:31,290

or bandwidth or will to really do

826

00:40:31,290 --> 00:40:32,123

and we get that.

827

00:40:32,123 --> 00:40:34,860

So hopefully some of these changes allow

828

00:40:34,860 --> 00:40:37,560

for that process to be a

little bit easier for folks

829

00:40:37,560 --> 00:40:39,873

and to get through it a little bit faster.

830

00:40:41,040 --> 00:40:43,080

So some of the changes

around the application

831

00:40:43,080 --> 00:40:44,070

and appeals process

832

00:40:44,070 --> 00:40:47,310

is removing barriers

for late applications.

833

00:40:47,310 --> 00:40:50,130

Before there was a number

of criteria you had to do

834

00:40:50,130 --> 00:40:54,420

in order to submit an application late,

835

00:40:54,420 --> 00:40:55,590

such as writing,

836

00:40:55,590 --> 00:40:58,470

handwriting a note and hand signing it

837

00:40:58,470 --> 00:41:01,600

and then sending it over the platforms

838

00:41:02,460 --> 00:41:05,730

of your reason for your late application,

839

00:41:05,730 --> 00:41:07,530

and now that is more streamlined

840

00:41:07,530 --> 00:41:10,260

through the application process itself,

841

00:41:10,260 --> 00:41:11,100

either online

842

00:41:11,100 --> 00:41:14,070

or however else you may go

through that application.

843

00:41:14,070 --> 00:41:18,390

And also streamlining the

temporary housing assistance

844

00:41:18,390 --> 00:41:22,680

application process by

reducing the documentations

845

00:41:22,680 --> 00:41:24,960

that are required to apply for that.

846

00:41:24,960 --> 00:41:29,070

And the proof and different

pieces of red tape, if you will,

847

00:41:29,070 --> 00:41:32,430

that folks have to go through

is reduced significantly,

848

00:41:32,430 --> 00:41:34,770

so that is a bit easier to get through.

849

00:41:34,770 --> 00:41:35,853

Next slide, please.

850

00:41:37,470 --> 00:41:38,490

And as I mentioned,

851

00:41:38,490 --> 00:41:41,820

you no longer, in terms of

the appeal process as well,

852

00:41:41,820 --> 00:41:43,440

would no longer need to provide

853

00:41:43,440 --> 00:41:45,780

a signed written appeal letter

854

00:41:45,780 --> 00:41:48,990

to the accompanying

supporting documentation.

855

00:41:48,990 --> 00:41:52,650

You would be able to just sort

of appeal that as you would,

856

00:41:52,650 --> 00:41:56,940

but there's a little bit

less cumbersome pieces

857

00:41:56,940 --> 00:41:58,233

throughout all of this,

858

00:41:59,070 --> 00:42:01,020

as we hope anyways.

859

00:42:01,020 --> 00:42:02,013

Next slide, please.

860

00:42:04,560 --> 00:42:07,350

Now we're gonna jump into

one of the biggest things,

861

00:42:07,350 --> 00:42:11,640

I think, that folks often

found a barrier when applying,

862

00:42:11,640 --> 00:42:13,920

and hopefully this makes more sense now

863

00:42:13,920 --> 00:42:16,260

for folks that have applied recently,

864

00:42:16,260 --> 00:42:19,380

is that you no longer

need to apply or be denied

865

00:42:19,380 --> 00:42:23,070

through the Small Business

Administration, or the SBA,

866

00:42:23,070 --> 00:42:25,440

before receiving FEMA assistance.

867

00:42:25,440 --> 00:42:27,480

So if you were somebody that maybe applied

868

00:42:27,480 --> 00:42:31,410

before March 22nd of this

year to FEMA assistance,

869

00:42:31,410 --> 00:42:32,310

you may have had to go

870

00:42:32,310 --> 00:42:35,820

through the Small Business

Administration application

871

00:42:35,820 --> 00:42:40,350

in order to proceed onto the

FEMA assistance application.

872

00:42:40,350 --> 00:42:42,990

And that was really confusing for folks,

873

00:42:42,990 --> 00:42:46,170

especially many folks who

do not have a small business

874

00:42:46,170 --> 00:42:48,120

and do not need that support.

875

00:42:48,120 --> 00:42:51,900

And it oftentimes then

deterred people from continuing

876

00:42:51,900 --> 00:42:54,240

through the application process.

877

00:42:54,240 --> 00:42:56,250

So now that is removed.

878

00:42:56,250 --> 00:42:57,513

Next slide, please.

879

00:42:58,830 --> 00:43:02,250

And so before you had to

go through that process

880

00:43:02,250 --> 00:43:04,440

in order to qualify for FEMA assistance,

881

00:43:04,440 --> 00:43:06,300

and now you only have to apply

882

00:43:06,300 --> 00:43:08,310

to the Small Business Administration

883

00:43:08,310 --> 00:43:10,500

if you actually have a small business

884

00:43:10,500 --> 00:43:12,540

and need a loan or that support,

885

00:43:12,540 --> 00:43:16,110

and all other applicants

can apply directly to FEMA

886

00:43:16,110 --> 00:43:16,943

for assistance.

887

00:43:16,943 --> 00:43:19,230

So that SBA piece still exists,

888

00:43:19,230 --> 00:43:21,750

there's still a question

in the FEMA application

889

00:43:21,750 --> 00:43:25,830

if you need to apply for

Small Business Administration,

890

00:43:25,830 --> 00:43:29,070

but again, that is specific

then to small business owners

891

00:43:29,070 --> 00:43:31,440

rather than everyone

having to go through that

892

00:43:31,440 --> 00:43:35,370

in order to then get to the

FEMA application process.

893

00:43:35,370 --> 00:43:38,310

It didn't make sense to

any of us really before,

894

00:43:38,310 --> 00:43:42,120

so we're glad that this is one

of the biggest changes to see

895

00:43:42,120 --> 00:43:43,140

from these reforms

896

00:43:43,140 --> 00:43:47,310

because hopefully we'll see

more folks apply and get support

897

00:43:47,310 --> 00:43:49,110

without having to go through that barrier

898

00:43:49,110 --> 00:43:51,333

of the Small Business Administration.

899

00:43:52,350 --> 00:43:53,313

Next slide, please.

900

00:43:56,010 --> 00:43:58,170

So a couple things that have also changed

901

00:43:58,170 --> 00:44:01,140

around serious needs assistance

902

00:44:01,140 --> 00:44:05,640

is that $750 cash assistance for survivors

903

00:44:05,640 --> 00:44:07,380

will automatically be included

904

00:44:07,380 --> 00:44:10,080

when a state or territory requests

905

00:44:10,080 --> 00:44:12,690

a presidentially declared disaster.

906

00:44:12,690 --> 00:44:15,180

So next slide, please.

907

00:44:15,180 --> 00:44:16,230

Beforehand,

908

00:44:16,230 --> 00:44:19,410

when a state or territory

requested a declaration,

909

00:44:19,410 --> 00:44:22,500

they would have to request

critical needs assistance

910

00:44:22,500 --> 00:44:24,930

to be included in their package.

911

00:44:24,930 --> 00:44:26,760

Critical needs assistance is the same

912

00:44:26,760 --> 00:44:30,000

as what we're referring to

as serious needs assistance,

913

00:44:30,000 --> 00:44:31,710

they just changed that word

914

00:44:31,710 --> 00:44:33,270

as part of the reforms as well.

915

00:44:33,270 --> 00:44:36,000

So it's considered

serious needs assistance,

916

00:44:36,000 --> 00:44:38,760

and that is now automatically included

917

00:44:38,760 --> 00:44:41,490

when a state or territory

requests federal assistance.

918

00:44:41,490 --> 00:44:43,950

So when that federal declaration happens

919

00:44:43,950 --> 00:44:45,900

that we talked about at the beginning,

920

00:44:45,900 --> 00:44:47,850

usually a governor would also have

921

00:44:47,850 --> 00:44:52,110

to incorporate in their request

922

00:44:52,110 --> 00:44:54,540

different pieces that we're

going through right now

923

00:44:54,540 --> 00:44:57,660

of the Individual Assistance Program.

924

00:44:57,660 --> 00:45:00,180

And one of those requests

would always have to be

925

00:45:00,180 --> 00:45:03,030

the serious needs or

critical needs assistance,

926

00:45:03,030 --> 00:45:06,000

which is that immediate cash

that folks could apply for

927

00:45:06,000 --> 00:45:08,580

and get after a disaster.

928

00:45:08,580 --> 00:45:10,740

But now that is automatically included

929

00:45:10,740 --> 00:45:13,770

whenever a presidentially

declared disaster has been made

930

00:45:13,770 --> 00:45:16,680

and FEMA assistance has been activated,

931

00:45:16,680 --> 00:45:19,530

that individual assistance

does not need to be requested,

932

00:45:19,530 --> 00:45:21,810

it's just automatically included.

933

00:45:21,810 --> 00:45:24,630

We have seen a couple more

bumps, I think, in the road

934

00:45:24,630 --> 00:45:28,260

than we maybe expected around this change

935

00:45:28,260 --> 00:45:30,183

as it's being implemented,

936

00:45:31,050 --> 00:45:33,060

so if folks had any barriers

937

00:45:33,060 --> 00:45:36,660

in accessing that

immediate cash assistance

938

00:45:36,660 --> 00:45:38,280

after a disaster, if you applied,

939

00:45:38,280 --> 00:45:41,553

we'd love to hear about

those areas as well.

940

00:45:42,540 --> 00:45:43,503

Next slide, please.

941

00:45:46,350 --> 00:45:49,650

Another change is that FEMA

is expanding its definition

942

00:45:49,650 --> 00:45:51,360

of habitability,

943

00:45:51,360 --> 00:45:54,750

which is FEMA is

simplifying this definition

944

00:45:54,750 --> 00:45:58,020

to broaden the eligibility for folks

945

00:45:58,020 --> 00:46:03,020

to include repairs to homes

with preexisting conditions.

946

00:46:03,120 --> 00:46:04,050

So if you remember,

947

00:46:04,050 --> 00:46:06,420

at sort of the beginning

of this presentation,

948

00:46:06,420 --> 00:46:07,290

we were talking about

949

00:46:07,290 --> 00:46:12,290

how anything that you're

applying for through FEMA

950

00:46:12,630 --> 00:46:15,540

has to have been damaged or destroyed

951

00:46:15,540 --> 00:46:20,100

or a loss due to the disaster

that you're applying for.

952

00:46:20,100 --> 00:46:22,020

In this case, what has changed

953

00:46:22,020 --> 00:46:24,570

is that the definition has been broadened

954

00:46:24,570 --> 00:46:26,520

so that if, for instance,

955

00:46:26,520 --> 00:46:31,520

as an example, you had a leaky

roof before Hurricane Milton,

956

00:46:32,340 --> 00:46:34,740

and once Hurricane Milton passed,

957

00:46:34,740 --> 00:46:38,190

that leaky roof became

significantly worse,

958

00:46:38,190 --> 00:46:40,410

maybe there's now a hole in the roof

959

00:46:40,410 --> 00:46:43,710

versus just a couple drops

coming out of the roof,

960

00:46:43,710 --> 00:46:45,900

that would be eligible for assistance

961

00:46:45,900 --> 00:46:50,790

because it was, of course,

still continuing to be damaged

962

00:46:50,790 --> 00:46:52,440

by the existing disaster,

963

00:46:52,440 --> 00:46:55,380

but it was a preexisting damage,

964

00:46:55,380 --> 00:46:57,930

whereas before that would not have been

965

00:46:57,930 --> 00:46:59,100

eligible for assistance

966

00:46:59,100 --> 00:47:01,530

because it was damaged before the storm.

967

00:47:01,530 --> 00:47:02,553

Next slide, please.

968

00:47:04,770 --> 00:47:08,190

And so now reimbursements of

damages that were there prior,

969

00:47:08,190 --> 00:47:11,700

like this leaky roof, could

be eligible for assistance.

970

00:47:11,700 --> 00:47:12,873

Next slide, please.

971

00:47:14,820 --> 00:47:15,780

Some other changes,

972

00:47:15,780 --> 00:47:18,090

and I'm gonna start maybe

going a tiny bit faster,

973

00:47:18,090 --> 00:47:21,030

but I'm also keeping mind

of our amazing interpreters,

974

00:47:21,030 --> 00:47:23,160

so please let me know

if I'm going too fast.

975

00:47:23,160 --> 00:47:24,150

But for time's sake,

976

00:47:24,150 --> 00:47:26,370

going through some additional changes,

977

00:47:26,370 --> 00:47:28,710

helping underinsured survivors

978

00:47:28,710 --> 00:47:31,470

by streamlining the

insurance-related rules

979

00:47:31,470 --> 00:47:34,950

to help survivors who don't

receive enough assistance

980

00:47:34,950 --> 00:47:36,240

from their insurance company

981

00:47:36,240 --> 00:47:39,240

to cover their rebuilding costs.

982

00:47:39,240 --> 00:47:40,503

Next slide, please.

983

00:47:41,370 --> 00:47:45,240

So what this means is

beforehand if you received,

984

00:47:45,240 --> 00:47:47,100

which oftentimes many people do not,

985

00:47:47,100 --> 00:47:52,100

but if you received the $42,500 cap amount

986

00:47:52,290 --> 00:47:54,690

from your insurance company,

987

00:47:54,690 --> 00:47:57,600

you were then ineligible to

receive additional assistance

988

00:47:57,600 --> 00:47:58,620

from FEMA.

989

00:47:58,620 --> 00:48:00,120

Next slide, please.

990

00:48:00,120 --> 00:48:04,860

But now assistance is

available up to that cap amount

991

00:48:04,860 --> 00:48:07,230

to cover costs that are not reimbursed

992

00:48:07,230 --> 00:48:09,270

by your insurance company,

993

00:48:09,270 --> 00:48:13,110

including things like deductibles

or underinsured losses.

994

00:48:13,110 --> 00:48:17,340

So just kind of continuing

to support survivors more

995

00:48:17,340 --> 00:48:19,320

than we were able to before

996

00:48:19,320 --> 00:48:24,320

because of the caps and the

related rules around insurance,

997

00:48:24,720 --> 00:48:27,450

but able to support

folks a little bit more

998

00:48:27,450 --> 00:48:29,940

if those costs are not fully covered.

999

00:48:29,940 --> 00:48:31,053

Next slide, please.

1000

00:48:33,060 --> 00:48:34,800

Also, some new changes

1001

00:48:34,800 --> 00:48:37,650

is establishing displacement assistance,

1002

00:48:37,650 --> 00:48:41,250

which provides eligible

survivors with upfront funds.

1003

00:48:41,250 --> 00:48:45,810

This is separate than that

$750 cash we just talked about.

1004

00:48:45,810 --> 00:48:47,040

These are upfront funds

1005

00:48:47,040 --> 00:48:50,820

to assist with immediate

housing options of their choice,

1006

00:48:50,820 --> 00:48:52,950

such as costs associated

1007

00:48:52,950 --> 00:48:55,170

with staying with friends and family,

1008

00:48:55,170 --> 00:48:57,120

whether it's additional food costs

1009

00:48:57,120 --> 00:49:02,120

or potentially gas

expenses for your travel

1010

00:49:02,220 --> 00:49:04,470

because you're staying

with friends or family,

1011

00:49:04,470 --> 00:49:07,050

or other related expenses.

1012

00:49:07,050 --> 00:49:08,133

Next slide, please.

1013

00:49:09,480 --> 00:49:10,710

And also what this means

1014

00:49:10,710 --> 00:49:13,740

is that before the

initial rental assistance

1015

00:49:13,740 --> 00:49:16,590

was specific to rent,

1016

00:49:16,590 --> 00:49:19,110

meaning there wasn't that upfront support,

1017

00:49:19,110 --> 00:49:20,880

as we just sort of went through,

1018

00:49:20,880 --> 00:49:22,230

and you had to prove

1019

00:49:22,230 --> 00:49:25,080

that you spent your

rental assistance on rent,

1020

00:49:25,080 --> 00:49:30,080

not other related expenses to

housing, like food or travel,

1021

00:49:30,270 --> 00:49:34,020

in order to request

additional rental assistance.

1022

00:49:34,020 --> 00:49:34,920

So you had to prove

1023

00:49:34,920 --> 00:49:37,230

that you spent your

rental assistance on rent

1024

00:49:37,230 --> 00:49:40,560

in order to get additional

rental assistance.

1025

00:49:40,560 --> 00:49:41,510

Next slide, please.

1026

00:49:42,600 --> 00:49:44,730

But now there is additional assistance

1027

00:49:44,730 --> 00:49:48,570

for immediate cash for housing purposes

1028

00:49:48,570 --> 00:49:52,050

to ultimately create more

options for survivors

1029

00:49:52,050 --> 00:49:54,450

and hopefully some more flexibility

1030

00:49:54,450 --> 00:49:57,030

of options after a disaster.

1031

00:49:57,030 --> 00:50:00,930

And also survivors are able to

request additional assistance

1032

00:50:00,930 --> 00:50:02,610

through the FEMA helpline

1033

00:50:02,610 --> 00:50:05,763

where that was a bit more

cumbersome in the past as well.

1034

00:50:06,840 --> 00:50:07,890

Next slide, please.

1035

00:50:07,890 --> 00:50:10,830

This one is an important one for all of us

1036

00:50:10,830 --> 00:50:12,810

and certainly for our communities

1037

00:50:12,810 --> 00:50:15,960

and to educate within

our disability community,

1038

00:50:15,960 --> 00:50:19,140

is some new changes

around disability-related

1039

00:50:19,140 --> 00:50:21,240

accessibility items.

1040

00:50:21,240 --> 00:50:23,730

Survivors with disabilities

can use FEMA funding

1041

00:50:23,730 --> 00:50:26,100

to make certain accessibility improvements

1042

00:50:26,100 --> 00:50:29,310

that they did not have

before the disaster.

1043

00:50:29,310 --> 00:50:30,510

Next slide, please.

1044

00:50:30,510 --> 00:50:33,300

Those three items that

they could be eligible for,

1045

00:50:33,300 --> 00:50:36,930

if they did not have

them before the disaster,

1046

00:50:36,930 --> 00:50:40,200

are exterior ramps, grab bars,

1047

00:50:40,200 --> 00:50:42,420

and paved pathways.

1048

00:50:42,420 --> 00:50:44,130

Next slide, please.

1049

00:50:44,130 --> 00:50:46,800

So before you were only eligible for items

1050

00:50:46,800 --> 00:50:49,650

or property that was

damaged by the disaster,

1051

00:50:49,650 --> 00:50:50,760

as we've talked about.

1052

00:50:50,760 --> 00:50:53,670

If you had a wheelchair that

was damaged by the disaster,

1053

00:50:53,670 --> 00:50:57,120

you could be reimbursed beyond the cap

1054

00:50:57,120 --> 00:51:00,363

because it falls under that

no financial cap bucket.

1055

00:51:01,560 --> 00:51:03,660

But what we're talking about here

1056

00:51:03,660 --> 00:51:05,760

is if you did not have a wheelchair,

1057

00:51:05,760 --> 00:51:06,750

well, in this case,

1058

00:51:06,750 --> 00:51:09,840

if you did not have an exterior

ramp outside of your home,

1059

00:51:09,840 --> 00:51:11,850

maybe a ramp into your home,

1060

00:51:11,850 --> 00:51:12,900

and you need one,

1061

00:51:12,900 --> 00:51:15,090

you may be eligible for that

1062

00:51:15,090 --> 00:51:19,470

or for a grab bar or for paved pathways.

1063

00:51:19,470 --> 00:51:22,680

We're not so sure why it's

only these three items

1064

00:51:22,680 --> 00:51:24,780

besides that was the

decision that was made.

1065

00:51:24,780 --> 00:51:27,630

We're hearing that potentially

more items are falling

1066

00:51:27,630 --> 00:51:31,350

under this sort of section, if you will,

1067

00:51:31,350 --> 00:51:33,720

of additional items being eligible

1068

00:51:33,720 --> 00:51:35,760

that you may not have had before.

1069

00:51:35,760 --> 00:51:38,970

So if you're hearing of others

that are going through this

1070

00:51:38,970 --> 00:51:42,870

and maybe would be eligible

for an exterior ramp,

1071

00:51:42,870 --> 00:51:45,810

grab bars in the bathroom

or around the household,

1072

00:51:45,810 --> 00:51:48,063

or a paved pathway outside,

1073

00:51:49,110 --> 00:51:51,360

and folks did not have

that before the disaster,

1074

00:51:51,360 --> 00:51:52,740

they may be eligible,

1075

00:51:52,740 --> 00:51:55,140

and we'd love to hear

about their experiences

1076

00:51:55,140 --> 00:51:57,513

if you are supporting anyone through that.

1077

00:51:58,710 --> 00:52:00,150

Next slide, please.

1078

00:52:00,150 --> 00:52:02,490

And again, these pieces

that we're talking about

1079

00:52:02,490 --> 00:52:04,710

in terms of the three items,

1080

00:52:04,710 --> 00:52:06,750

the three disability items,

1081

00:52:06,750 --> 00:52:10,200

applies to, of course, people

who had their disabilities

1082

00:52:10,200 --> 00:52:11,760

prior to the disaster

1083

00:52:11,760 --> 00:52:15,240

and to consider people who

acquired their disabilities

1084

00:52:15,240 --> 00:52:17,373

during or due to the disaster.

1085

00:52:18,810 --> 00:52:19,950

Just to make sure

1086

00:52:19,950 --> 00:52:22,530

that we are covering

all of our bases there.

1087

00:52:22,530 --> 00:52:24,120

Let's go to the next slide,

1088

00:52:24,120 --> 00:52:26,523

and I'm seeing we're

getting very short on time.

1089

00:52:27,450 --> 00:52:29,580

See if there's any other questions

1090

00:52:29,580 --> 00:52:32,400

and I'll have one more

spot for questions as well.

1091

00:52:32,400 --> 00:52:35,073

I have just a little

bit more to get through.

1092

00:52:37,080 --> 00:52:38,400

Let's go to the next slide.

1093

00:52:38,400 --> 00:52:39,720

And as folks have questions,

1094

00:52:39,720 --> 00:52:41,730

please start popping them in the chat

1095

00:52:41,730 --> 00:52:44,820

or start raising your hands

so we know to call on you,

1096

00:52:44,820 --> 00:52:47,880

and we're gonna jump into

that in just a moment.

1097

00:52:47,880 --> 00:52:50,280

But I just wanna briefly

go over some of the ways

1098

00:52:50,280 --> 00:52:52,620

that folks can apply for FEMA assistance.

1099

00:52:52,620 --> 00:52:55,440

I feel like y'all in Florida

probably are very familiar

1100

00:52:55,440 --> 00:52:56,850

with these pieces at least,

1101

00:52:56,850 --> 00:52:59,340

but to make sure that

we're all on the same page

1102

00:52:59,340 --> 00:53:01,290

and understanding the other options

1103

00:53:01,290 --> 00:53:03,690

that may be available to survivors

1104

00:53:03,690 --> 00:53:06,570

and how you can support

folks through that process.

1105

00:53:06,570 --> 00:53:07,623

Next slide, please.

1106

00:53:08,910 --> 00:53:11,070

So as we mentioned at the beginning,

1107

00:53:11,070 --> 00:53:14,160

some of the ways to

apply certainly is online

1108

00:53:14,160 --> 00:53:17,880

through the FEMA or the

disasterassistance.gov website,

1109

00:53:17,880 --> 00:53:20,190

which is linked throughout

this slide deck,

1110

00:53:20,190 --> 00:53:23,013

so no worries of jotting that down.

1111

00:53:24,120 --> 00:53:27,030

And you can also apply on the phone

1112

00:53:27,030 --> 00:53:28,410

through the FEMA helpline,

1113

00:53:28,410 --> 00:53:29,670

and there's a phone number,

1114

00:53:29,670 --> 00:53:34,110

800-621-3362.

1115

00:53:34,110 --> 00:53:36,840

And if you use a video relay service

1116

00:53:36,840 --> 00:53:39,300

or a captioned telephone or other service,

1117

00:53:39,300 --> 00:53:42,000

you can give FEMA your

number for that service

1118

00:53:42,000 --> 00:53:44,940

and they can contact

you back through that.

1119

00:53:44,940 --> 00:53:45,963

Next slide, please.

1120

00:53:47,130 --> 00:53:50,340

And then two other ways to

apply for FEMA assistance

1121

00:53:50,340 --> 00:53:51,810

is through the FEMA app,

1122

00:53:51,810 --> 00:53:54,750

like an app that you can

download on your phone.

1123

00:53:54,750 --> 00:53:58,590

It's available on all

Android and Apple devices.

1124

00:53:58,590 --> 00:54:03,390

And you can also go in

person if you would like to

1125

00:54:03,390 --> 00:54:06,330

to a local FEMA Disaster Recovery Center

1126

00:54:06,330 --> 00:54:08,280

if they are open in your area.

1127

00:54:08,280 --> 00:54:10,800

And some resources are

linked in this slide

1128

00:54:10,800 --> 00:54:15,060

on how to find those local

Disaster Recovery Centers.

1129

00:54:15,060 --> 00:54:16,290

Next slide, please.

1130

00:54:16,290 --> 00:54:18,570

And then something that we

just wanna make you aware of

1131

00:54:18,570 --> 00:54:20,160

that is coming soon,

1132

00:54:20,160 --> 00:54:22,080

and we just heard from

our colleagues at FEMA,

1133

00:54:22,080 --> 00:54:25,350

we expect this to be hopefully

live in the new year,

1134

00:54:25,350 --> 00:54:26,580

in 2025,

1135

00:54:26,580 --> 00:54:29,430

hopefully within the first

quarter of the new year,

1136

00:54:29,430 --> 00:54:33,570

and that is a FEMA accessible

communication survivor

1137

00:54:33,570 --> 00:54:34,950

support helpline,

1138

00:54:34,950 --> 00:54:37,200

which is quite a mouthful in itself,

1139

00:54:37,200 --> 00:54:40,440

but will ultimately become

the American Sign Language

1140

00:54:40,440 --> 00:54:43,980

and captioning equivalent

to the FEMA helpline,

1141

00:54:43,980 --> 00:54:47,280

so will be another way

for folks to contact FEMA

1142

00:54:47,280 --> 00:54:50,580

for either any questions

to navigate the application

1143

00:54:50,580 --> 00:54:53,400

or to apply it directly for assistance

1144

00:54:53,400 --> 00:54:55,440

using American Sign Language

1145

00:54:55,440 --> 00:54:57,990

or captioning or both.

1146

00:54:57,990 --> 00:54:59,207

So as we learn more about that

1147

00:54:59,207 --> 00:55:00,960

and as that becomes available,

1148

00:55:00,960 --> 00:55:04,650

we'll certainly keep everyone

updated on that as well.

1149

00:55:04,650 --> 00:55:05,553

Next slide.

1150

00:55:08,940 --> 00:55:11,040

And now we've reached

our final question slot.

1151

00:55:11,040 --> 00:55:13,288

And I see Cynthia, you have your hand up.

1152

00:55:18,270 --> 00:55:20,010

- Yes, good evening.

1153

00:55:20,010 --> 00:55:20,913

Good afternoon.

1154

00:55:23,460 --> 00:55:24,293

Hello?

1155

00:55:25,140 --> 00:55:25,973

- [Shaylin] We hear you.

1156

00:55:27,210 --> 00:55:30,330

- Well, my question is those changes,

1157

00:55:30,330 --> 00:55:32,910

does that pertain to Hurricane Milton-

1158

00:55:32,910 --> 00:55:34,690

- [Shaylin] Yes.

- in reference to...

1159

00:55:34,690 --> 00:55:38,370

Okay, 'cause I've been

working not just for myself,

1160

00:55:38,370 --> 00:55:43,370

but other individuals that

you called it something else,

1161

00:55:43,950 --> 00:55:45,663

it's not the immediate needs,

1162

00:55:46,650 --> 00:55:49,623

and the application for

that has been denied.

1163

00:55:51,600 --> 00:55:53,100

- [Shaylin] We often tell folks

1164

00:55:53,100 --> 00:55:56,460

that if you are denied to try appealing,

1165

00:55:56,460 --> 00:55:58,350

because oftentimes it could be something

1166

00:55:58,350 --> 00:56:00,480

as little as clicking the wrong box

1167

00:56:00,480 --> 00:56:01,890

or maybe writing something

1168

00:56:01,890 --> 00:56:05,520

in the wrong section of the application,

1169

00:56:05,520 --> 00:56:09,720

so we always suggest

appealing that if possible.

1170

00:56:09,720 --> 00:56:11,550

And we also have some good colleagues,

1171

00:56:11,550 --> 00:56:14,370

folks at the place of

Disability Rights Florida

1172

00:56:14,370 --> 00:56:16,650

and other agencies that can help support

1173

00:56:16,650 --> 00:56:17,880

with that appeal process

1174

00:56:17,880 --> 00:56:21,033

if you have any barriers

navigating it too.

1175

00:56:22,110 --> 00:56:23,760

- Okay.

1176

00:56:23,760 --> 00:56:25,920

So just go through the appeal process?

1177

00:56:25,920 --> 00:56:26,753

- [Shaylin] Yes.

1178

00:56:27,960 --> 00:56:30,210

And if you find barriers within that,

1179

00:56:30,210 --> 00:56:35,130

it would be also an opportunity

to contact FEMA if you can.

1180

00:56:35,130 --> 00:56:37,920

Sometimes calling them

can be a bit cumbersome

1181

00:56:37,920 --> 00:56:40,290

and have long wait times.

1182

00:56:40,290 --> 00:56:41,520

If you can,

1183

00:56:41,520 --> 00:56:45,060

sometimes going into the

local Disaster Recovery Center

1184

00:56:45,060 --> 00:56:48,330

can help so that they can

navigate that in person,

1185

00:56:48,330 --> 00:56:50,040

in real time as well.

1186

00:56:50,040 --> 00:56:51,450

But oftentimes if you're finding

1187

00:56:51,450 --> 00:56:54,810

that somebody should be

eligible and they were denied,

1188

00:56:54,810 --> 00:56:56,010

trying to appeal that,

1189

00:56:56,010 --> 00:56:58,080

and if you're still having issues

1190

00:56:58,080 --> 00:56:59,400

through the appeal process,

1191

00:56:59,400 --> 00:57:02,430

contacting FEMA to help

as well can also help.

1192

00:57:02,430 --> 00:57:06,900

- Well, what you said about

the 750 immediate cash

1193

00:57:06,900 --> 00:57:09,390

was definitely denied and was told,

1194

00:57:09,390 --> 00:57:12,780

no, they do not have that.

1195

00:57:12,780 --> 00:57:15,600

So I'm confused,

1196

00:57:15,600 --> 00:57:17,820

I'm really confused after this meeting

1197

00:57:17,820 --> 00:57:19,590

and what you're saying.

1198

00:57:19,590 --> 00:57:24,590

And one of the gentlemen

that I was helping,

1199

00:57:25,830 --> 00:57:29,310

after a previous conference call,

1200

00:57:29,310 --> 00:57:32,130

the case was given to

someone and they called

1201

00:57:32,130 --> 00:57:34,320

and was very rude

1202

00:57:34,320 --> 00:57:38,820

and to the point we had receipts for the,

1203

00:57:38,820 --> 00:57:42,690

and he's a disabled person

with hearing problems,

1204

00:57:42,690 --> 00:57:47,690

we had the receipt for the

generator and everything,

1205

00:57:48,600 --> 00:57:52,237

and towards the end of the

conversation she just said,

1206

00:57:52,237 --> 00:57:53,970

"Just send in the receipt for that,

1207

00:57:53,970 --> 00:57:55,260

maybe we can help with that."

1208

00:57:55,260 --> 00:57:58,020

So it's crazy.

1209

00:57:58,020 --> 00:57:59,880

I'm trying to understand.

1210

00:57:59,880 --> 00:58:02,730

I'm really confused after hearing this.

1211

00:58:02,730 --> 00:58:03,630

- [Shaylin] Well, this is Shaylin

1212

00:58:03,630 --> 00:58:05,310

and I'm really glad that

you raised the question

1213

00:58:05,310 --> 00:58:06,630

because it also shows

1214

00:58:06,630 --> 00:58:09,663

sort of how this is

happening in real time.

1215

00:58:10,530 --> 00:58:12,690

I put together these slides a while ago,

1216

00:58:12,690 --> 00:58:15,090

they've been reformatted here and there,

1217

00:58:15,090 --> 00:58:17,430

but this is based on the information

1218

00:58:17,430 --> 00:58:20,460

that we've gotten from FEMA

about the changes to expect

1219

00:58:20,460 --> 00:58:23,310

and how that is actually

getting implemented,

1220

00:58:23,310 --> 00:58:25,470

how people are being trained about it,

1221

00:58:25,470 --> 00:58:28,260

and then how it's actually

getting out to people

1222

00:58:28,260 --> 00:58:30,750

that are survivors that are applying.

1223

00:58:30,750 --> 00:58:33,060

We have seen it very different

1224

00:58:33,060 --> 00:58:34,530

than what it probably should be

1225

00:58:34,530 --> 00:58:36,630

and I think you're highlighting that.

1226

00:58:36,630 --> 00:58:38,340

So I put my email in the chat

1227

00:58:38,340 --> 00:58:40,710

because one thing that we

can do at The Partnership

1228

00:58:40,710 --> 00:58:43,410

is help elevate some of

these individual cases

1229

00:58:43,410 --> 00:58:46,170

where we know that something's not right,

1230

00:58:46,170 --> 00:58:47,700

something happened here,

1231

00:58:47,700 --> 00:58:51,990

and navigating that with FEMA colleagues,

1232

00:58:51,990 --> 00:58:54,570

closer FEMA colleagues that

we work with regularly,

1233

00:58:54,570 --> 00:58:56,100

that can help sort of maybe navigate

1234

00:58:56,100 --> 00:58:58,680

or find at least what happened.

1235

00:58:58,680 --> 00:59:03,660

But I'm honestly not too

surprised to hear some differences

1236

00:59:03,660 --> 00:59:06,560

in what I'm presenting and

what is happening in real time.

1237

00:59:07,530 --> 00:59:08,560

- Okay, thank you.

1238

00:59:08,560 --> 00:59:10,953

- [Shaylin] Thank you for

sharing, Cynthia, truly.

1239

00:59:12,420 --> 00:59:14,820

And please reach out

as we can help support

1240

00:59:14,820 --> 00:59:17,970

and we'll do what we can to

help support and navigate that

1241

00:59:17,970 --> 00:59:20,610

with the person you're

working with as well.

1242

00:59:20,610 --> 00:59:21,990

- Okay, thank you so much.

1243

00:59:21,990 --> 00:59:22,823

- [Shaylin] Absolutely.

1244

00:59:24,150 --> 00:59:28,170

Other questions or other

feedback folks have been seeing

1245

00:59:28,170 --> 00:59:31,473

as you're supporting folks

after Helene and Milton?

1246

00:59:40,290 --> 00:59:41,310

- [Priya] This is Priya.

1247

00:59:41,310 --> 00:59:45,183

As folks are thinking on that,

1248

00:59:46,110 --> 00:59:49,740

writing in chat, raising

their hands, coming off mute,

1249

00:59:49,740 --> 00:59:50,790

whatever works best for you,

1250

00:59:50,790 --> 00:59:53,103

coming on camera so we can spotlight you,

1251

00:59:55,080 --> 00:59:58,470

just wanting to respond to a question

1252

00:59:58,470 --> 01:00:01,350

that was asked earlier in chat from Bennie

1253

01:00:01,350 --> 01:00:05,250

around the application period,

1254

01:00:05,250 --> 01:00:06,720

how long it's open,

1255

01:00:06,720 --> 01:00:09,960

and just wanting to share

that typically remains open

1256

01:00:09,960 --> 01:00:12,900

for about 60 days,

1257

01:00:12,900 --> 01:00:17,700

but that does depend on

the specific disaster,

1258

01:00:17,700 --> 01:00:22,260

any extensions granted during

that period, et cetera.

1259

01:00:22,260 --> 01:00:27,260

So the application itself

remains open for 60 days.

1260

01:00:28,170 --> 01:00:32,790

We've seen it can take upwards of a month

1261

01:00:32,790 --> 01:00:35,490

to get a response back,

1262

01:00:35,490 --> 01:00:40,490

so unfortunately it is a

hurry up and wait game.

1263

01:00:40,650 --> 01:00:42,903

Just wanting to share that.

1264

01:00:44,070 --> 01:00:44,903

- [Shaylin] This is Shaylin.

1265

01:00:44,903 --> 01:00:46,200

Thank you for that follow-up, Priya,

1266

01:00:46,200 --> 01:00:47,163

I appreciate it.

1267

01:00:48,360 --> 01:00:51,180

And I see Ben saying okay in the chat too.

1268

01:00:51,180 --> 01:00:52,200

Thank you.

1269

01:00:52,200 --> 01:00:55,413

Any other questions,

reflections, or comments?

1270

01:00:59,010 --> 01:01:00,810

I echo Juan's comment.

1271

01:01:00,810 --> 01:01:02,730

Thank you to our ASL interpreters,

1272

01:01:02,730 --> 01:01:04,500

thank you to our Spanish interpreters,

1273

01:01:04,500 --> 01:01:06,690

and thank you to our CART captioner

1274

01:01:06,690 --> 01:01:09,690

for making this space

accessible for us all.

1275

01:01:09,690 --> 01:01:11,520

Priya, if you don't mind going

to the next slide, please,

1276

01:01:11,520 --> 01:01:13,980

just so folks know that it's there.

1277

01:01:13,980 --> 01:01:15,090

We do have one slide

1278

01:01:15,090 --> 01:01:17,940

that has a couple of

resources throughout it,

1279

01:01:17,940 --> 01:01:21,210

just around some of

these changes we've seen

1280

01:01:21,210 --> 01:01:24,330

and some educational

information we have out there

1281

01:01:24,330 --> 01:01:25,530

from us at The Partnership

1282

01:01:25,530 --> 01:01:28,530

in collaboration with

colleagues from FEMA.

1283

01:01:28,530 --> 01:01:30,780

I will highlight the last link

1284

01:01:30,780 --> 01:01:32,130

that's listed on this page,

1285

01:01:32,130 --> 01:01:35,490

which is the FEMA Individual

Assistance Reforms:

1286

01:01:35,490 --> 01:01:37,230

Quick Reference Guides,

1287

01:01:37,230 --> 01:01:40,170

which are a number of a few-page documents

1288

01:01:40,170 --> 01:01:42,330

on some of these topics that we've covered

1289

01:01:42,330 --> 01:01:45,720

and some of the changes

in more detail from FEMA.

1290

01:01:45,720 --> 01:01:46,710

And those are available

1291

01:01:46,710 --> 01:01:48,933

in both English and Spanish for folks.

1292

01:01:50,100 --> 01:01:52,500

I know we've gone over

the hour by a few minutes.

1293

01:01:52,500 --> 01:01:54,930

I wanna thank everyone

again so much for your time

1294

01:01:54,930 --> 01:01:58,620

and for joining us and sitting

through all of this content

1295

01:01:58,620 --> 01:02:01,350

I just sort of threw at you very quickly.

1296

01:02:01,350 --> 01:02:03,750

But I really do hope that

folks reach out to us

1297

01:02:03,750 --> 01:02:07,050

if you have other questions

or if you're navigating issues

1298

01:02:07,050 --> 01:02:10,740

that kind of contradict what

we've talked about here today

1299

01:02:10,740 --> 01:02:11,850

so we can help navigate

1300

01:02:11,850 --> 01:02:13,950

and help amplify them up through FEMA

1301

01:02:13,950 --> 01:02:16,200

and hopefully resolve them as well

1302

01:02:16,200 --> 01:02:17,640

as we are an ongoing resource

1303

01:02:17,640 --> 01:02:19,380

for you all here at The Partnership.

1304

01:02:19,380 --> 01:02:21,080

And thank you so much to our colleagues

1305

01:02:21,080 --> 01:02:24,030

at the Center for Independent

Living of South Florida

1306

01:02:24,030 --> 01:02:27,540

and the Miami Foundation for

putting on this training today.

1307

01:02:27,540 --> 01:02:28,740

I'll pass it over to you, Lili,

1308

01:02:28,740 --> 01:02:30,953

if you have any last

words you'd like to say.

1309

01:02:33,510 --> 01:02:36,900

- [Lili] There is a question in the chat,

1310

01:02:36,900 --> 01:02:39,597

I just wanted to let you know.

1311

01:02:39,597 --> 01:02:40,713

- [Shaylin] Oh, thank you.

1312

01:02:42,330 --> 01:02:44,707

I see there's a question asking,

1313

01:02:44,707 --> 01:02:45,780

"In Bennie's case,

1314

01:02:45,780 --> 01:02:48,690

should another storm come

and cause additional damage,

1315

01:02:48,690 --> 01:02:49,920

should he reapply?"

1316

01:02:49,920 --> 01:02:52,500

And if there is a disaster declaration

1317

01:02:52,500 --> 01:02:56,850

and FEMA assistance is

activated for that new storm,

1318

01:02:56,850 --> 01:02:57,990

yes, absolutely.

1319

01:02:57,990 --> 01:03:00,960

You can continue to

apply storm after storm,

1320

01:03:00,960 --> 01:03:03,363

as long as you had damage from each storm.

1321

01:03:04,410 --> 01:03:05,433

Great questions.

1322

01:03:07,140 --> 01:03:08,331

- [Lili] I just wanna say thank you

1323

01:03:08,331 --> 01:03:10,230

for joining the training.

1324

01:03:10,230 --> 01:03:14,430

I will be sending out another email

1325

01:03:14,430 --> 01:03:16,230

in the next couple of weeks

1326

01:03:16,230 --> 01:03:21,230

about a conversation that

we are having in January,

1327

01:03:22,920 --> 01:03:24,483

so be on the lookout.

1328

01:03:25,800 --> 01:03:28,709

And I just wanted to say thank

you to the Miami Foundation,

1329

01:03:28,709 --> 01:03:29,542

Shaylin,

1330

01:03:29,542 --> 01:03:31,290

the ASL interpreters, CART,

1331

01:03:31,290 --> 01:03:32,943

and the Spanish interpreters.

1332

01:03:35,670 --> 01:03:36,780

- [Shaylin] Thank you so much, Lili.

1333

01:03:36,780 --> 01:03:37,830

Thank you, everyone.

1334

01:03:37,830 --> 01:03:38,820

Please stay safe

1335

01:03:38,820 --> 01:03:40,860

and please don't hesitate

to reach out in between,

1336

01:03:40,860 --> 01:03:42,450

we are here to support each other.

1337

01:03:42,450 --> 01:03:44,600

Take care and have a

good rest of your day.

1338

01:03:46,650 --> 01:03:47,483

- Thank you.