



## **Hurricane Michael Emergency Financial Assistance**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, the American Red Cross has sheltered thousands of people, sent our response vehicles into neighborhoods to deliver meals, snacks and relief items, and had volunteers provide emotional support and health services.

The Red Cross is working to get emergency financial assistance into the hands of people in Georgia whose homes were most affected. This financial assistance will allow people to make their own decisions and prioritize what their family needs most to start recovering. Funds can help families replace clothes or food, offset transportation costs, or support any other immediate need. Spending these funds locally will also support impacted communities as they begin recovering from the enormous economic losses inflicted by Hurricane Michael.

### **Overview**

Thanks to our generous donors, the Red Cross is providing \$450 to households whose homes were confirmed to have been destroyed or sustained major damage from Hurricane Michael and need help taking care of emergency needs right now.

Eligible households include those whose:

- Primary, pre-disaster residence was destroyed or sustained major damage from Hurricane Michael (verified by FEMA or the Red Cross); and
- Proof that the applicant is the legal owner, renter or lessee of a primary, pre-disaster residence located in Georgia; and
- Head of household responds to the personalized email or text message sent directly to them, or is enrolled directly through the Red Cross or a partner organization (proof of identity required).

Major damage is indicated by significant structural damage to a residence that requires extensive repairs. This may include substantial failure of the roof, walls or foundation, or a water line above 18 inches. A residence that is destroyed is one that is a total loss or with damage so extensive that repair is not feasible.

The Red Cross will also work with partners and community advocates to reach people whose homes were destroyed or sustained major damage, and may face barriers to accessing disaster assistance. This includes people who do not speak English, are not American citizens, or have other challenges such as lack of transportation or internet connectivity.

Financial assistance will be disbursed via several options based on client preference, including, in-store at Walmart with a pre-authorized reference code, or electronically through PayPal or Mastercard Send.

The areas of Alabama that were impacted by Hurricane Michael have received Red Cross assistance, including financial assistance, through our casework and recovery program and will not be considered part of the Hurricane Michael Emergency Financial Assistance Program.

All Red Cross services, including financial assistance, are available to whoever needs it, regardless of nationality, race, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. The Red Cross is a charity, not a government agency and people do not need to be American citizens to receive our help.

Red Cross financial assistance is not a loan and does not need to be repaid.

**For assistance, visit [redcross.org/MichaelRecovery](https://www.redcross.org/MichaelRecovery) or call 1-800-REDCROSS.**