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FEMA

News Release

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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER OPENS IN LAFAYETTE COUNTY

CLINTON, MS – A Disaster Recovery Center operated by the state of Mississippi and the Federal Emergency Management Agency opened in Lafayette County to assist individuals and businesses affected by the severe weather events of April 15-28. This DRC is open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday at the Anchor Baptist Church, 1009 Hwy 7 South in Water Valley until further notice.

Before visiting a center, people with storm-related losses should register with FEMA by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov. Help is available in most languages. Those with speech or hearing impairment may call (TTY) **800-462-7585**. Persons affected by the storms also may apply for federal assistance through a web-enabled mobile device or Smartphone. Visit m.fema.gov and follow the link to “apply online for federal assistance.”

Counties currently designated for assistance to individuals are: Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clarke, Greene, Hinds, Jasper, Kemper, Lafayette, Monroe, Neshoba and Webster. Residents who suffered storm-related losses in these counties may visit any center for assistance.

Disaster Recovery Centers are currently operating at the following locations:

Hinds County Golden Keys Community Center 3450 Albermarle Rd. Jackson, MS 39213 Clinton Public Works Facilities 527 Spring Ridge Rd. Clinton, MS 39056	Greene County Leakesville Community Ctr. 1627 Center St. Leakesville, MS 39451 Chickasaw County Houston Civic Center 635 Starkville Rd Houston, MS 38851	Monroe County Intersection of Hwy 23 & 25 Smithville, MS 38870 Jasper/Clarke Counties Enterprise Town Hall 500 S. River Rd. Enterprise, MS 39330
Webster/Choctaw Counties Mathiston Public Library 298 Scott St. Mathiston, MS 39752	Kemper County Kemper County Sheriff Department Conference Room 330 Stennis Industrial Rd. DeKalb, MS 39328	Lafayette County Anchor Baptist Church 1009 Hwy 7 South Water Valley, MS 38965

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Emergency management experts from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, U.S. Small Business Administration and other agencies will staff the centers to explain disaster assistance programs and help storm survivors.

Individual assistance for eligible homeowners and renters can include grants to help pay for rental housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses not met by insurance or other assistance programs. Representatives are available to explain the full range of application options available including assistance for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses.

Low-interest loans from the SBA are available for eligible applicants to cover residential and business losses not fully compensated by insurance. Among the options are assistance for replacement of personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses. Other help at the centers may be provided by attorneys, crisis counselors and representatives of organizations such as the American Red Cross or local volunteer agencies.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.