



Hurricane Helene: NC/TN Long-Term Recovery Grant Program

Request for Proposal: *Hurricane Helene: North Carolina & Tennessee*

January 8, 2025

OVERVIEW

In response to Hurricanes Helene and Milton, the American Red Cross is launching long-term recovery operations across the impacted states. This includes grant programming to support projects focused on meeting the needs of and providing innovative solutions to individual, household and community recovery and resilience.

On January 8th, 2025, the Red Cross will issue a Request for Proposals to provide funding for organizations active in recovery, across three focus areas:

- 1) **Individual and Household Needs** grants provide services that help individuals and households meet their disaster-caused recovery needs. Examples of these services include:
 - Supporting housing recovery and mitigation through addressing repetitive loss
 - Addressing disaster-caused physical health, mental health and/or spiritual care needs
 - Supporting access to and delivery of high-quality childcare services
 - Providing additional and alternative vocational training and placement services to those affected by a disaster event
 - Outreach to help underserved and vulnerable populations access recovery services
 - Awarding funding to Long-Term Recovery Groups' Unmet Needs Committees
- 2) **Community Recovery Capacity Building** grants support expansion or establishment of programs that support community recovery. Examples of these services include:
 - Building Long-Term Recovery Group capacity by providing funding to hire staff
 - Supporting community needs assessment efforts to identify unmet recovery needs
 - Creating or expanding information and referral systems to increase awareness of resources across all impacted communities
 - Expanding services that address identified disaster-caused needs
- 3) **Community Recovery and Resiliency** grants will strengthen a community's recovery and resilience through supporting systemic solutions. Examples of these services include:
 - Developing and implementing new resiliency, preparedness and social skills focused programs for children and/or youth
 - Implementing preparedness programming
 - Engaging disaster-impacted communities in resilience strengthening planning, and
 - Developing and implementing unique initiatives that meet community recovery needs.

TIMELINE

Request for Proposals	
Intent to Apply Survey	Friday, December 20, 2024, and after Intent to Apply Survey
Application Portal Open	Wednesday, January 8, 2025
Application Portal Close	Friday, March 28, 2025
<i>Grant decisions will be announced as they are awarded, declined, or put on hold.</i>	

Hurricanes Helene Grant Program: North Carolina & Tennessee	
Grant Term Start Date	March 1, 2025
Grant Term End Date	NC – December 31, 2026, or before TN – June 30, 2026, or before

GRANT FUNDING

All grant applications submitted to this RFP should include grant funded program activities in North Carolina will be completed by December 31, 2026, and Tennessee activities will be completed by June 30, 2026. The anticipated individual grant award amounts will be up to \$1,000,000. Funding requests above this amount will be considered on an individual basis.

ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Programs follow standard finance and funding practices regarding expenses that may be included in a grant application project budget, including:

- All proposed grant budgets may include staff salaries or consultant fees for those individuals necessary for the implementation or provision of grant funded services.
- Indirect and/or “overhead” expenses may be up to three percent (3%) of the requested award amount for administrative costs (costs associated with running the organization, but not limited to, administrative staff salaries, rent, utilities and office supplies).
- Applicants with project budgets that exceed the proposed grant budget must include lists of confirmed additional funding sources to cover the balance of project expenses.
- *Capital requests will only be considered under limited circumstances with approval from Red Cross Senior Leadership.*

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

An organization must meet the following minimum criteria to be eligible to apply:

- A non-profit with a minimum of three years as IRS-approved 501(c)(3) *AND*
- A non-profit with a minimum institutional annual budget of \$250,000 (as reported on the two (2) most recent independent financial audits or IRS 990 Forms)

NOTE: Organizations not meeting all the eligibility criteria may apply through another organization meeting the criteria which is willing to serve as a fiscal agent. Fiscal agency

allows an organization without Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status to receive funds via an established nonprofit with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

Preference for grant funding will be given to organizations with established successful disaster recovery programming, including organizations with 1) expertise in providing post-disaster recovery services to vulnerable populations; 2) collaborative relationships with or helping to coordinate the efforts of nationally or regionally recognized VOAD; and/or 3) prior Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Program funded successful grant projects.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Through its mission, the American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. All programs and activities are guided by the Red Cross [Fundamental Principles](#) of Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality. These principles allow the Red Cross to help those in need, regardless of citizenship, race, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, or political affiliation.

Grantees are required to adhere to the following principles and ideas across all grant project activities:

1. **Non-Discrimination:** Grantees must provide impartial and equitable services to those in need, regardless of citizenship, race, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, or political affiliation.
2. **Code of Conduct:** Grantees' service delivery should reflect the principles outlined in the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief](#). This includes maintaining high standards of humanity, neutrality, and impartiality in all activities.

Grantees agree to uphold these principles and work collaboratively with the American Red Cross to achieve our shared humanitarian goals.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL AWARDED GRANTEEES

- An executed Grant Agreement signed by authorized representatives of both the Red Cross and prospective grantee.
- Funded organizations will be expected to begin delivery of grant funded activities within one (1) month of the grant award.
- The Red Cross will require grantees to submit reports on project progress and outcomes as well as updates on financial expenditures. Reporting frequency will be determined based upon project scope, amount of funding award and grantee capacity.
- Organizations funded to provide certain professional services will be required to provide assurances that proper licensing for all grant-funded staff is up-to-date and monitored.
- Organizations providing direct services to children or populations with physical or mental disabilities must provide assurances that background checks are conducted and maintained on all staff for the duration of the Red Cross grant term.

- All public acknowledgement of Red Cross grants must be coordinated with the Red Cross and consistent with the guidelines outlined in the grant agreement

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Prior to starting an application, please complete the Intent to Apply survey, linked [here](#). This information will be used to support our internal planning. Submission is not required to apply for a grant.

To apply, please visit the Red Cross Grants Management System portal for Hurricane Helene for North Carolina and Tennessee: https://webportalapp.com/sp/redcross_grants_24sw

A User Guide for use of the Red Cross Grants Management System will be sent via email to each organization interested in applying.

For ease of access, all Hurricane Helene Long-Term Recovery Grant Program materials are also [available online](#).

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Prior to completing a grant application, all applicants must fill out an organizational profile that also requires the following documents to be uploaded into the system:

- IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination. (If using Fiscal Agent, the IRS letter and all supporting documentation must be that of the Fiscal Agent.)
- IRS W9 Form
- List of the organization's current board and leadership members
- Most recent two (2) years of audited financials (P&L and Balance Sheet) OR most recent two (2) years of 990s
- If awarded, completed ACH Electronic Funds form
- Current organizational fiscal year budget

CONTACT

For questions, technical assistance or language, technical assistance or language support, please contact LTRgrants@redcross.org