

Good Evening,

Beginning on August 11, severe storms over southern Louisiana caused historic flooding that affected tens of thousands of people and disrupted businesses, schools, and the whole community. On August 14, President Barack Obama issued a major disaster declaration that now includes 20 parishes; as of the close of business on August 20, more than \$55 million in federal support has been approved for the State of Louisiana within the first week of the declaration. FEMA has also provided the state with more than 650,000 liters of water, 812,000 meals, 20,000 cots and 42,000 blankets for distribution to survivors. Two

[Disaster Recovery Centers](http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm) opened on Sunday, August 21, in St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes.