



JOHN R. KASICH

GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO

Communication Department

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KASICH ANNOUNCES STATE DISASTER RELIEF FOR SOUTHERN OHIO FAMILIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IMPACT BY LAST WEEK'S TORNADOES AND STORMS

COLUMBUS – Today Governor John R. Kasich announced that Ohio has activated two state-funded disaster relief programs to provide help to families and local governments that were hard-hit by last Friday's tornadoes and severe storms.

Help for Low-Income Families: Eligible low-income families with children, including pregnant women, in Clermont County earning up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level (approximately \$46,000 for a family of four) could receive up to \$1,500. Eligible elderly Ohioans and those with disabilities meeting the income thresholds could receive up to \$750. The funds can be used for immediate essential relief such as home repair, clothing and car repair—short-term needs to help low-income families get back on their feet until other forms of assistance become available.

Residents should contact the Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services to learn more:

Clermont County Department of Jobs and Family Services
2400 Clermont Center Drive
Batavia, Ohio 45103
513-732-8006

In addition, Clermont County food assistance recipients whose food spoiled due to a lengthy power outage can have their food assistance benefits replaced. Individuals who need replacement benefits should contact their Clermont County caseworker.

Help for Local Governments: Kasich also activated the Ohio State Disaster Relief Program (OSDRP) to help communities in Clermont County pay for the extra cost of emergency response and debris removal. The program covers 75 percent of costs for local governments whose disaster response costs exceed 0.5 percent of their annual budget. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency is reaching out to other local governments in Southern Ohio to evaluate the magnitude of their tornado and storm response costs to determine if additional assistance is needed.

On Saturday Kasich inspected the damage in Southern Ohio and declared a State of Emergency in Clermont County, which allowed Ohio Department of Transportation clean-up crews to assist local officials with debris removal. On Monday Kasich called in the Ohio National Guard to assist with clean-up to expedite the recovery, and asked for federal inspectors to determine if families were available for additional federal disaster relief benefits.

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