



North Florida Child Development, Inc.
Annual Report 2018-2019

501 (c) (3) Charitable Nonprofit Corporation

Corporate Office: 141 Hwy 71 South
Wewahitchka, Florida 32465

Annual Operating Budget: \$5.32 Million

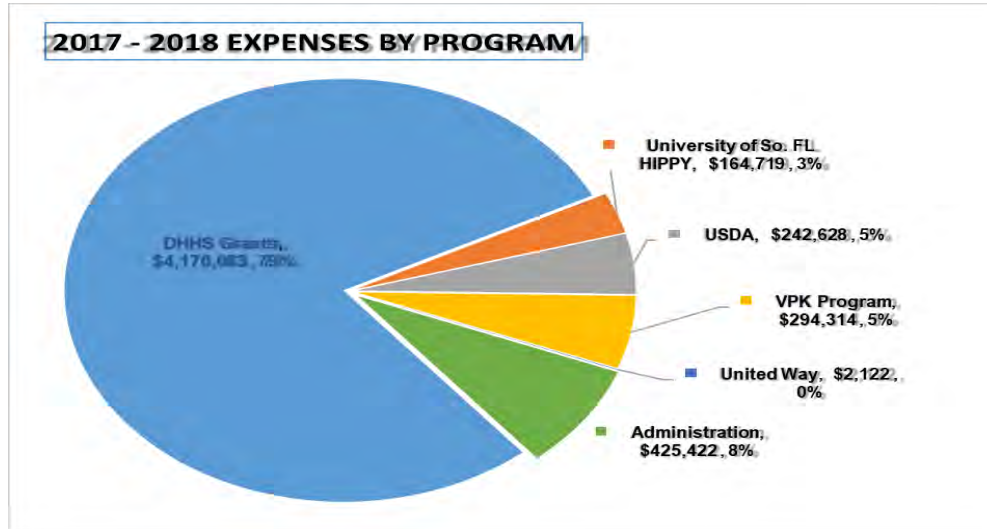
North Florida Child Development provides children with activities and education that help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. The foundation of our process is best practice early childhood education, which includes family engagement and health and nutrition services while working closely with our community partners. North Florida Child Development's mission is. Our core values: Parents are the first and most important teachers of their own children; each family is unique, and a valuable part of the community as a whole; all aspects of individual development are important, including social-emotional, cognitive, and physical growth.

Total infants, toddlers, and expectant mothers serving: 361

Location of NFCD's centers:	<u>FTE Employees</u>	<u>Contractual</u>
Apalachicola, Franklin Co., FL	1	
Blountstown, Calhoun Co., FL	16	
Bristol, Liberty Co., FL	1	
Crawfordville, Wakulla Co, FL	8	2
Greenville, Madison Co., FL	3	
Madison, Madison Co., FL	5	
Port St. Joe, Gulf Co., FL	29	
Wewahitchka, Gulf Co., FL	23	
Corporate Office, Wewahitchka, FL	<u>12</u>	
Total FTE Employees	98	10

Financial Audit: The Independent Auditor’s report for the fiscal year November 1, 2017 through October 31, 2018 issued an unqualified opinion. A full copy of the audit is available on written request.

Program expenses for the year ended October 31, 2018



Preliminary Revenue and Expenses for the current fiscal year are summarized below. In-Kind for the program is acquired primarily from partnerships with local School Districts, Health Departments, independent service providers and volunteers at the centers.

Preliminary Current Year Revenues and Expenses
November 1, 2018 thru October 31, 2019

Revenue

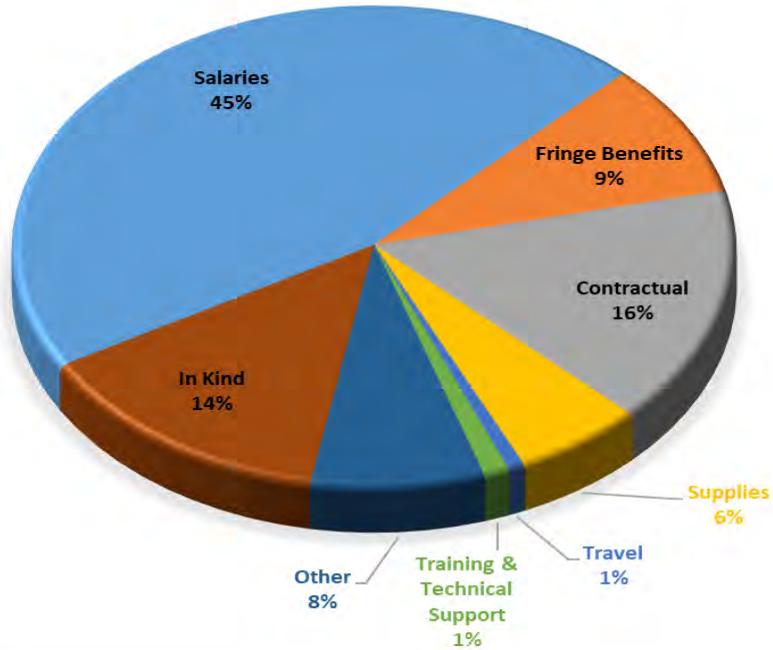
DHHS Head Start/Early Head Start Grant	3,573,581.60
University of South Florida HIPPY	333,415.76
USDA CACFP	274,623.53
VPK / School Readiness Program	245,534.38
Fees for Service	139,406.91
Other Income	44,766.27
United Way	6,506.07
In Kind Match	733,212.07
Total Revenue	5,351,046.59

Expenses

Salaries	2,419,153.83
Fringe Benefits	481,560.71
Contractual	849,316.43
Supplies	306,950.36
Travel	39,482.22
Training & Technical Support	60,439.08
Other	412,821.94
In Kind	733,212.07
Total Expenses	5,302,936.64

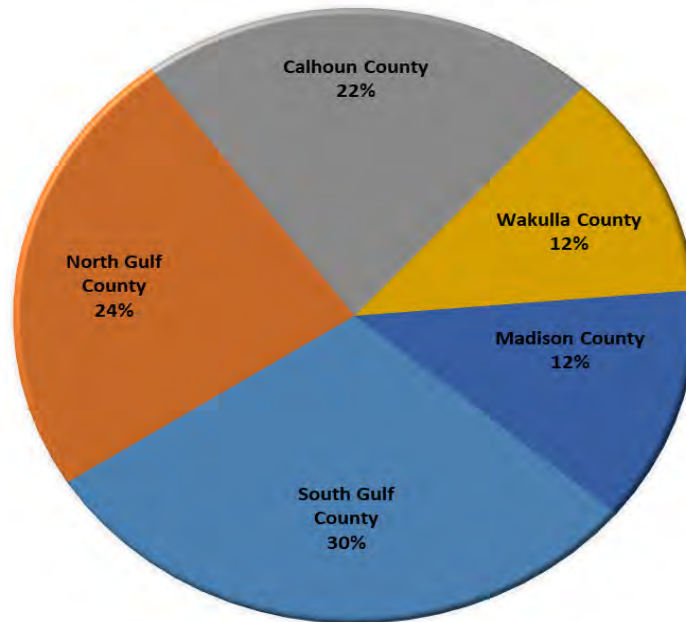
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	48,109.95
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2018 - 2019 EXPENSES BY TYPE



The following table shows NFCD's financial impact in each of the counties served.

2018 - 2019 IMPACT BY COUNTY



Enrollment – CHILDREN SERVED

MONTH	Head Start		Early Head Start	
	ENROLLED	FUNDED	ENROLLED	FUNDED
AUGUST 18	163	180	148	148
SEPTEMBER	163	180	148	148
OCTOBER 18	163	180	148	148
NOVEMBER	163	180	148	148
DECEMBER	163	180	148	148
JANUARY 19	163	180	148	148
FEBRUARY	163	180	148	148
MARCH 19	163	180	147	148
APRIL 19	163	180	148	148
MAY 19	163	180	148	148
JUNE 19	CLOSED	163	148	148
JULY 19	CLOSED	163	140	148

- 163 – is with the reduction of 17 HS children from Liberty County

Attendance –

Pre-School Average Daily Attendance 97.37%
By Funded Enrollment

Infant & Toddler Average Daily Attendance 87.55%
By Funded Enrollment

Family Services - NFCD Family Advocates partner with families to provide or connect families with culturally and linguistically relevant services that are designed to strengthen families and provide a foundation for the child and family's success. NFCD family advocates work with families to develop individualized family partnership plans. These plans incorporate family goals and the support needed to make the goals achievable. NFCD encourages the role of parents as their child's first and most important teacher. Programs build relationships with families that support positive parent-child relationships, family well-being, and connections to peers and community. Parent education and activities are provided per site and at the program level.

In 2018-2019 program year NFCD served:

- 65 two parent families/277 single parent families
- 45 families served experienced homelessness
- 21 foster care children were served
- 12 pregnant moms were served
- 175 parent/guardians were employed

Services provided in 2018-2019:

- 29 families enrolled in job training
- 13 families received prenatal healthcare
- 10 families received TANF-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- 27 families received SSI – Social Security Income
- 129 families received WIC – Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
- 93 families received SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Program, former Food Stamps
- 4 families received parenting education services
- 43 families received Emergency/Crisis services such as immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter
- 16 families received Housing Assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs
- 18 families received Adult Education such and GED programs and college selection
- 1 child received mental health professional services about child’s behavior / mental health

Percentage of Children who are up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care: 95.1%

Percentage of Children with a medical health home: 100%

Percentage of Children who received a preventive dental care: 92.39%
Since last year’s PIR report

Percentage of Children with a dental health home: 100%

Percentage of Children/Pregnant Women with health insurance: 90.74% (Medicaid 94%)

Percentage of Preschool Children with a Healthy Weight 62.5%
(at or above 5th percentile and below 85th percentile – 2000 CDC BMI for child’s age)

Percentage of Preschool Children - Underweight Weight 9.24%
(BMI less than 5th percentile – 2000 CDC BMI for child’s age)

Percentage of Preschool Children – Overweight 10.87%
(BMI at or above 85th percentile and below 95th percentile)

Percentage of Preschool Children – Obese 17.39%
(BMI at or above 95th percentile – 2000 CDC BMI for child’s age)

2018 -2019 Disability Report

Synopsis: This report reflects the number of children enrolled at North Florida Child Development who are considered to have a disability and are receiving services through IDEA. Each table reflects the Early Head Start numbers, the Head Start numbers, the combined numbers, specific disability information and an overall percentage agency wide.

Center	Early Head Start Disabilities	Head Start	Total
Bright Beginnings	4	N/A	4
Liberty	0	5	5
Mayhaw	2	4	6
Greenville	N/A	1	1
Madison	N/A	1	1
North Gulf	8	12	20
South Gulf	0	7	7
Wakulla	N/A	0	0

2018- 2019 Disability Numbers Agency Wide	
Number of EHS Disabilities	14
Number of HS Disabilities	30
Total Number of Disabilities	44

2018 -2019 Specific Disabilities Agency Wide	
Health Impairment	1
Developmental Delay/Non-categorical	8
Orthopedic Impairment	2
Speech/Language Impairment	31
Visual Impairment	2

Conclusion: North Florida Child Development has met and exceeds the ten (10) percent goal of enrolling children who are considered to have a disability and are receiving services through IDEA.

School Readiness –

NFCD contributes to children’s development and learning by clearly identifying School Readiness Goals and the knowledge and skills necessary for children to demonstrate attainment of these goals. NFCD’s School Readiness Goals reflect broad statements that articulate high expectations for the progress children must achieve ready for success in kindergarten and beyond. They focus on how the children’s skills and knowledge will progress.

School Readiness Goals and Outcomes 2018 -2019		
Domain	Goal	Outcome
Approaches to Learning	85%	85%
Social and Emotional Development	85%	85%
Language and Literacy	85%	78%
Cognition	85%	78%
Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development	85%	87%

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

2018 - 2019

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System is an observation instrument developed to assess classroom quality in the preschool classrooms. All 22 teachers were assessed using the CLASS. Classroom quality is measured in three areas: emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support. Children's social and emotional skills in the classroom recognized as an indicator of the school readiness. Classroom organization relates to the organization and management of student's behavior, time, and attention in the classroom. Instructional Support focuses on the children's cognitive and language development. The North Florida Child Development Preschool (Head Start) teacher's composite scores are as follow: **Emotional Support 6.7, Classroom Organization 6.3, and Instructional Support 4.1**. These scores are above the threshold scores for re-competition. NFCD has three certified CLASS observers. NFCD partnered with the Big Bend Early Learning Coalition to facilitate a Pre and Post CLASS observation for all Preschool classrooms.

2018 – 2019 Board of Directors

Name	Position
Sara Joe Wooten	Chair
Martha Weimorts	Secretary/Treasurer
Jera Horton	Vice-Chair
Shelby Scheffer	Member
Debbie Williams	Member
Laura Kelley	Member
Tiffany Johnson Cole, Esq	Attorney
Doug Brown	Member
Pam Bozeman	Member

2018 – 2019 Policy Council

Policy Council Members	
Calhoun Parent Rep – EHS	LaTosha Klotz
Calhoun HS Parent Rep.	Tabitha Dawson
Liberty Parent Rep – HS	Laura Ford
Madison HS Parent Rep.	Javonyah Battle
Greenville HS Parent Rep.	Tiffany Riggins
North Gulf Center - Parent -EHS	Anne Wakefield
North Gulf Center – Parent –HS -	Brittney Nunnery
South Gulf Center Parent HS - CHAIR	Shelby Scheffer
South Gulf Center Parent EHS	Brandi White
Wakulla HS Parent Rep.	Melissa Higgins
Wakulla Parent Rep. – EHS	Erica Bruton
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES	
Calhoun Community Rep	Heather King
Madison Community Rep.	Bridgett Livingston
Wakulla Community Rep.	Tonya Hobby
North Gulf Co. Community Rep.	Domino Demuck
South Gulf Co. Community Rep.	Nancy Brockman

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT Update 2020

North Florida Child Development (NFCDD) serves 311 infants, toddlers, preschool-aged children, and pregnant women in Calhoun, Gulf, Liberty, Madison, and Wakulla Counties, Florida. The program offers Head Start, Early Head Start, VPK, School Readiness, and fees-for-services in seven separate locations, providing direct services in a center-based option. During the 2018-19 program year, NFCDD served a cumulative total of 380 children and pregnant women.

Table 1: NFCDD Centers -2019-2020

Center Name	Address	City	State	Zip	HS	EHS
North Florida Child Development Central Office	141 South Hwy 71	Wewahitchka	FL	32465	N/A (Central Office)	
NFCDD – Madison County	2093 W US 90	Madison	FL	32340	37	0
NFCDD – Greenville Center	729 SW Overstreet Ave	Greenville	FL	32331	20	0
Wakulla County Head Start	87 Andrew Hargett Rd	Crawfordville	FL	32327	20	0
Bright Beginnings Preschool and Day Care	360 Shadeville Rd	Crawfordville	FL	32327	0	24
South Gulf County Early Child Learning Center	176 Field of Dreams Ave	Port St Joe	FL	32456	31	44
North Gulf County Early Child Development Center	130 E River Rd	Wewahitchka	FL	32465	35	40
NFCDD - Mayhaw Center	21090 Tupelo Avenue	Blountstown	FL	32424	20	40
TOTAL					163	148

This Community Assessment is a tool to make program decisions, to determine the types of services most needed by families and children, to locate resources available to meet those needs, and to establish long- and short-term program objectives. NFCD's leadership staff studies the most significant changes in the communities and county on a regular basis. However, the Community Assessment is the formal and far-reaching process performed every three years and updated annually. This is the second annual update to the original 2018 Community Assessment. During this time, from the original Community Needs Assessment to the present, NFCD has faced many hard challenges.

- March 2020 – COVID-19 pandemic – all centers and all programs were closed from March 16th through the summer months.
- 2019 – NFCD’s called this year our year of recovery.
- October 2018 – Hurricane Michael – Category 5 – hit the Florida Panhandle, causing major devastation (refer to page 6).
- July 2018 - Liberty Early Learning Center closed, but these Liberty children are being served in Calhoun County. The Liberty Center served children 0-5 years and include NFCD’s partnership for 16 Early Head Start participants and 20 Head Start participants.

COVID-19 Effects on North Florida Child Development, Inc.

NFCD understands that COVID-19 and the resulting economic shutdown has affected communities nationwide; especially the rural counties that we serve. The impacts on children and families are far reaching into health, employment, education, and social services. Data on the health impacts are at the forefront of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC and U.S. Census Bureau are working to provide data such as health care, employment, and preventative care for children. Unemployment rates have drastically changed with the stay-at-home orders. Educational impacts of school closures is still being evaluated. NFCD understands that the transition to virtual (remote) learning will have an educational impact on our children. In some of our more remote locations, limited access to technology has become a barrier for our families.

The tables below shows “*Measured Household Experiences*” during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. The U.S. Census Bureau, along with five federal agencies, is collecting data on the social and economic effects on American households by using Household Pulse Survey. What is the Household Pulse Survey? This survey is designed to quickly and efficiently collect data to measure household experiences in near real-time. This survey inquired about employment status, spending patterns, food security, housing, physical and mental health, access to health care, and educational disruption. The tables listed below show data collected between July 11-16, 2020.

Table 2 -- Time Spent in Week 7 (of the Pandemic) on Home-Based Education

	Nationwide	FL
Total Children Enrolled in Public/Private School	61,173,187	4,071,560
Average household hours spent in last 7 days teaching on all teaching activities with children.	7.5	10.1
Average household hours spent in last 7 days on all virtual contact between students and their teachers	3.1	4.5
Average household hours spent in the last 7 days by children on learning activities on their own.	7.3	8.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Public Survey, Week 7

Total Population 18 years and older in households with Children in Public or Private Schools

Table 3 - Impact of Pandemic on Children's Education*

	Nationwide		FL	
Classes were moved to a distance learning				
Using online resources	44,080,493	10,833,523	2,869,098	558,106
Using paper materials				
Where classes were cancelled	23,057,614		1,093,927	
Where classes changed in another way	1,918,747		132,755	
Where no change to classes because schools did not close	352,719		1,714	

Totals may not sum to 100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Public Survey, Week 6

Total Population 18 years and older in households with Children in Public or Private Schools

Table 4 - Availability of Computers for Education Purposes during Pandemic

	Nationwide	FL
Total	61,173,187	4,071,560
Device always available for educational purposes	40,031,363	2,546,588
Device usually available	11,667,545	801,754
Device sometimes available	5,809,472	515,600
Device rarely available	1,967,394	64,007
Device never available	961,677	94,904
Did not report	735,737	48,708
Availability of Internet for Educational Purposes		
Internet always available for educational purposes	41,907,634	2,705,267
Internet usually available	11,746,264	793,375
Internet sometimes available	4,438,058	460,959
Internet rarely available	1,083,374	33,569
Internet never available	906,953	477
Did not report	1,090,905	77,913
Computers Provided By...		
Total	61,173,187	4,071,560
Children's school or school district	23,852,051	1,308,219
Someone in household or family or belongs to child	43,117,659	2,684,037
Some other source	1,545,140	90,637
Did not report	2,236,633	191,460
Internet Provided By....		
Paid by school district	1,228,846	148,510
Paid by someone in household or family or belongs to child	53,857,841	3,477,705
Paid by some other source	1,273,224	244,044
Did not report	5,611,277	330,726

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Public Survey, Week 6

Total Population 18 years and older in households with Children in Public or Private Schools

The rapid spread of the COVID-19 is exposing critical shortcomings in the U.S. economy and in our health care and education systems. ALICE families are particularly vulnerable to hardship from both the COVID-19 and the economic disruption. ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living. ALICE workers play essential roles in state and national economies; these are the workers at gas stations and grocery stores.

United Way of Florida released “ALICE in Florida: A Financial Hardship Study – 2020 Florida Report” that shows 55% of Florida’s panhandle households are in poverty; this is 1 in 2 households are income insecure or living in poverty. ALICE in Calhoun County – households in poverty: 16% (state average: 13%) and ALICE households: 46% (state average: 33%). ALICE in Gulf County - households in poverty: 13% (state average: 13%) and ALICE households: 44% (state average: 33%). ALICE in Liberty County - households in poverty: 16% (state average: 13%) and ALICE households: 51% (state average: 33%). ALICE in Madison County - households in poverty: 27% (state average: 13%) and ALICE households: 32% (state average: 33%). ALICE in Wakulla County - households in poverty: 11% (state average: 13%) and ALICE households: 27% (state average: 33%).

Hurricane Michael – Effects on NFCD

On October 10th, Hurricane Michael – Category 5 – ripped through the Florida Panhandle, leaving behind horrific devastation. Hurricane Michael was among the strongest to strike the U.S., and it hit in the poorest part of the state. Each of NFCD's five counties was affected, with Gulf and Calhoun County being directly and the heaviest impacted. The wind caused extensive structural damage from the Florida Panhandle, east to the Big Bend area, southeast Georgia and southeast Alabama. This wind action caused widespread power outages across a large portion of the affected area. The top section of this picture shows NFCD's service area before Hurricane Michael; the second shows the damage as seen from a satellite that was affected (brown coloring). Nearly 100% of customers across a large portion of the Florida Panhandle lost power, with some of these outages lasting several weeks. Schools and child care centers were closed for weeks and/or months. Table 5 below shows the days/hours that NFCD centers were affected.

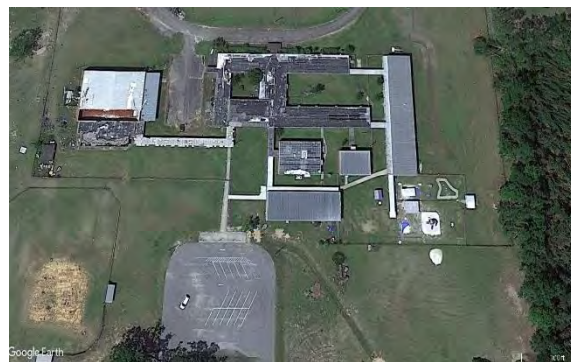


County	Center	Center Closed	Head Start Days Missed	EHS Hours Missed
Calhoun / Liberty	Mayhaw Center	October 9 – Nov 1	17 days	110.50 hrs
Gulf	North Gulf Center	October 9 – 25	12 days	78.0 hrs
	South Gulf Center	October 9 – 22	9 days	58.5 hrs
Madison	Greenville Center	October 9 – 12	4 days	--
	Madison Center	October 9 - 12	4 days	--
Wakulla	Bright Beginnings	October 9 – 12	--	26.0 hrs
	Wakulla Educ Center	October 9 – 12	4 days	--

Table 6 is a summary of NFCD’s students and employees’ families that are continuing to suffer, 6 months after Hurricane Michael, and the percentage that is still in need.

	Gulf		Calhoun
	North Gulf	South Gulf	Mayhaw Center
Food - % includes the needs for food/supplies	80%	50%	75%
Clothing	80%	43%	35%
Housing	25%	80%	35%
Transportation	20%	20%	25%
FEMA	75% applied, all were denied	75% applied, all were denied	95% applied, most were denied, 2 families are living in FEMA trailers

NFCD’s Central Office, which was located at 200 North 2nd Street, suffered catastrophic damage to its roof and was forced to move to a smaller temporary location at 141 South Hwy 71 in Wewahitchka. The Central Office building was leased from Gulf County at \$1.00 a year; however, NFCD had no insurance funds or capital building funds to replace the Central Office Building at the 200 North 2nd Street location. Some of the Specialists located at the Central Office are now being housed at the Centers. The interior structure of the Mayhaw Center received minimal damage compared to the exterior structure, which received catastrophic damage. NFCD utilized insurance funds at the Mayhaw Center to repair/replace exterior roofing, playground, protective overhead walkway canopies, gutter and downspout, aluminum fascia, pressure washings of walls, classroom window-walls, chain-link fencing, A/C condensing units, large/small debris removal and demolition to the non-attached gymnasium utilized for inclement weather activities. Below is the before and after photos of the Mayhaw Center, serving Calhoun and Liberty Counties.



Housing

FEMA Fact Sheet: Recovery at a Glance for Gulf County-

Reported as of October 16, 2019, that Gulf County residents have received more than \$174.3 million in total funds. This includes 1,834 homeowners and renters that received for more than \$11.4 million in federal grants through FEMA’s individuals and households program; 946 flood insurance claims were filed with an estimated \$78.2 million in claims have that been paid, and nearly \$51.1 million in U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans have been approved for 758 homeowners and renters and 100 businesses. More than 1.7 million cubic yards of debris have been removed in Gulf County. FEMA has provided more than \$33.6 million to the state to help local governments and private non-profits in Gulf County with Hurricane Michael-related expenses.

FEMA's Housing Assistance in Gulf County included:

- More than \$6.7 million were approved for basic housing repairs for 959 homeowners.
- 962 homeowners were approved for basic housing repairs.
- 4,377 home inspections have been 100% completed.
- 787 survivors have not provided FEMA with the necessary information from their insurance settlements to complete their disaster assistance registration.
- Disaster Survivor Assistance outreach more than 5,400 survivors were connected with resources and recovery partners for needs beyond what FEMA can provide.
- 1,204 homeowners and renters were approved for rental assistance.
- Gulf County was approved for FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Assistance. 35 Households are licensed into temporary housing units, and 26 households have successfully moved on to a permanent housing solution.
- From October to November 2018, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers installed 704 blue roofs in Gulf County for families to live in their homes while making permanent repairs.
- From October 2018 to April 2019, 55 displaced households received hotel stays through the Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program.
- 238 homeowners have a verified loss of over \$25,000.
- 123 homes were totally destroyed.
- 551 households with members under the age of 18 were affected.
- *Samaritan's Purse* is an evangelical Christian humanitarian aid organization that provides aid to people in physical need. Their "*Hurricane Michael Rebuild Program*" has completed one manufactured home replacement in Gulf County.
- During the cleanup phase, *Samaritan's Purse* completed 948 work requests in Gulf and Calhoun Counties.

FEMA Fact Sheet: Recovery at a Glance for Liberty County-

Reported as of October 16, 2019, Liberty County residents have received more than \$6.7 million in total federal funds. This includes 397 homeowners and renters that were approved for more than \$1.2 million in federal grants through FEMA's Individuals and Household's Programs. Nearly 5.2 million in U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans have been approved for 157 homeowners and renters and 9 businesses. Almost 456,000 cubic yards of debris was removed in Liberty County.

FEMA's Housing Assistance in Liberty County included:

- 230 homeowners have been approved for basic housing repairs.
- 169 homeowners and renters have been approved for rental assistance.
- From October to November 2018, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers installed 56 blue roofs in Liberty County for families to live in their homes while making permanent repairs.
- 248 survivors did not provide FEMA with the necessary information from their insurance settlements to complete their disaster assistance registration.

FEMA Fact Sheet – Recovery at a Glance – Calhoun County-

Reported as of October 16, 2019, Calhoun County residents have received more than \$36.7 million in total federal funds. This includes 1,731 individuals and households that have been approved for nearly \$9.2 million in federal grants through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program and almost \$24.6 million in U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans have been approved for 538 homeowners and renters and 33 businesses. More than 1.9 million cubic yards of debris have been removed in Calhoun County.

FEMA’s Housing Assistance in Calhoun County included:

- 782 survivors did not provided FEMA with the necessary information from their insurance settlements to complete their disaster assistance registration.
- 1,006 homeowners and renters have been approved for rental assistance.
- From October to November 2018, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers installed 481 blue roofs in Calhoun County, representing 481 families who can live in their homes while they make permanent repairs.
- 1,068 homeowners have been approved for basic housing repairs.
- Calhoun County was approved for FEMA Direct Temporary housing assistance. 37 households are licensed to temporary housing units, and 10 households have successfully moved to a permanent housing solution.
- “Samaritan’s Purse” funded a “Long Term Recovery Group” grant for two new stick built home and one manufactured home.

FEMA Fact Sheet: Recovery at a Glance for Wakulla County-

Reported as of October 18, 2019, Wakulla County residents have received more than \$14.3 million in federal funds. This includes 344 homeowners and renters have been approved for more than \$1.4 million in federal grants through FEMA’s individuals and households program. More than 233 flood insurance claims have been filed. An estimated \$8.2 million in claims have been paid. More than \$4.4 million in U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans have been approved for 91 homeowners and renters and 9 businesses. More than 38,000 cubic yards of debris was removed in Wakulla County.

FEMA’s Housing Assistance in Wakulla County include:

- 112 survivors did not provided FEMA with the necessary information from their insurance settlements to complete their disaster assistance registration.
- 175 homeowners and renters are approved for rental assistance.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has installed 6 blue roofs in Wakulla County, representing 6 families who can live in their homes while they make permanent repairs.
- 344 homeowners and renters have been approved for more than \$1.4 million in federal grants through FEMA’s Individuals and Households Programs.
- 182 homeowners have been approved for basic housing repairs.

FEMA Fact Sheet: Recovery at a Glance for Madison County- This County was the least affected within NFCD’s service area and does not have a FEMA Fact Sheet for Hurricane Michael.

Unemployment Rates – Hurricane Michael

FRED (Florida Research and Economic Development) indicated that Gulf County for December 2019 had an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent. As reported by CareerSource Gulf Coast in December 2018, the unemployment rate in their coverage area (Bay, Franklin, and Gulf Counties) was 6.2 percent in November. This rate is 2.5 percent higher than the region's year-ago rate of 3.7 percent. This is the highest employment rate for the state of Florida. This rate is directly related to the amount of employment lost after Hurricane Michael. The University of West Florida – Haas Center reported in May that 17,171 jobs had been lost since Hurricane Michael.

Conclusion – Hurricane Michael

Life is still difficult for families affected by the Hurricane. Many students and teachers have left the area. NFCD's centers have a critical need for certified teaching staff. It is being noticed by the communities that children are struggling with anxiety and emotional turmoil of the disaster. Mental health services are starting to reach NFCD's service areas. These programs will assist teachers in self-care and how to identify, normalize, and cope with trauma.

NFCD has worked with the University of South Florida to provide "After the Storm" training on various mental health issues that can be brought on by natural disasters. We have partnered with American Red Cross to offer mental health first aid for our staff and families and "Project HOPE," which is a FEMA program that offers Crisis Counseling through Life Management Center.