



Provided as an information resource only.

For official updates, please refer to: <https://hcfl.gov/residents/stay-safe/storm-recovery-resources/hurricane-milton-recovery-resources>

This is not an official Hillsborough County document and is for informational purposes only.

The following guide has been taken directly from Hillsborough County Website:

<https://hcfl.gov/residents/stay-safe/storm-recovery-resources/hurricane-milton-recovery-resources>

Please reference the website for official updates.

Hurricane Milton Recovery Resources

Hillsborough County Website:

hcfl.gov/residents/stay-safe/storm-recovery-resources/hurricane-milton-recovery-resources

1. [Damage Reporting - Hurricane Milton Recovery](#)
2. [Immediate Needs - Hurricane Milton Recovery](#)
3. [Cleanup Resources - Hurricane Milton Recovery](#)
4. [Partner Resources - Hurricane Milton Recovery](#)
5. [Volunteer and Donation Opportunities](#)

Recovery resources for residents affected by Hurricane Milton

1. Damage Reporting - Hurricane Milton Recovery

Reporting helps County officials connect residents with local recovery resources

A. Damage Reporting Form

The Hurricane Damage Reporting Form is designed to help Hillsborough County officials connect residents with local recovery resources.



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Homeowners and owners/renters of agricultural properties, nonprofits, and houses of worship should complete this form, which will help County staff communicate resident needs to local partners, such as American Red Cross, Feeding Tampa Bay, Metropolitan Ministries, Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, and more.

[HCFL.gov/DamageAssessment](https://hcfl.gov/DamageAssessment)

Residents who need assistance in completing the form should call **(833) HC-STORM** or **833-427-8676**, the County's Storm Information and Helpline.

This County assessment form IS NOT a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) application. To register with FEMA, visit DisasterAssistance.gov.

Please keep in mind that completing this form DOES NOT replace a business or homeowner's insurance claim, nor does it serve as an application for resources.

B. Required Electrical Inspections for Residents Who Experienced Flooding

Residents in unincorporated Hillsborough County that experienced flooding in their home due to Hurricane Milton should ensure their power remains off until a licensed electrician has inspected their electrical system for safety.

Here are the steps residents should take:

1. Have a licensed electrical contractor inspect the home's electrical system.
2. If there is no damage found or repairs are minor and do not require a permit, Tampa Electric customers located in unincorporated Hillsborough County are required to have the licensed electrician complete the [Tampa Electric Company Service Release Agreement Residential/Commercial \(Form E-268\)](#).
3. Once completed, residents should submit the form to TECO's One Source team at: Release@tecoenergy.com.
4. If there is damage that requires a permit, an electrician will need to make necessary repairs and call for required inspections from Hillsborough County Building Officials before power can be restored. See the information on this page about emergency



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permitting for residential and commercial structures through Hillsborough County Development Services.

Before hiring a professional, make sure the individual holds a valid contractor license and is insured to work in Hillsborough County. Residents can visit the County's [Selecting a Contractor in Hillsborough County](#) page for information.

Residents located in the cities of Tampa, Plant City or Temple Terrace who may have been impacted by flood waters due to Hurricane Milton, should contact their local government for any special instructions.

2. Immediate Needs - Hurricane Milton Recovery

Temporary housing, PODs, comfort stations, shelter and other essential resources

A. Hillsborough County PODS

Hillsborough County, in conjunction with the National Guard, has opened three points of distribution (POD) throughout the county to help residents affected by Hurricane Milton.

PODs are drive through relief areas where residents can pick up water, tarps for protecting homes, and meals. The PODs allow residents to obtain these items without having to leave their vehicles.

The sites will be open 7 AM to 7 PM, for the foreseeable future. All pod sites will close between noon and 1 PM daily for a shift change and reset.

- [Elev8 Fun, Citrus Park Mall](#), 7902 Citrus Park Town Center Mall, Tampa, FL 33625
- [HCC Brandon](#), 10451 Nancy Watkins Dr., Tampa, FL 33619
- [Gibson Walmart](#), 9205 Gibsonton Dr., Gibsonton, FL 33534
- [431 19th Avenue NE, Ruskin](#), FL 33570 (Former Kmart parking lot)

No IDs will be required at the PODs.



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B. Comfort Stations

Comfort stations offer showers, restrooms, and washers and dryers for laundry. Hot food or boxed meals will be available at lunch and dinner times.

Sites are open daily from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. until further notice.

The comfort stations are located at:

Progress Village Senior Center, 8701 Progress Blvd., Tampa, FL 33619

Skyway Sports Complex & Park, 3901 George Rd., Tampa, FL 33634

Hillsborough Avenue and Hanley Road in Town N Country, 7501 W. Hillsborough Ave., Tampa, FL, 33615

C. Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC)

The Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC) is open to assist individuals impacted by Hurricanes Milton, Helene, and Debby. The additional MARC is also expected to be staffed with personnel from federal, state, regional partners, and non-profit agencies to ensure residents have access to all available resources following the storm events.

MARCs are located:

Town 'N Country Regional Public Library, 7606 Paula Dr #120, Tampa, FL 33615

9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., through Friday, Oct. 18.

Florida Strawberry Festival TECO Expo Hall, 2301 W. Oak Ave., Plant City, FL 33563

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., seven days a week until further notice.

D. Federal Emergency Management Agency

Residents impacted by Hurricane Milton can now apply for aid through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Programs available are:



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- [Individual Assistance](#) - Assistance to individuals and households (Deadline to apply is Dec. 11, 2024)
- [Public Assistance](#) - Assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities (Categories A&B)
- [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#) - Assistance for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards

The programs provide financial and direct services to eligible individuals and households affected by Hurricane Milton. The assistance is intended to meet basic needs, supplement disaster recovery efforts, emergency work assistance, replacement of disaster-damaged facilities, and mitigation assistance. Residents who need long-term housing are encouraged to apply for individual assistance with FEMA as soon as possible.

Hillsborough County residents who were impacted by Hurricane Milton can apply for FEMA assistance if they have uninsured or underinsured necessary expenses and serious needs, according to FEMA. However, FEMA assistance is not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by a disaster.

To apply for FEMA assistance:

- Visit Disasterassistance.gov. From this page you can review the application process, apply for Individual Assistance, and check the status of your application.
- **Disaster Survivor Checklist:**
 - [English](#)
 - [Spanish](#)

For application help:

- Call the FEMA Helpline, (800) 621-3362, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.
- For technical support or site errors, call the Internet Help Desk, (800) 745-0243, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week.

[Read the FEMA resources fact sheet](#)



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E. Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)

The Disaster Recovery Center is open to individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits seeking assistance or needing help in completing applications after being impacted by Hurricanes Milton, Helene, and Debby. FEMA representatives will be in attendance to assist.

DRC is located:

Barksdale Center, 1801 N. Lincoln Ave., Tampa, FL 33607

Tuesday, Oct. 15, from 1 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., then daily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. through Tuesday, Oct. 22.

F. Cities Resources

City of Tampa Resources

Points of distribution sites (PODS), are open now to provide Tampa residents with water, ice, meals & supplies.

[Find details and locations.](#)

Temple Terrace Resources

A comfort center and point of distribution site (POD) is now open for Temple Terrace residents.

[Find details and locations.](#)

Plant City Resources

[Find post-storm information for Plant City residents.](#)

G. Temporary Shelters Allowed on Residential Property for Those Affected by Hurricane Milton



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Hillsborough County residents who have been displaced due to Hurricane Milton are allowed to place temporary shelter on their residential property. According to Florida Statutes 553.7922, temporary shelters can remain on the property for up to three years after the date of the storm's emergency declaration or until a certificate of occupancy is issued on the permanent residential structure on the property. A state of emergency was declared on Oct. 6, 2024. Temporary shelters include a recreational vehicle, trailer, or similar structure.

H. Hotel Stays

Income eligible residents of Unincorporated Hillsborough County, Plant City and Temple Terrace, who have been displaced due to Hurricane Milton may be eligible to receive temporary hotel assistance. For further details and eligibility requirements, please call **(813) 675-3450**.

I. State-Run Shelters

Florida Division of Emergency Management has an open general and special needs shelter in Hillsborough.

- General population shelter: [Seminole Hard Rock, 5223 Orient Rd., Tampa, FL 33610](#)
 - The State-run special needs shelter: [18776 SR 54 E, Lutz, FL 33558](#)
-

J. Walmart Locations Offering Essential Supplies

[For more details and locations](#)

K. Feeding Tampa Bay Relief Efforts

[Find emergency distribution details and locations.](#)



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L. Flooded Areas with Well Water and Septic Systems

Hillsborough County residents who utilize wells and are in doubt about their water supply should follow local or state health department drinking and bathing advisories.

Further, septic drain fields will not work until underground water has receded, so septic systems should not be used immediately after floods. Septic lines may have been broken during flooding or other storms. Contact a local plumber or septic service immediately.

For information on long-term water quality conditions in the area or information on home water treatment devices, contact the Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County at **(850) 245-4250** or email at AskEH@flhealth.gov. Residents can also reach out to the Water Quality Association (WQA) at **(630) 505-0160** for assistance. Learn about [comprehensive best practices regarding safe use of wells after flooding](#).

3. Cleanup Resources - Hurricane Milton Recovery

Debris cleanup options for residents affected by Hurricane Milton


Debris Pickup Post Hurricane Milton:

Yard Waste resulting from Hurricane Milton can be hauled to a [Yard Waste Collection Center](#) or placed at the curb. All yard waste that can be placed at the curb to meet [normal yard waste collection requirements](#) will be collected more quickly than larger tree debris that requires support from contracted debris haulers.

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Post-Disaster Pick Up

Separating Your Debris



Debris should be placed curbside without blocking the roadway or storm drains. Separate into the categories shown below.

Bagged waste and household hazardous waste, such as paint and car batteries, will not be accepted.

| Yard Waste | Furniture and Construction Debris | Large Appliances |
|--|---|--|
|  <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Leaves • Tree Branches Logs • Plants</p> |  <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Furniture • Mattresses Drywall • Building Materials Carpet • Wood Fencing</p> |  <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Washers • Dryers • Stoves Refrigerators • Dishwashers Freezers • Water Heaters</p> |

Hillsborough County | Florida
[HCFL.gov/StaySafe](https://hcfl.gov/StaySafe)

A. Storm Debris Cleanup

Hillsborough County will be collecting storm debris from County neighborhoods impacted by Hurricane Milton. Residents in the County's collection areas impacted by flooding and wind should place debris curbside without blocking the roadway or storm drains. To ensure smooth collection, materials should be separated into three



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categories: yard waste, damaged household appliances, and construction and demolition debris to include furniture, drywall, carpet and fencing.

Bagged waste and household hazardous waste, such as paint or car batteries, will not be accepted as part of this storm-related pickup.

Residents must present a photo ID showing the residential address of the property owner and a printed or digital copy of their current property tax bill. Commercial businesses will resume paying normal fees to utilize Solid Waste facilities.

B. Two Facilities Open 24/7

The following Solid Waste facilities will be open 24/7 until further notice:

[Hillsborough Heights Solid Waste Facility](#) - 6209 County Road 579, Seffner, FL 33584
(temporary entrance on Taylor Road)

This site accepts:

- Residential yard waste and wood disposal
- Storm-related yard debris and construction and demolition debris, such as furniture, drywall, carpet, and fencing.

The location also accepts:

- Furniture
- Appliances (empty)
- Tires
- Batteries, electronics, and paint

[Resource Recovery Facility](#) - 350 N. Falkenburg Road, Tampa, FL 33619

The Resource Recovery Facility **does NOT accept household hazardous waste** (paint, chemicals, etc.) or regular household garbage.

This site accepts:

- Residential yard waste and wood disposal
- Storm-related yard debris and construction and demolition debris, such as furniture, drywall, carpet, and fencing.

The location also accepts:

- Furniture
- Appliances (empty)
- Tires

[Find information on discarding household hazardous waste.](#)



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C. Four Facilities Open from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

[Northwest County Solid Waste Facility](#) - 8001 W. Linebaugh Ave., Tampa, FL 33625

[South County Solid Waste Facility](#) - 13000 U.S. 41, Gibsonton, FL 33534

These sites accept:

- Residential yard waste and wood disposal
- Storm-related yard debris and construction and demolition debris, such as furniture, drywall, carpet, and fencing.

The locations also accept:

- Furniture and Mattresses
- Appliances (empty)
- Tires
- Batteries, electronics, and paint

[Alderman's Ford Solid Waste Facility](#), 9402 County Road 39, Plant City, FL 33567

[Wimauma Solid Waste Facility](#), 16180 W. Lake Dr., Wimauma, FL 33598

These sites accept:

- Storm-related yard debris and construction and demolition debris, such as furniture, drywall, carpet, and fencing.

The locations also accept:

- Furniture
- Appliances (empty)
- Tires
- Batteries, electronics, and paint

NOTE: Alderman and Wimauma do NOT accept yard waste and wood disposal.

D. Crisis Cleanup – Hurricanes Helene and Milton Cleanup Assistance

If you need help cleaning up damage from Hurricanes Helene and/or Milton, call (844) 965-1386 for cleanup assistance. Crisis Cleanup will connect you with volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups, and faith communities who may be able to assist.

All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to the overwhelming need. **This hotline will remain open through Friday, Oct. 25, 2024.**



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4. Partner Resources - Hurricane Milton Recovery

Storm recovery resources from federal, state, local and other providers

Additional Partner Resources

State and Federal Resources

2-1-1

Call 2-1-1 for essential services

Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program

- The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has launched the Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Natural Disaster Recovery Loan Program offering low-interest or interest-free loans to agricultural and aquaculture producers who have experienced damage.
- Applications are now being accepted.
- **Website:** Check your application at the [FDACS loan program page](#).
- **Phone:** (850) 617-7200

Disaster Legal Hotline

Disaster Legal Hotline: 833-514-2940

Florida Division of Emergency Management Official Updates

Florida Division of Emergency Management Updates

- floridadisaster.org/disaster-updates/storm-updates/

Florida Price Gouging Hotline

- Florida law prohibits excessive increases in the price of essential commodities during a storm-related declared state of emergency. This includes equipment, food, gasoline, hotel rooms, ice, lumber and water needed as a direct result of the event.



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- Report report suspected price gouging to the Florida Attorney General's Office by visiting the website or calling the phone number below
- **Website:** [MyFloridaLegal.com](https://myfloridalegal.com)
- **Phone:** (866) 966-7226 -Toll free

Florida SBDC at Hillsborough County

- Florida SBDC at Hillsborough County disaster recovery specialists are available to provide confidential, no-cost consulting to help affected businesses prepare disaster loan applications and with other post-disaster challenges. Florida SBDC disaster specialists work alongside SBA business loan specialists to provide information about available resources and assist businesses in completing state and federal disaster loan applications. The Florida SBDC at Hillsborough County can be reached weekdays from 8 AM to 5 PM.
- **Website:** [Florida SBDC at Hillsborough County](https://www.floridasbdc.com/hillsborough-county)
- **Phone:** (813) 277-1393

Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program

- The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan program provides short-term, zero-interest working capital loans intended to “bridge the gap” between the time disaster strikes and when a business has secured longer-term recovery funding, such as loans, insurance claims, or other resources
- Short-term, personal loans are offered using State of Florida funds – they are not grants and must be repaid
- Loans are available for up to \$50,000 per eligible applicant
- **Website:** Apply at [Florida Commerce](https://www.floridacommerce.com)
- **Phone:** (833) 832-4494 -Toll free
- **Email:** EmergencyBridgeLoan@commerce.fl.gov.

Hope Florida



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Hope Florida connects the private sector, nonprofits, and government entities to help Floridians after a disaster. The Activate Hope initiative connects Floridians with outside resources that provide food, household goods, home repairs, and more.

- **Website:** Apply at [Hope Florida](#)
- **More information:** [Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity](#) (PDF)
- **Phone:** (833) GET HOPE (438-4673) - Toll free

Operation Blue Roof

Operation Blue Roof is a free service for homeowners and permanently occupied rental properties that provides protection to storm-damaged roofs until homeowners can make the permanent repairs.

Visit blueroof.gov, or call 888-ROOF-BLU (888-766-3258).

State Assistance Information Line (SAIL)

- SAIL is a toll-free hotline activated during an emergency to provide an additional resource for those in Florida to receive accurate and up-to-date information. Information provided by SAIL hotline operators includes how to prepare before, during, and after a hurricane
- **Website:** [The State Assistance Information Line \(SAIL\)](#)
- **Phone:** (800) 342-3557 - Toll free

Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) - FEMA

Temporary lodging for hurricane survivors

- <https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/transitional-sheltering-assistance-1>

Unemployment Assistance

Disaster Unemployment Assistance is available to businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a direct result of Hurricane Helene and are not eligible for regular state or federal Reemployment Assistance benefits.



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[FloridaJobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org)

Hillsborough County Local Partner Resources

American Red Cross

- After a disaster, the American Red Cross works with community partners to meet the urgent needs of people impacted. They focus on providing safe shelter, food, and emergency relief supplies like water, clean-up kits, tarps, shovels, and rakes. To find aid, visit [redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org), download the free Red Cross Emergency app to search for shelters, or call 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).
- **Website:** [American Red Cross](https://www.redcross.org)
- **Phone:** (800) 733-2767 - Toll free

Bay Area Legal Services

- This nonprofit legal aid organization provides services to residents in the Tampa Bay area. Services provided include free civil legal aid programs to disaster survivors with related issues. The hotline is available 24 hours a day.
- **Website:** [Bay Area Legal Services](https://www.bayarealegalservices.org)
- **Phone:** (833) 514-2940 - Toll free

City of Plant City Hurricane Milton Information

[Information and resources for Plant City residents](#)

City of Tampa Hurricane Milton Information

[City of Tampa post hurricane information](#)

City of Temple Terrace Hurricane Milton Information

[Temple Terrace information and resources](#)

Crisis Center of Tampa Bay

- The Crisis Center offers many services to individuals and families. Residents can call 211, the 24/7 hotline number, or search 211atyourfingertips.org to generate a zip code search for resources.



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- **Website:** [Crisis Center of Tampa Bay](#)
- **Phone:** (813) 964-1964 or call 211

Crisis Cleanup

Crisis Cleanup: 844-965-1386

Feeding Tampa Bay

- For nutritional support and to find a food pantry in your area, select “[Find Food](#)” on the top of the Feeding Tampa Bay page
- **Website:** [Feeding Tampa Bay](#)
- **Phone:** (813) 254-1190
- **Neighbor Services Help Line:** (813) 710-9003

Metropolitan Ministries

- Metropolitan Ministries has resources available for households that have been impacted by storms. Resident situations will be individually assessed, and the organization will offer services available to match the need. Offerings may include food, clothing, toiletries, furniture, and emergency housing as available.
- **Website:** [Metropolitan Ministries](#)
- **Phone:** (813) 209-1000

Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay (RTTB)

- RTTB's mission is to revitalize communities by repairing critically damaged homes and helping neighbors rebuild their lives. RTTB repairs homes damaged in disaster and provides affordable housing for residents. RTTB's priority is to provide those in need with safe, healthy, and affordable homes.
- **Website:** [Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay \(RTTB\)](#)
- **Phone:** (813) 878-9000

Tampa Electric (TECO)

Power restoration updates and bill relief programs



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- Phone: 1-877-588-1010
- <https://www.tampaelectric.com/>

Emergency Management Local Partners

Boricuas de Corazo

Disaster relief supplies (food, water, hygiene products, etc.)

- **Phone:** (954) 496-1463
- <https://www.boricuasdecorazoninc.com/>

Disaster Distress Helpline

24/7 emotional support for those affected by hurricanes

- **Phone:** (800) 985-5990
- <https://www.cdc.gov/natural-disasters/psa-toolkit/disaster-distress-hotline.html>

Sun City Center Emergency Squad

Emergency medical transport and assistance

- **Phone:** (813) 634-3800
- <https://sccems.com/>

5. Volunteer and Donation Opportunities

Local opportunities to volunteer and donate in support of Hurricane Milton relief

A. Volunteerism

Volunteer Florida. Those seeking volunteer opportunities are encouraged to sign up at [Volunteer Florida](#). This organization conveniently connects volunteers with a variety of organizations within our community.

Hillsborough County Comfort Stations. Residents looking for a simple but rewarding way to serve can volunteer at one of the soon-to-launch Hillsborough County comfort



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stations. Register with the [USF Community Emergency Response Team](#) in order to participate.

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B. Donations

Hillsborough County Disaster Relief Fund. Hillsborough County established the Hillsborough County Disaster Relief Fund, which directly funds recovery efforts for residents impacted by large-scale, locally declared emergency disasters.

All financial donations to the relief fund are used to support non-profit organizations providing aid and recovery services to Hillsborough County residents, including the Salvation Army and American Red Cross.

Funds collected will go directly to supporting relief and recovery efforts coordinated by non-profits to support Hillsborough individuals and families. Donated funds will not be used for any governmental services or administrative costs.

Donations can be made to the Hillsborough County Disaster Relief Fund by:

- **Visiting** lsfnet.org to make a donation.
- **Check:** Payable to "Hillsborough Disaster Relief Fund" and mailed to Lutheran Services Florida at 3627 W. Waters Ave., Tampa, FL 33614.

Supporting human services organizations that provide relief and recovery services to disaster survivors is part of Hillsborough County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

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C. Partner Agencies

Visit any of the service agencies below for excellent opportunities to help others.

Feeding Tampa Bay's goal is to make sure our community has the resources needed to start recovery post storm. Since Hurricane Helene, Feeding Tampa Bay has supported



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neighbors with over 1.5 million meals and have held over 50 emergency distribution locations.

In order to continue their relief efforts, volunteers are needed. [Sign up for a volunteer shift](#) and help our county recover.

Metropolitan Ministries is offering emergency relief services due to the recent devastating hurricanes, offering hot meals and bagged lunches prepared in their kitchen and sent out to the community.

The Family Support Centers offer food, hygiene, A/C, phone charging, internet, workspaces for remote workers, and emotional support. [View a full list of volunteer opportunities.](#)

Meals on Wheels. When residents volunteer at Meals on Wheels, they are delivering much more than a hot meal – they are providing human connection. A typical volunteer route takes about one hour to complete. This one hour affects the lives of so many of our neighbors in need throughout Tampa. [Find individual and group opportunities available.](#)