



# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE SEEKING HOUSING AFTER A DISASTER

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The Washington State Department of Commerce provides funding to non-profit and local government programs that provide disaster housing assistance to individuals and communities. Department of Commerce does not provide direct assistance to individuals, but programs that we fund may be able to help. Please see [this list](#) of local Homelessness Prevention Service Agencies to find a service provider in your area.

## Washington Information Network 2-1-1

Call 2-1-1 and get connected to a specialist in your area for health and human service information and referrals. Visit [www.win211.org](http://www.win211.org) to search for resources by county online.

## Housing Locator

Find rentals with short and long-term lease options: [www.HousingSearchNW.org](http://www.HousingSearchNW.org)

Toll-free bilingual call center open Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.: 1-877-428-8844

Para obtener ayuda en español, llamada, 6 a.m -5p.m.: 1-877-428-8844

## Housing Trust Fund Disaster Waiver

To help serve people affected by wildfires, existing Housing Trust Fund (HTF) projects may receive a temporary waiver from Department of Commerce of some HTF program requirements. Specifically, eligible households affected by a disaster may self-certify their income eligibility and the project's income restrictions may be increased to a maximum of 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) through February 29, 2017. Income waivers can then be extended through August 31, 2017, provided that household income eligibility has been verified through normal income certification requirements (e.g., through a third party verification).

Please note that many of the HTF projects received funding from other public and/or private funders. Department of Commerce does not have the authority to waive other funders' program requirements, but we do encourage Property Owners to contact their other funders to determine if a waiver is available. Property Owners are responsible for ensuring that their project meets all the other contractual requirements of the HTF, as well as those of any other funders.

## HTF Waiver Documents

The following documents can be used to request a waiver:

- [Procedures for Organizations Requesting a Disaster Waiver](#) (PDF)
- [Owner Request for Approval to Provide Temporary Housing](#) (PDF)
- [HTF Displaced Household Certification](#) (PDF)
- [Displaced Tenant Tracking Log](#) (Excel)

## Questions?

If you have any questions about the waiver, or need any other help from Department of Commerce in assisting displaced households, please contact Jason Davidson at [jason.davidson@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:jason.davidson@commerce.wa.gov) or 360-725-2660.