Since the 2017 disasters, FEMA has refused to activate HUD's Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP), despite requests made by the Governor of Puerto Rico, dozens of members of Congress, homelessness and housing advocates, and survivors. By providing direct rental assistance and case management, DHAP is designed to overcome the unique housing challenges faced by low income survivors – including seniors, people with disabilities, families with children, and other at-risk populations – to help them get back on their feet.

In response to FEMA's claims that its rental assistance program is meeting the housing needs of disaster survivors, the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition is setting the record straight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEMA RENTAL ASSISTANCE</th>
<th>DISASTER HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</strong></td>
<td>Survivors are provided assistance equal to two months’ rent. After covering the cost of application fees and security deposits, many survivors are left with no direct rental support. It can be difficult to recruit housing providers to participate in the program without longer-term assistance for survivors, especially those who may be displaced from employment or face other barriers to securing steady income.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROGRAM DELIVERY</strong></td>
<td>Survivors are provided the longer-term rental assistance needed to find stable, affordable rental homes on the private market. DHAP covers the full rental costs for low-income survivors. Over time, this support decreases to help transition households to greater responsibility for their housing costs. HUD reports that 95% of survivors found permanent homes after the program ended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FAIR MARKET RENTS</strong></td>
<td>Rental assistance is provided directly to the survivor, who is responsible for finding permanent rental homes. Survivors who are displaced to new communities or who face other barriers, including Limited English Proficiency or a disability, often struggle to find rental homes that meet their needs. Survivors receive help from local housing professionals to find the stable, permanent rental homes that meet their needs. Once the survivor finds the right home for them, rental assistance is provided directly to the housing provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DHAP</strong></td>
<td>DHAP is flexibly designed to meet the needs of survivors, regardless of the communities where they have been displaced. Survivors displaced to higher cost communities receive adequate rental assistance to meet their needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>FEMA RENTAL ASSISTANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECORDKEEPING</td>
<td>DISASTER HOUSING RECOVERY COALITION, C/O NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECORDKEEPING</td>
<td>FEMA RENTAL ASSISTANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECORDKEEPING</td>
<td>DISASTER HOUSING RECOVERY COALITION, C/O NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER RISKS</td>
<td>FEMA RENTAL ASSISTANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER RISKS</td>
<td>DISASTER HOUSING RECOVERY COALITION, C/O NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, contact Sarah Mickelson, NLIHC’s Senior Director of Public Policy at smickelson@nlihc.org.