



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Crisis Response Resources to Help Students and their Families Recover from Hurricane Sandy

- Office of Emergency Management Disaster Mental Health Support Call Center 347 396 7952
- [Prepare Today Cope Better Tomorrow, Stress During Disasters](#): A guide for reducing stress during disasters
- 1-800-LIFENET: Toll-free and confidential Mental Health Information and Referral Line with access to Mobile Crisis Team. Staffed by trained Social Workers 24 hours, 7 days per week, 365 days per year;
- **DISTRESS COUNSELING:**
 - SAMHSA: Call **1-800-985-5990**;
disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/ via [@samhsagov](#) [@distressline#recovery](#)
 - NYC Distress Line: call 1-800-846-8517
- www.hitesite.org (HITE is a free online resource directory for mental health services and other community resources. Click Social Services, then enter address for services in your neighborhood)
- [Helping Your Child Cope with a Traumatic Event: Guide for Parents](#)
- CSMH Resource Guide for Dealing with Disasters
<http://csmh.umaryland.edu/Resources/OtherResources/DealingWithDisasters.pdf>
- **Sesame Street Hurricane Toolkit**
- Hurricanes, storms, and other natural disasters can be difficult for young children who may not fully understand what's going on around them. These tips, activities, and videos can help them feel safe, cope with emotions, and understand that there is hope for the future.
<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/hurricane>
- Hurricane Resources from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network <http://nctsn.org/trauma-types/natural-disasters/hurricane-tools-and-links>
- [Coping With Disasters](#)
- [Helping Young Children Heal](#)

Sandy Disaster Aid Information, Food Stamp Replacement Benefits

FEMA

- <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/> Register for FEMA assistance online or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
- Text SHELTER + your ZIP code to 43362 (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area.



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New York State Food Stamp Replacement Benefits

Disaster victims can get replacement food stamp benefits but this must be reported by 11/28/12- using this form: <http://otda.ny.gov/programs/applications/2291.pdf>. See more below...

- According to the Hunger Action Network, Senator Gillibrand's office has informed us that the federal government has authorized that every current SNAP (food stamps) recipient in the impacted areas/zip codes for the storm automatically will get 50% of October's benefits placed on their cards.
- FNS is authorizing the replacement of 50 percent of the October benefits for households in Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan and Westchester Counties and the 76 designated ZIP codes in New York City. We estimate the total benefit replacement amount to be approximately \$65,000,000.
- The federal government also approved the state waiver to allow SNAP recipients that reside in areas that currently have individual assistance designations (i.e. Bronx, Kings, Richmond, Queens, New York, Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester) to have the ability to purchase hot foods and hot food products with SNAP benefits, and to consume them on-premise, where practical, through November 30, 2012.

Food Bank NYC: Replacement Food Stamps

Were Any of Your SNAP (Food Stamps) Purchases Lost Because of Hurricane Sandy?

YOU CAN GET THOSE BENEFITS REPLACED, BUT YOU MUST ACT QUICKLY!

You can receive replacement SNAP (Food Stamp) benefits for the cost of food lost due to:

- Flooding
- Extended power outages or equipment (refrigerator/freezer) failures
- Dislocation (evacuation) due to an emergency leading to an inability to access food

All requests for Food Stamp replacement benefits must be reported within 10 days after the loss occurred.

Report your loss at your local HRA Food Stamp Center or contact the Food Bank For New York City for more information at (917) 304-9634