

Help for Families After Hurricane Helene



If you get Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) benefits, there are new ways to help you after the storm.

Buy Hot Food with Your EBT Card

From **October 4 to November 3, 2024**, you can use your EBT card to buy **hot meals** at participating SNAP/FNS retailers. This is available to everyone with FNS benefits across the state.

Automatic Replacement of Benefits

If you live in one of 23 counties affected by power outages from the hurricane, you will get **70% of your September FNS benefits back**. You don't have to do anything—this money is already on your EBT card to help replace food you lost. The counties included are: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey counties.

If you live in Catawba and Clay County...

You have extra time to report lost food because of Hurricane Helene, you have **until October 26, 2024** to tell your local Department of Social Services (DSS).