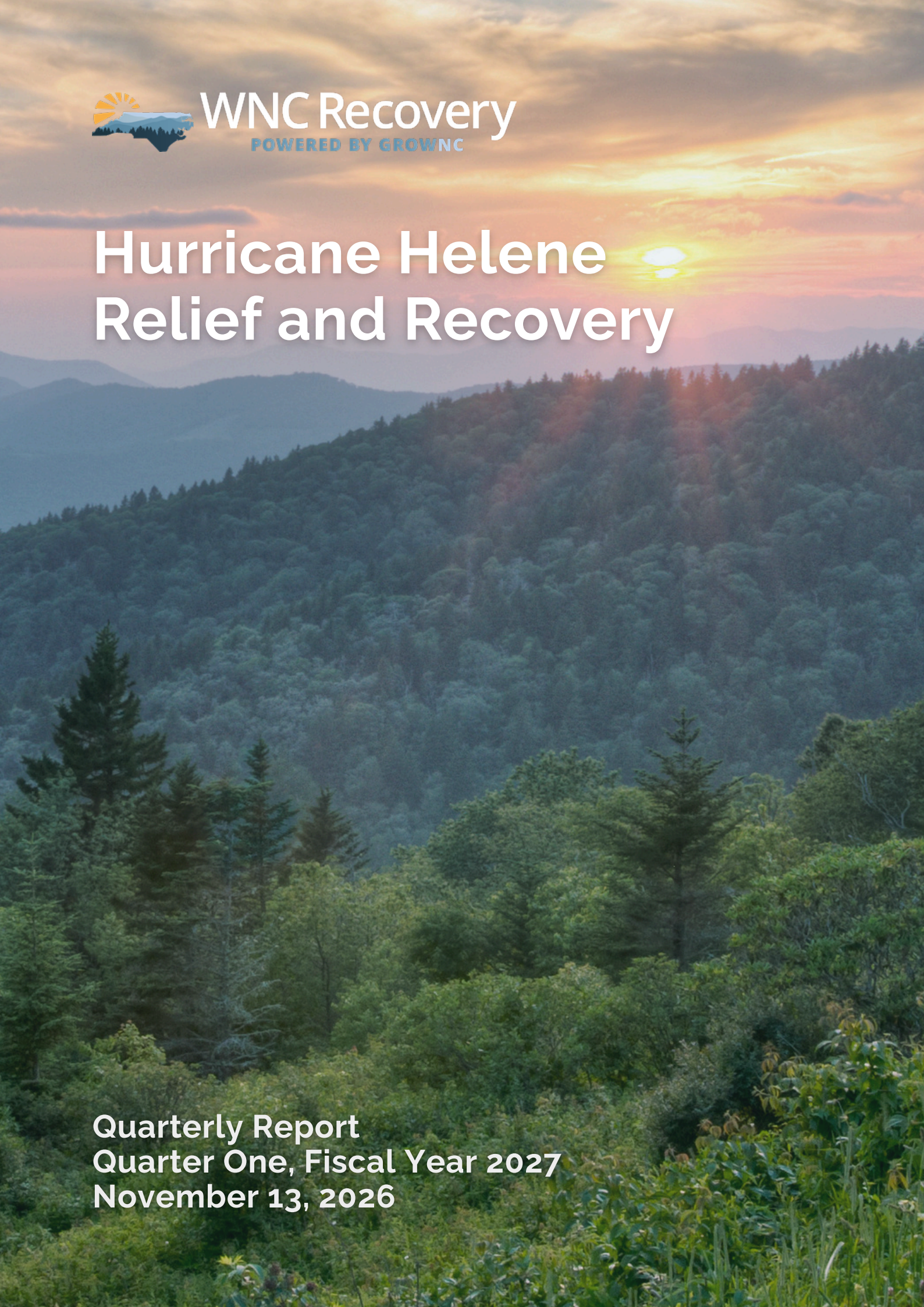


WNC Recovery
POWERED BY GROWNC

Hurricane Helene Relief and Recovery

Quarterly Report
Quarter One, Fiscal Year 2027
November 13, 2026

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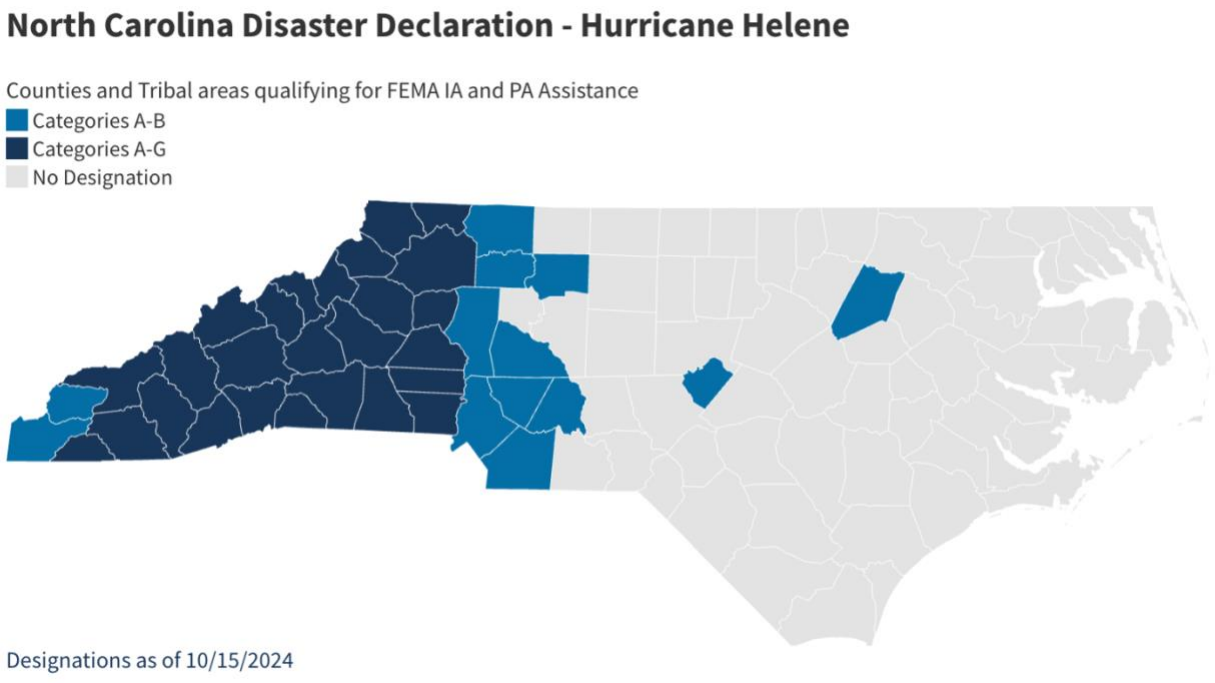
INTRODUCTION

This report provides an overview of the state and federal funds dedicated to Hurricane Helene relief and recovery efforts through September 30, 2026, and describes how North Carolina uses those resources to aid affected communities, as required by SL 2025-2, § 4.1(g)-(h) and continued by SL 2026-41, § 5A.16.(i). Unless otherwise noted, this quarterly report encompasses activities from the onset of the storm through September 30, 2026.

Hurricane Helene's Impact – $59.6 billion

Hurricane Helene reached North Carolina on Friday, September 27, 2024, generating historic rainfall, strong winds, flooding, landslides, and tornadoes, among other weather impacts.

President Biden subsequently declared a Major Disaster, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 39 counties for federal disaster assistance. An estimated 4.6 million people – more than 40% of the state's population – live in one of the designated counties. The region accounts for 45% of the state's gross domestic product (GDP).



Hurricane Helene had a significant, long-term impact on western North Carolina. In addition to taking more than 100 lives, the storm destroyed thousands of homes and damaged tens of thousands more. Millions of North Carolinians lost access to critical services such as water and sewer, electricity, telecommunications, and health care. Thousands of miles of roads and bridges were damaged, cutting off communities and limiting access for residents, first responders, and recovery teams. The region's economy suffered severely, threatening livelihoods and the long-term outlooks of some communities.

Estimates as of December 13, 2024, indicated that Helene caused direct damage of $44.4 billion in the region, caused an additional $9.4 billion in indirect or induced damage, and necessitated $5.8 billion more for strengthening and mitigation.[1] Totaling more than $59.6 billion across the state, the damage and needs are more than three times the $16.7 billion impact of Hurricane Florence in 2018.

Government Funding for Recovery Efforts – $13.8 Billion

As of September 30, 2026, the federal government and North Carolina state government had directed approximately **$13.8 billion** to aid western North Carolina communities in their efforts to recover from Hurricane Helene. State funding includes about **$2.9 billion** made available by the North Carolina General Assembly following the storm.[2] The federal government has approved, allocated, or awarded approximately **$10.9 billion** for the recovery, including funds to state agencies and direct assistance to individuals, businesses, and local governments. This federal funding represents approximately **18%** of Helene's damage.

State agencies are working to deploy funding effectively and efficiently to accelerate recovery efforts. The funds provided by the General Assembly include roughly **$850 million** for state matching funds required to draw down federal program dollars and more than **$300 million** for loans to local governments and businesses. Some state appropriations require certain conditions to be met before state agencies may spend them.

[1] Office of State Budget & Management (Dec 13, 2024). "Hurricane Helene Recovery, Revised Damage and Needs Assessment." https://www.osbm.nc.gov/hurricane-helene-dna/open

[2] The Helene related appropriations and reallocations in SL 2026-41 and its technical corrections are accounted for in this number.

Scope of Data Included

This quarterly report provides an updated overview of Hurricane Helene recovery funding, expenditures, and activities by state agencies through September 30, 2026.[3]

GROW NC applies a standardized data collection and validation process that integrates statutory appropriations data, agency-reported obligations, and expenditure data from the NC Financial System (NCFS). Data are normalized to align with statutory reporting requirements and reporting periods, then reviewed for consistency and completeness prior to inclusion in the quarterly report.

Federal Funds

This report includes grants, allocations, and assistance by the federal government to North Carolina's recovery from Helene for which the state has formal documentation. The entries regarding federal funds in the body of the report pertain to awards from the federal government to state agencies. Appendix I describes federal funds disbursed directly to non-state entities such as individual households, businesses, local governments, and nonprofits.

State Funds

Only state funds appropriated by the North Carolina General Assembly as of September 30, 2026, for the purpose of recovery from Helene fall within the scope of this report. Specifically, the report contains data and information regarding the purpose, obligation, and expenditure of such appropriations, as well as activity resulting from the appropriations. The General Assembly provided these appropriations in the following laws:

- SL 2024-51;
- SL 2024-53;
- SL 2024-57;
- SL 2025-2;
- SL 2025-26;
- SL 2025-89;
- SL 2025-92;
- SL 2025-97; and
- SL 2026-41.[4]

[3] Staff collect spending information for some third-party recipients of state funds, and continue working to make data collection from these entities more systematic.

[4] While the General Assembly appropriated Helene recovery funds in SL 2026-41 prior to September 30, 2026, most of the state agencies receiving these funds did not begin to deploy them until after that date. See Appendix II for further detail regarding the amount and purpose of the SL 2026-41 Helene appropriations.

HELENE RESPONSE AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

Agriculture

Agricultural Disaster Crop Loss Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: The 2024 Agricultural Disaster Crop Loss Program is established to provide financial assistance to farmers with verified losses from an agricultural disaster in North Carolina in 2024. This funding is for Hurricane Helene-specific damage of agriculture, aquaculture commodities, or farm infrastructure.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$21,519,796.18	$268,000,000.00	$530,454.81	$132,370,156.76	$135,099,388.43

Activities: The department disbursed payments totaling nearly $131 million, including 893 payments for crop loss, 567 payments for nursery loss, 630 payments for farm infrastructure, and seven payments for aquaculture losses. DA&CS is working to obligate all crop loss funding before January 1, 2027.

North Carolina Agricultural Manufacturing and Processing Initiative Grants

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: This program funds and promotes the establishment of value-add agricultural manufacturing and food processing facilities across North Carolina. For Hurricane Helene recovery, this appropriation will be applied to atmosphere-controlled projects in the affected area.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$136,235.84	$8,000,000.00	$3,937,989.84	$4,062,010.16	$0.00

Activities: Applications opened for the NC Agriculture Manufacturing and Processing Initiative in September 2025. This application included special guidance for eligible applicants impacted

by Helene, as outlined in SL 2025-26. The application deadline for the program was October 3, 2025. The department announced awards on February 3, 2026. Ten projects totaling more than $7 million in grants were approved.

Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: The Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) funds projects that help reduce flooding, restore streams, and protect the integrity of drainage infrastructure along North Carolina's waterways. Project examples include vegetative debris removal, streambank stabilization, stream restoration, and rehabilitation of critical watershed structures.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$58,003.51	$40,000,000.00	$34,199,995.00	$102,386.14	$5,697,618.86

Activities: The department facilitates work between local governments and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Emergency Watershed Protection Program, then invests state Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program funds to meet unaddressed needs.

The first awards for this program were made on April 14, 2026, when more than $4 million was awarded by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to projects in nine counties. In May 2026, the commission awarded nearly $10 million to grantees in 10 more counties. In June 2026, the commission awarded more than $10.5 million to organizations in nine more counties.

A total of $40 million was appropriated to address stream debris, stabilization, and restoration within Hurricane Helene-affected areas. StRAP contracted with 34 local grantees (25 soil and water conservation districts, three county governments, and six nonprofits). As of September 2026, funds are being used to address 232 sites and provide technical assistance to grantees for a total of $34.2 million. Contingency retainage of $3.8 million was held for unexpected expenses and will be allocated in the coming months for additional needs. StRAP received applications requesting nearly $150 million for Helene-designated funding.

USDA Disaster Relief Block Grant

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: The North Carolina Disaster Block Grant for Hurricane Helene recovery is for production losses not covered by USDA programs or crop insurance. The program will cover four categories of eligible losses: infrastructure damage, market losses, future economic losses, and timber losses. It will apply to the 39 counties that received the federal disaster declaration for Helene.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$221,236,071.00	$809,957.43	$135,370.96	$571,784.85	$571,784.85	$219,854,328.72

Activities: In September 2025, the DA&CS and the USDA signed an agreement for a $221 million block grant to aid farmers who sustained loss and damage from Helene. The DA&CS created a federally mandated work plan, which was approved by the USDA in 2026. Applications opened for these funds on March 30, 2026, and were accepted until June 12, 2026. Payments will begin once review of applications is complete and information is verified. Following enactment of SL 2026-41, a second landowner application period for the Timber Loss Relief Program opened July 13, 2026. Applications were accepted for a 90-day period, which closed October 12, 2026.

DA&CS anticipates that payments will be made in batches, beginning in November. As of September 30, 2026, DA&CS received 1,747 applications for the USDA Disaster Block Grant.

Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation

Disaster Recovery Constituent Portal

Responsible State Agency: Department of Information Technology (DIT)

Purpose: Directs DIT to issue a request for proposals for the development of a disaster relief portal that will serve as a hub for all constituent-focused resources.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,066,331.62	$3,000,000.00	$1,082,531.96	$1,103,868.92	$813,599.12

Activities: The Disaster Support Portal, which serves as a single place for residents to find disaster services and resources, went live August 24, 2026. When a disaster impacts a North Carolina community and residents need assistance, the portal will be populated with vital information and support services for survivors, making it the primary virtual resource center.

This initial release allows residents to find support resources, sign up for alerts, and apply for certain programs as they become available. The portal is integrated with NC Emergency Management's Disaster Case Management process that allows residents to know when their case has been assigned and who to contact. The portal's capabilities will continue to expand to meet the needs of residents, counties, and community partners.

Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: Provides grants to local governments for projects that reduce the risk of future damage from flooding: culvert or bridge retrofits or replacements, stormwater and drainage system improvements, relocation of at-risk infrastructure, and hardening of critical facilities and utilities.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$2,449.78	$20,000,000.00	$19,134,069.00	$2,449.78	$863,481.22

Activities: The deadline for applications to the Hurricane Helene-focused Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund was November 28, 2025. Eligible applicants are units of local government and

nonprofit organizations. Funding can be used for flood mitigation, transportation infrastructure resilience against natural disasters, and engineering assistance grants to identify and design shovel-ready projects. The department awarded funding to 21 grantees, which are in the process of advertising for bids and completing early-stage engineering reports. The department received 105 applications from local governments and nonprofit organizations totaling approximately $80 million.

Landslide Hazard Mapping

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: Conduct landslide inventory mapping and landslide susceptibility mapping in the Hurricane Helene-affected area and develop an early alert system to support emergency response.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$58,584.19	$3,000,000.00	$1,034,293.94	$348,831.23	$1,616,874.83

Activities: Thirty-one North Carolinians lost their lives to landslides during Helene. Because landslides will inevitably occur again, continuous landslide modeling updates will be necessary. From July through September 2026, the Landslide Hazards Program mapped 10,086 new landslide features in the affected area. Public and government inquiries were addressed by the Landslide Hazards Program regarding landslides, sinkholes, and related hazards. In partnership with the University of North Carolina at Asheville's National Environmental Mapping and Applications Center (NEMAC), the Landslide Hazards Program is developing a landslide early warning system to provide county emergency management with the capability to issue targeted area-specific landslide warnings, evacuation statements, and resource staging during extreme weather events. Estimated completion of the early warning system is December 2027. $1 million was appropriated in SL 2026-41 for landslide mapping efforts in the affected area. These funds shall not be used for full-time equivalent positions and shall only be used for roads and critical infrastructure.

Wildfire Assets and Preparedness

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: The North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) will use this funding for contractors and equipment to respond to and fight wildfires.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$2,449,993.00	$15,000,000.00	$1,217,722.96	$5,231,184.63	$8,551,092.41

Activities: NCFS is focused on increasing capability and capacity with this funding. Plans include hiring four additional fire equipment operators; purchasing new trucks, bulldozers, fire engines, utility terrain vehicles, and other personal protective firefighting equipment like fire shelters; enhancing aviation capabilities with new infrared imaging and water-handling tools; and funding prepositioned firefighter services to surge personnel to incidents. A significant amount of equipment and supplies are on order and expected to be received and placed into service during fiscal year 2027.

NCFS is also bolstering physical mitigation efforts via enhanced prescribed burning capabilities, installation of fire breaks, and removal of vegetation. NCFS is strengthening public awareness efforts based on increased capabilities to monitor weather and educate the public about wildfire preparedness. A $5.6 million contingency fund will be kept in reserve for future large mobilization needs and significant wildfire incidents that could affect the Helene-impacted counties.

Economy

Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes Disaster Relief

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: This appropriation provides one-time disaster relief grants to eligible child care providers (including child care centers, homes, and pre-K sites) in the impacted counties and tribal communities. These restricted funds are to be utilized for capital costs, lost revenue, retention, recruitment, repairs, maintenance, or overcrowding expansion.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$10,000,000.00	$3,650,000.00	$6,350,000.00	$0.00

Activities: DHHS transferred $5 million to the North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC), which contracts with local Smart Start Partnerships to manage the application and allocation process for the child care centers. NCPC received funds in February 2025. In March 2026, NCPC requested an additional $1.3 million from DHHS to continue to meet the needs of child care centers. So far, these funds have served 7,938 children in 14 of 16 eligible counties. Local partners have until June 30, 2027, to expend the funds and are working with centers to determine needs and allocation.

Local Partner Spending

Local Partnership [1,2,4,7]	Primary Counties Served	Total Award Amount	Funds Received [3]	Spending to Date
Alexander County Partnership for Children[6]	Alexander	$ 53,000	$ 53,000	$ 50,101
Partnership of Ashe[13]	Ashe	$ 590,000	$ 590,000	$ 433,725
Blue Ridge Partnership for Children[15]	Avery, Mitchell, Yancey	$ 332,811	$ 319,183	$ 134,859
Buncombe County Partnership for Children[16]	Buncombe	$ 2,400,000	$ 2,400,000	$ 1,790,267
Burke County Smart Start Inc.[12]	Burke	$ 817,387	$ 817,387	$ 817,387
Caldwell County Smart Start: A Partnership for Young Children[8]	Caldwell	$ 826,835	$ 238,418	$ 105,856
Cleveland County Partnership for Children, Inc.	Cleveland	$ 289,158	$ 289,158	$ 114,993
Partnership for Children of the Foothills[9]	McDowell, Polk, Rutherford	$ 112,251	$ 112,251	$ 112,245
Smart Start Partnership for Children[14]	Henderson	$ 250,329	$ 250,329	$ 246,124
Smart Start Partnership for Children[5]	Transylvania	$ 100,744	$ 100,744	$ 100,744
Madison County Partnership for Children and Families, Inc.	Madison	$ 50,000	$ 50,000	$ 50,000
Children's Council of Watauga County, Inc.	Watauga	$ 800,000	$ 800,000	$ 524,344
Total		**$ 6,622,515**	**$ 6,020,470**	**$ 4,480,645**

As of September 30, 2026.

1 - Wilkes Community Partnership for Children serving Wilkes County was initially awarded $60,000 but returned the funds to NCPC after private funding was made available to the centers in their community. These funds are being redistributed to other Local Partnerships.

2 - Funds were offered to the Partnership for Children of Lincoln and Gaston Counties serving Lincoln and Gaston counties, but they stated there was insufficient need at the time.

3 - NCPC maintained $100,000 for administration expenses. Distribution updated through June 30, 2026.

4 - Region A was initially awarded $250,000. In May 2025, RAPFC requested termination of their contract after private funding was made available to centers in their community.

5 - Smart Start of Transylvania County transitioned organizational leadership. To facilitate the distribution of funds within the community, the Board of Directors requested the assistance of Smart Start Partnership for Children (Henderson). In February 2026, SSPFC reverted $35,907 for redistribution and reduced the total contract amount

6 - Alexander County Partnership for Children was initially allocated $70,000. In July 2025, ACPFC returned $17,000 after determining the maximum need for their community.

7 - Alleghany Partnership for Children initially received an allocation of $26,861. After discussions with local providers, no needs were present and funds were returned.

8 - Caldwell County Smart Start returned $175,000 to NCPC for redistribution to other local partnerships.

9 - Partnership for Children of the Foothills returned $141,099 to NCPC for redistribution to other local partnerships.

12 - Burke County Smart Start - Received additional funds and had total award amount reduced to match total expected expenses.

13 - Partnership for Ashe - Received an additional cash payment of $110,000 in September 2025. Received additional cash payment of $80,000 in February 2026. Received additional cash payment of $130,000 in April 2026.

14 - Smart Start Partnership for Children reverted $300,000 to be distributed to other local partnerships and reduced their total contract amount.

15 - Blue Ridge Partnership for Children reduced their total contract amount in April 2026.

16 - Buncombe County Partnership for Children increased their contract by $500,000 and received a payment of $155,000 in April 2026.

Funds Expended by Local Partnerships per County

County	Current Expenses	YTD Expenses	Total Expenses	Children Served
Alexander	$ -	$ -	$ 50,100.63	303
Ashe	$ -	$ 40,419.99	$ 433,467.21	411
Avery	$ 1,793.01	$ 3,791.07	$ 38,645.06	150
Buncombe	$ 5,082.71	$ 71,584.29	$ 1,721,234.99	3676
Burke	$ -	$ -	$ 817,387.00	377
Caldwell	$ -	$ -	$ 105,856.19	472
Cleveland	$ -	$ -	$ 114,992.55	437
Henderson	$ -	$ -	$ 246,124.39	575
Madison	$ -	$ -	$ 50,000.00	147
McDowell	$ -	$ -	$ 112,245.14	153
Mitchell	$ 1,793.01	$ 3,791.07	$ 20,760.35	200
Polk	$ -	$ -	$ -	0
Rutherford	$ -	$ -	$ -	0
Transylvania	$ -	$ -	$ 100,743.69	82
Watauga	$ 3,452.00	$ 5,906.73	$ 521,475.43	888
Yancey	$ 1,793.01	$ 3,791.07	$ 70,185.56	67
LP Sub-Totals (A):	**$ 13,913.73**	**$ 129,284.22**	**$ 4,403,218.20**	**7938**
NCPC Allocation (B):	**$ 1,660.26**	**$ 40,606.15**	**$ 58,269.81**	
Grand Total:	**$ 15,573.99**	**$ 169,890.37**	**$ 4,461,488.01**	**7938**

As of September 30, 2026.

Dislocated Worker Grant

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: To provide temporary clean-up and humanitarian jobs for eligible dislocated workers. Workers hired will be limited to working up to 12 months or up to 2,080 hours, whichever comes first. The employment and training activities include career and training services.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$10,000,000.00	$3,358,544.05	$6,632,709.29	$695,469.16	$6,641,455.95	$0.00

Activities: The U.S. Department of Labor provided funding for this program to NC Commerce in three increments, each of which had to be advocated for and took nearly a month to secure. By December 2025, the final $4 million had been disbursed bringing the total funding received to $10 million. The program is administered by the Division of Workforce Solutions.

The Division of Workforce Solutions secured a one-year no-cost extension, extending the period of performance through October 10, 2027. Participating workforce development boards include

Foothills, High Country, Southwestern, and Western Piedmont. While three workforce development boards elected not to participate in the extension, all federally declared counties will continue to receive services. Activities include temporary employment, employment and training, and other employment-related services. As of September 2026, the program has served 437 participants and supported 86 worksites across nonprofits, local government entities, and businesses.

Federal Child Care Disaster Funding

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), provides disaster recovery funding to support child care systems in areas affected by declared disasters. Funds are available through September 30, 2030.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$47,400,000.00	$0.00	$77,706.63	$77,706.63	$77,706.63	$47,322,293.37

Activities: In February 2026, North Carolina's DHHS was awarded $75.8 million in supplemental disaster funds for both Hurricane Helene and Tropical Storm Debby. For work in Helene-impacted areas, DHHS received $47.4 million to support recovery, mitigation, and preparedness in the child care sector. In May 2026, the Administration for Children and Families approved the DHHS plan for utilization of the funds. The plan has four areas of activity.

1) **Disaster Recovery Funding for Eligible Child Care Providers:** Providers can request reimbursements in the Disaster Impact Report Portal to help offset storm-related damages, losses, and recovery costs associated with Hurricane Helene and Tropical Storm Debby. The NC Division of Child Development and Early Education provides a portal to serve as the primary mechanism for providers to document impacts, submit supporting information, and request reimbursement or recovery assistance. DHHS began providing payments to child care providers for eligible expenses in October 2026.
2) **Emergency Preparedness and Response Events:** The agency will conduct four regional preparedness and response events in 2027 for licensed child care providers focused on disaster readiness, Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans, post-disaster recovery resources, trauma-informed supports, and hands-on assistance with reporting through the Disaster Impact Report Portal.

3) **Child Care WAGE$ Expansion and Workforce Stabilization:** In partnership with Early Years Inc., this initiative will support recruitment and retention of early childhood educators and offer biannual salary supplements based on individual educator eligibility requirements in Ashe, Madison and Watauga, three counties that were not previously served by the WAGE$ initiative. This initiative will also provide an additional annual incentive to the workforce in the other 36 counties affected by Hurricane Helene that currently offer WAGE$, estimated at $1,350 per participant.
4) **Child Care Supply and Construction Planning:** Support long-term child care recovery and supply-building efforts on NC Community College System (NCCCS) and University of North Carolina (UNC) System campuses. Applications for this program closed November 2, 2026.

Small Business Infrastructure Grant Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: This program provides grants to local governments to expedite infrastructure repairs impacting the operation and patronage of small businesses in the affected area.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,209,381.35	$55,000,000.00	$36,121,161.50	$1,519,045.84	$17,359,792.66

Activities: The most recent awards in the Small Business Infrastructure program came in August 2026, bringing total program awards to more than $36 million across 51 projects. Construction has begun on 25 of those projects as of September 30, 2026, and construction is scheduled to begin on five more projects by December 2026. Projects awarded will help restore sidewalks, stormwater systems, and water and sewer lines.

Small Business Recovery Bridge Loans

Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: The allocated funds support a no- or low-interest loan program for small businesses in areas impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$50,000,000.00	$0.00	$50,000,000.00	$0.00

Activities: The WNC Strong: Helene Business Recovery Fund was administered by Mountain BizWorks in partnership with the Golden LEAF Foundation (Golden LEAF). This program closed in December 2025. The NC Department of Commerce distributed $50 million to Golden LEAF, which in turn allocated $50 million to Mountain BizWorks, which disbursed $47,738,361 as loan capital in 794 loans to small business applicants.

Overall, including state and private funds, $56,788,621.45 has been disbursed from the program in loan capital to 965 entities, helping to retain a total of 6,953 jobs. Borrowers are subject to a 24-month interest-only repayment period at a 1% interest rate, after which borrowers must complete regular repayments at a 6% interest rate.

Education

Additional Mental Health Funds for Public Schools

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: Provides funds for mental health support for students and staff in districts and education institutions impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$157,732.45	$5,000,000.00	$2,449,820.50	$2,550,179.50	$0.00

Activities: All eligible Participating School Units (PSUs) impacted by Helene received a funding allocation. The staff hired with these funds will serve all impacted schools within their school districts. Funds provide salary and contractual services for school social workers, school counselors, health professionals, and school psychologists. As of September 30, 2026, 40 school systems and charter schools benefited from this funding.

Capital Recovery for the School for the Deaf

Responsible State Agency: North Carolina School for the Deaf (NCSD)

Purpose: NCSD plans to use these funds to make repairs to infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00

Activities: NCSD posted an infrastructure project for design and bid but did not receive a satisfactory proposal for construction. Therefore, NCSD will separate the needed infrastructure into multiple projects and readvertise separately.

Capital Recovery Funds: Public School Facilities

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction

Purpose: Funds for repair and renovation of facilities for local school administrative units and lab schools in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene. These funds are for unmet needs not covered by insurance or available federal aid.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$330,105.16	$81,300,000.00	$3,056,022.22	$70,968,284.78	$7,275,693.00

Activities: This program served 21 schools in eight districts with an initial appropriation of $50 million. SL 2025-26 appropriated $31,300,000 in additional funds, of which DPI distributed $26,215,685 to 12 school systems. DPI is reviewing applications for the remaining funds.

Community College Enrollment Stabilization

Responsible State Agency: NC Community College System (NCCCS)

Purpose: Funds to support community colleges that are located in the area impacted by Hurricane Helene and that experienced enrollment declines from the 2023-2024 academic year to the 2024-2025 academic year.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$237,156.00	$2,473,971.00	$0.00	$2,455,933.00	$18,038.00

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, $2,455,933 has been expended for this program.

Emergency Grants for Affected Community College Students

Responsible State Agency: NC Community College System (NCCCS)

Purpose: Grants to assist students impacted by Hurricane Helene to cover any expenses that support a student's continued enrollment, including costs related to transportation, textbooks, tuition, fees, and living expenses.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$17,000.00	$10,500,000.00	$0.00	$10,495,372.00	$4,628.00

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, 10,838 students received support from this program.

Private Colleges Capital Recovery

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Funds will be used to support capital recovery costs and repair damage to the six identified institutions: Brevard College, Gardner-Webb University, Lees-McRae College, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Mars Hill University, and Montreat College.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$4,250,000.00	$0.00	$4,000,000.00	$250,000.00

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, the identified institutions are in various stages of receiving quotes, hiring contractors, and utilizing funds to meet needs. Funds will be used on multiple projects across campuses to repair hurricane damage. Brevard College informed OSBM that it no longer needs the funding and will not accept the grant.

Tuition Grants for Students Attending Impacted Community Colleges

Responsible State Agency: NC Community College System (NCCCS)

Purpose: Funds to provide grants that cover the cost of tuition and state registration fees for eligible students attending community colleges designated by the System Office as having the most or medium impact.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$63,192.00	$2,526,029.00	$30,052.00	$2,239,715.00	$256,262.00

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, 4,640 students benefited from this funding.

In SL 2025-26, the General Assembly reallocated $2,473,971 of the original $5 million appropriated for these grants to create the Enrollment Stabilization program described below.

Additionally in SL 2025-26, the General Assembly directed that $1,163,029 in unexpended funds be used for funding to help students pay for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student's ability to remain enrolled.

Tuition Grants for Students Attending UNC Asheville

Responsible State Agency: University of North Carolina at Asheville (UNCA)

Purpose: Funds to provide grants that cover the cost of tuition for eligible students.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$(32,633.90)	$5,500,000.00	$0.00	$5,146,658.00	$353,342.00

Activities: Awards issued to 1,468 students in spring 2025, 1,121 in summer 2025, 417 in fall 2025, 334 for spring 2026, and 874 for summer 2026 for a total of 4,214 awards as of September 30, 2026. Remaining funds are obligated for continued student assistance.

UNC Asheville Capital Recovery and Mitigation

Responsible State Agency: University of North Carolina System (UNC System)

Purpose: Funding to the UNC Board of Governors for a grant to UNC Asheville to repair, replace, renovate, or construct buildings or infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene and for resiliency and hazard mitigation on campus property to prepare for future disasters.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000,000.00

Activities: The UNC System Office is working with the university to identify and set up capital projects.

UNC System Capital Recovery

Responsible State Agency: University of North Carolina System

Purpose: To disburse grants to Appalachian State University, University of North Carolina at Asheville, Western Carolina University, and the North Carolina Arboretum to repair, replace, renovate, or reconstruct buildings or infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene and for resiliency and hazard mitigation projects on campus property to prepare for future disasters.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,466,931.00	$6,000,000.00	$912,399.00	$1,793,638.00	$3,293,963.00

Activities: Institutions provided plans for utilization to the UNC System Office. These investments will focus on improving emergency communication and response capabilities, strengthening infrastructure, and ensuring continuity of operations in the face of extreme weather events. The initial campus plans were approved by the UNC Board of Governors in September 2025, and the UNC System Office transferred the funds to the institutions. Setup of the capital projects is in progress as of September 30, 2026.

Warren Wilson College Damage Repair

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Funds will be used to support capital recovery costs and repair damage at Warren Wilson College.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$1,500,000.00	$0.00	$1,500,000.00	$0.00

Activities: OSBM disbursed $1.5 million to the college, and the college is receiving quotes, hiring contractors, and utilizing funds to meet needs. One significant project completed thus far is the replacement of the college's external farm fence. The college is also continuing mold mitigation in residence halls and completing repairs to roads. Funds will be used on multiple projects across campus to repair damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The college has expended $675,000 as of September 30, 2026.

Yancey County Schools Capital Recovery

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: Transfer $25 million in interest earned from the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund to Yancey County for public school repair and replacement. Project must have been denied by insurance and FEMA.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$25,000,000.00	$0.00	$25,000,000.00	$0.00

Activities: The Yancey County Board of Education voted unanimously in August 2025 to spend the appropriated funds on an elementary school to replace the loss of Micaville and Clearmont elementary schools to the devastating floods from Hurricane Helene. DPI transferred the full $25 million to Yancey County Schools, and the school district is working with FEMA and insurance to ensure maximum utilization of all funding sources.

Health Care

Crisis Counseling Regular Services Program

Federal Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: This second phase of the FEMA Crisis Counseling Grant Program provides funding for mental health services to individuals and communities affected by natural and human-caused disasters for up to nine months after the federal disaster declaration.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$9,709,292.00	$3,981.05	$4,707,174.96	$370,993.66	$4,707,174.96	$4,998,135.99

Activities: The FEMA Crisis Counseling Grant provides funding for the Hope4NC program, which assists individuals in communities recovering from Hurricane Helene's devastating impacts. As of July 11, 2026, the grant provided more than 150,622 in-person contacts and answered more than 119,015 hotline calls. The crisis counseling in-person services ended on July 23, 2026. The hotline service remains open through DHHS. Services included:

- Individual crisis outreach and support;
- Group crisis outreach;
- Public education;
- Community networking and support;
- Assessment, referral, and resource connections; and
- Media campaigns and outreach programs.

North Carolina received three no-cost extensions of the program to allow the services to continue through July 23, 2026. A fourth no-cost extension was requested but not granted.

Local Health Department Support

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: Funds to assist local health departments in counties under a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene with restoring essential functions, including temporary staffing, communicable disease and infection prevention efforts, environmental health efforts, and private well water quality efforts.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$553,426.29	$12,000,000.00	$7,121,934.23	$4,878,065.77	$0.00

Activities: Funds were allocated to all local health departments in the impacted area and 18 departments accepted funds. As of September 30, 2026, 16 departments expended funds to serve 20 counties with staffing, emergency supplies, repairs, and equipment. The remaining impacted counties declined funds for reasons such as no disruption or little to no impact on essential public health functions, services, or programs. Local health departments have until May 31, 2030, to expend the funds and until June 30, 2030, to draw down funds for reimbursement.

Local Health Department	Allocated Funds	
Appalachian Health District	$	1,266,033.00
Buncombe	$	2,166,210.00
Burke	$	849,691.00
Caldwell	$	800,010.00
Clay	$	245,610.00
Cleveland	$	434,610.00
Foothills Health District	$	1,210,862.00
Graham	$	226,459.00
Haywood	$	667,530.00
Henderson	$	1,064,970.00
Jackson	$	316,170.00
Macon	$	301,050.00
Madison	$	369,451.00
Polk	$	361,171.00
Swain	$	250,650.00
Toe River Health District	$	664,382.00
Translyvania	$	452,251.00
Yancey	$	352,890.00
Total	**$**	**12,000,000.00**

Mental Health Crisis Supports and Support for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: Funds to strengthen behavioral health supports to ensure the Division of Mental Health can adequately respond to the expected rise in behavioral health needs of more than 4 million individuals in the impacted counties, including crisis care, detoxification, and continued access to telehealth.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,934,541.28	$25,000,000.00	$6,529,560.34	$15,198,783.91	$3,271,655.75

Activities: Behavioral health crises tend to increase beginning six months after a disaster and into the recovery period. Hurricane Helene-impacted areas report a continued increase in the number of residents seeking mental and behavioral health support. Funds are being used to provide services through more than 20 programs, including:

- counseling services and supports for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals;
- transitional housing, employment, and mental health/substance use services for veterans;
- support for federally qualified health centers to increase the amount of mental health support services they can offer;
- up to six mobile units to support substance use treatment;
- expanded peer support center services;
- critical incident debriefing and counseling for first responders;
- crisis services and counseling for children and families;
- disaster preparedness training for group homes and organizations that support vulnerable populations;
- school-based mental health support;
- mental health crisis intervention, response, and counseling services;
- summer trauma recovery camps for children and families; and
- transition to community living.

Housing

Ongoing Repair and Reconstruction (Volunteer Organizations)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: Grants to volunteer organizations actively involved in actual and ongoing repair and reconstruction projects from Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,669,343.64	$28,000,000.00	$18,035,716.34	$7,789,434.66	$2,174,849.00

Activities: The Department of Public Safety issued a notice of funding opportunity and received applications for the initial $10 million appropriated to this grant program. Awards were issued in August 2025, and 14 organizations accepted the awards for a total of $9.4 million. An additional $500,000 from the same appropriation was awarded to two organizations in December 2025 to support winterization efforts for storm-impacted homes. As of September 2026, the remaining unspent balance in the winterization grant is $162,000, and winterization services will continue through spring 2027. SL 2025-26 appropriated an additional $18 million, bringing the total program funding to $28 million. This second appropriation was awarded to 16 organizations for a total of $15.9 million. Combined, the first and second appropriations enabled participating nonprofit organizations to complete more than 1,200 repair and reconstruction projects as of September 2026, with more than 200 additional projects in progress.

The North Carolina General Assembly appropriated an additional $35 million for this program in the 2026 Appropriations Act, increasing the total funding to $63 million. The application period for this funding opened September 1, 2026, and closed October 16, 2026. A total of 33 applications were submitted, requesting a combined total of $116 million.

Private Road and Bridge Repair

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: For the repair and replacement of private roads, culverts, pipes, and bridges damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Helene. The department shall prioritize applications for the repair and replacement of private roads or bridges that provide the sole option for ingress and egress for (i) emergency services to a residential property that is occupied by the owner for more than six months of the calendar year, (ii) multiple residential homes, or (iii) recreation or commercial

facilities. These funds may be used for program costs incurred for the engineering, design, and construction of private roads, culverts, pipes, and bridges and for funding to nonprofit organizations supporting repairs. These funds may also be used to provide technical support and assistance for individuals and local governments to comply with no-rise certification requirements required by FEMA under the National Flood Insurance Program.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$14,136,493.99	$175,000,000.00	$45,413,532.97	$96,374,627.34	$33,211,839.69

Activities: Approximately 6,500 interest forms were submitted through the state's Private Road and Bridge Program online interest portal. Review of these forms identified a significant number of duplicate sites, and some applicants had repairs made by nonprofit organizations or made repairs themselves; therefore, approximately 2,900 unique sites are in the program queue as of September 2026. Duplication occurred because multiple residents served by the same damaged road or bridge submitted interest forms.

NCEM assessed all sites in the Private Road and Bridge Program and produced cost estimates for each site. As of September 2026, the estimated cost for repair or replacement of all sites is approximately $247 million. The overall cost estimate adjusts as actual costs become available. Approximately half of the sites require private road repair, a quarter require private bridge repair/replacement, and another quarter require repair/replacement of privately owned pipes and culverts.

As of September 2026, 153 sites are complete and 123 sites are in progress, which refers to projects under construction, assigned for construction (awaiting contractor availability), in pre-construction (e.g., scheduling tasks, finalizing permitting, or other strategic planning), or in design with an engineering firm. Importantly, 868 households are served by the 153 completed sites.

SL 2025-26 appropriated $25 million for reimbursement of private roads and bridges repaired by western North Carolina property owners. A reimbursement portal opened on September 1, 2025, and closed on February 28, 2026. As of September 30, 2026, the reimbursement program received 743 applications requesting reimbursement of approximately $9 million. This dollar figure represents 50% of the total amount requested, as SL 2025-26 requires that persons and homeowner associations applying for reimbursement shall be eligible for 50% of costs. Reimbursement figures will change over time as information is verified from property owners. As of September 30, 2026, 274 reimbursement payments have been made to property owners totaling $5.24 million, and those reimbursements have served 1,553 households.

$30 million was appropriated to the Private Road and Bridge program in SL 2026-41. Of these funds, $8 million shall be disbursed to volunteer organizations for private road and bridge reconstruction in the affected area.

Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH)

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: The RUSH Program serves people experiencing or at risk of homelessness whose needs are not otherwise served or fully met by other federal disaster relief programs. RUSH funding can be used to provide emergency shelter, rapid rehousing with up to 24 months of rental assistance, move-in financial aid, and supportive services for those already experiencing homelessness before the disaster. It can also be used for rental and utility assistance, supportive services, and outreach to help individuals at risk of homelessness stabilize their housing situations.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$4,910,417.00	$3,533,251.37	$1,377,165.63	$164,903.13	$1,377,165.63	$0.00

Activities:

Awards were made, and 13 subrecipients have programs in operation. For crisis response activities, three are providing street outreach, and five are providing emergency shelter. For housing stability activities, eight are providing rapid rehousing, and two are providing homelessness prevention. Street outreach and shelter contracts will end October 31, 2026. HUD provided an extension on the housing stability programs through May 7, 2027.

Three additional agencies received funding to increase spending rates and utilize funds returned by other subrecipients, bringing the total number of funded subrecipients to 16. As of September 2026, $2,502,240 has been expended. Through December 2025, the program served 789 individuals and 566 households were served. HUD requires annual reporting for these programs. The 2026 data will be available after the completion of the 2026 program year.

Weatherization Assistance

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: Funds to supplement existing federal funds – North Carolina's Weatherization Assistance Program – for weatherization services in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene. Weatherization reduces utility bills and energy costs and increases home safety.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$900,286.14	$10,000,000.00	$7,291,350.16	$2,708,649.84	$0.00

Activities: The Weatherization Assistance Program helps income-eligible North Carolinians save energy, reduce their utility bills, and stay safe in their homes, prioritizing the elderly, disabled, families with children, high energy users, and energy-burdened households (households whose monthly energy costs represent a large share of their monthly income). Homes damaged by Helene must have repairs completed before they can qualify for the comprehensive energy-saving upgrades. This program covers those pre-weatherization repairs. DEQ allocated $6 million to the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to manage weatherization readiness and $4 million to 10 weatherization providers in western North Carolina. The program aims to serve 575 households. In total, 402 projects have been completed, and 263 more are in process.

Human Services

Child Welfare Essential Services

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: This program distributes funds to county departments of social services in the impacted counties to provide essential services and support to children who are involved in the child welfare system and were impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$3,000,000.00	$0.00	$3,000,000.00	$0.00

Activities: The department distributed all funding to county departments of social services.

These funds have been used to provide funding to replace essential items that children and families receiving child welfare services lost during the disaster and to provide support for children and impacted families that reduces the risk of maltreatment and prevents entry into foster care. FEMA, insurance, and other funds (such as community donations) assisted families early on, but more needs materialize as these resources are exhausted. Counties continue to expend funds allocated to them, with $2,390,428 reported spent to support children and families as of October 21, 2026.

Child Welfare Essential Service Funding Allocations, by County

County	Allocated Funds
Alexander	$28,525
Alleghany	$0
Ashe	$247,638
Avery	$63,757
Buncombe	$1,244,011
Burke	$57,323
Caldwell	$5,349
Catawba	$90,085
Clay	$0
Cleveland	$15,600
Gaston	$6,449
Haywood	$193,427
Henderson	$244,422
Jackson	$24,072
Lincoln	$0
Macon	$0
Madison	$0
McDowell	$25,000
Mitchell	$87,763
Polk	$84,614
Rutherford	$427,627
Transylvania	$95,139
Watauga	$0
Wilkes	$0
Yancey	$59,199
Other*	$0
Total	**$3,000,000**

*State allocated to support the other 75 counties with clients placed in one of the 25 impacted counties.

Essential Services for Vulnerable Adults

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: Supports individuals receiving adult protective services or guardianship services, helping vulnerable adults remain in their communities after Hurricane Helene, reducing institutionalization, and ensuring their essential needs are met.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$1,400,000.00	$0.00	$1,399,000.00	$1,000.00

Activities: DHHS distributed nearly all funding to county departments of social services. Counties continue to expend funds allocated to them, with $1,276,841 reported spent to support vulnerable adults as of October 21, 2026.

Funding Allocations, by County

County	Allocated Funds
Alexander	$11,503
Alleghany	$3,592
Ashe	$140,086
Avery	$16,545
Buncombe	$269,659
Burke	$236,720
Caldwell	$0
Catawba	$104,272
Clay	$1,917
Cleveland	$31,376
Gaston	$1,395
Haywood	$88,812
Henderson	$174,625
Jackson	$5,951
Lincoln	$228
Macon	$0
Madison	$0
McDowell	$46,872
Mitchell	$44,724
Polk	$45,524
Rutherford	$43,356
Transylvania	$55,542
Watauga	$0
Wilkes	$850
Yancey	$75,452
Other*	$1,000
Total	**$1,400,000**

*State allocated to support the other 75 counties with clients placed in one of the 25 impacted counties.

Line-Of-Duty Death Benefits

Responsible State Agency: Department of State Treasurer

Purpose: Allocates funds to the Department of State Treasurer to pay line-of-duty death benefits to the dependents of public safety employees in counties with a Hurricane Helene federal disaster declaration.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$500,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$300,000.00

Activities: These funds are administered by the State Treasurer in accordance with guidance from the Industrial Commission. Of the $500,000 appropriated for line-of-duty death benefits in Helene-affected counties, $200,000 has been expended for two awards.

Infrastructure

Aerial Asset Accessibility Grant Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: This funding provides grants for airports damaged by Hurricane Helene. The maximum grant is $5 million per eligible recipient.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$25,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$25,000,000.00

Activities: The Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) received 20 applications for this program, and applicants requested more than $70 million in funding. Awards are expected to be made by November 2026. Eligible applicants are limited to people or units of local government that own an airport that (i) is currently in operation or (ii) was in operation prior to Helene and is not currently in operation because of Helene damage.

Broadband Recovery Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Information Technology (DIT)

Purpose: To provide grants to help internet service providers rebuild and repair broadband infrastructure destroyed by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$16,314,586.37	$50,000,000.00	$0.00	$68,894,970.44	$(18,894,970.44)

Activities: The Broadband Recovery Program prioritizes funding for the restoration of broadband service. Applications for the Broadband Recovery Program were due on November 24, 2025, and DIT received applications for more than $143 million from 16 provider applications. Payments to providers are made on a rolling basis as they are submitted and verified. DIT made additional funding available from the American Rescue Plan to reimburse internet service providers beyond the $50 million appropriated specifically for this program.

Helene Supplemental Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds

Federal Agency: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: The Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds offer low-interest loans to state and local governments for a variety of water quality projects.

Expenditures:

Project	Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Federal Funds Drawn Down	Obligations as of September 2026	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
Clean Water SRF (Helene)	$ 253,681,000.00	$ -	$ 253,681,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -
Clean Water SRF, Decentralized (Helene)	$ 22,510,000.00	$ 36,733.17	$ 22,459,025.92	$ 21,547.10	$ 50,974.08	$ -
Drinking Water SRF (Helene)	$ 409,422,000.00	$ -	$ 409,422,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total	**$ 685,613,000.00**	**$ 36,733.17**	**$ 685,562,025.92**	**$ 21,547.10**	**$ 50,974.08**	**$ -**

Activities: DEQ awarded $861 million to water infrastructure projects in western North Carolina. Some funding sources were specifically for Hurricane Helene recovery, and other funding sources were not specifically for Helene but prioritized western North Carolina.

The bulk of this funding comes from the EPA's State Revolving Fund. In September 2025, the State Water Infrastructure Authority (SWIA) approved the first loans for eligible drinking water and wastewater systems in Helene-impacted communities. Applications were accepted on a rolling basis until March 2, 2026. SWIA awarded the last of the remaining funds available in this allocation on April 15, 2026. Awardees manage their own construction projects and draw down funding from DEQ as they need it.

Included in State Revolving Funds for Helene recovery was funding for septic repair and replacement. North Carolina was the only state that received Helene recovery funding from the EPA and chose to create a septic repair and replacement program. More than $758 million in unmet needs remain to repair water systems and make them more resilient to future storms.

Dam Safety Grants

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: The Dam Safety Grant Fund issues grants to eligible dam owners for the purpose of dam repair, modification, or removal if the dam was damaged by a natural disaster. The

Department of Environmental Quality will prioritize grants that serve as the state match to FEMA High-Hazard-Potential Dam eligible projects.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$304,544.20	$10,000,000.00	$9,695,455.80	$304,544.20	$0.00

Activities: DEQ staff inspected more than 400 dams in western North Carolina communities. DEQ opened applications for the Dam Safety Grant Fund on October 13, 2025. DEQ assessed that approximately 40 dams in western North Carolina were eligible based on the guidelines of the grant fund. The first application submission deadline was December 12, 2025. DEQ awarded $6.6 million to seven dam projects in western North Carolina and opened a second round of applications for the remaining $3.4 million in grant funding. The second application period closed on June 19, 2026. On September 16, 2026, DEQ awarded the remaining $3.4 million to address three at-risk dams in western North Carolina. SL 2026-41 directs $20 million to 10 specific dams in western North Carolina.

Debris and Sediment Removal

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Funding for state agencies and units of local government for debris and sedimentation removal unmet needs.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$20,000,000.00	$0.00	$16,500,000.00	$3,500,000.00

Activities: OSBM allocated funds to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for debris removal unmet needs.

DEQ allocated funds to:

- MountainTrue, a nonprofit conservation organization, to conduct waterway debris removal of smaller streams and tributaries in western North Carolina. MountainTrue's waterway clean-up program has removed more than 2.8 million pounds of debris across 894 river miles, hiring 104 western North Carolinians to complete this work.

- Haywood Waterways Association, a nonprofit organization, to support clean-up and restoration efforts in the Pigeon River Watershed. With the help of state funds, Haywood Waterways has removed approximately 146,630 pounds of trash debris in the Pigeon River Watershed.
- Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council to pilot the use of mobile equipment that converts downed trees into biochar, a soil-enhancing carbon product that may benefit farmland damaged by Hurricane Helene and will help remove hazardous woody debris, lower wildfire risks, and improve soil health. The program has processed 19.99 million pounds of debris from Haywood County, producing 925 tons of biochar.
- Yancey County for debris removal and biochar pilot.

DNCR uses funding to pay for debris removal operations on state parks in western North Carolina that were denied FEMA Public Assistance Category A (debris removal) funding.

DPS continues collaboration with FEMA to gain a better understanding of which debris removal operations will not be covered by federal reimbursement through FEMA before deciding how to use these funds.

Emergency Loans for Water/Wastewater Infrastructure Repair

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: The General Assembly appropriated $100 million to provide emergency bridge loans to local government units in counties with a federal disaster declaration for water and wastewater infrastructure repairs.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$75,000,000.00	$60,141,276.11	$14,858,723.89	$0.00

Activities: SL 2025-26 reallocated $25 million from this program for other uses. The $75 million remaining has been awarded to 26 communities in western North Carolina. Local governments have individual control of when to begin drawing down loans. As of September 30, local governments have $14.86 million in loans.

SL 2025-26 adjusted the loan terms to make them more favorable for local governments; however, the loan terms were adjusted to 10 years instead of the normal loan term of 20 years. The maximum loan amount is $3 million.

Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund Grant

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR)

Purpose: After a disaster, Congress may appropriate funding from the Historic Preservation Fund to assist impacted communities via grants. This funding is available to State Historic Preservation Offices and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to work on various recovery projects, including compliance activities, survey and inventory of historic resources in declared disaster areas, recovery and repair of historic properties damaged during the disaster, and other approved disaster-recovery-related activities. All funded repair work must substantially mitigate the threat from disasters and include steps to mitigate future damage.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$6,710,000.00	$13,572.83	$5,028.28	$17,461.11	$18,601.11	$6,677,826.06

Activities: The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) uses this emergency supplemental grant to meet capacity needs in response to Hurricane Helene. Funding will be used for personnel, technology, and training to support environmental and historic preservation in western North Carolina. SHPO created four time-limited positions associated with this grant funding. Additionally, SHPO is collaborating with the Department of Information Technology to scan and digitize paper-based historic architectural survey records and with the Office of State Archeology to undertake an archeological survey of Pisgah View State Park. The term of this grant is January 1, 2026, through August 31, 2029.

Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Program

Federal Agency: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Transportation (DOT)

Purpose: These federal funds reimburse the state for costs associated with damage to roads and bridges in the National Highway System. With a June 2026 announcement of more than $900 million in federal authorization, North Carolina has received authorization for nearly $2.9 billion in reimbursements from the Emergency Relief program. Future announcements of authorization are expected.

Expenditures:

Program	Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Federal Funds Drawn Down
Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Program	$2,808,000,000	$617,052,906

Activities: The Emergency Relief program provides spending authority from which DOT may seek reimbursement. As of September 2026, the Federal Highway Administration has reimbursed approximately $617 million for Hurricane Helene-related purposes.

As of September 2026, DOT has spent $2 billion of existing operational funds on Helene recovery and estimates $5.8 billion in total transportation costs for hurricane recovery.

Floodplain Mapping

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: Funds floodplain mapping in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene. The funds will be used to revise existing floodplain maps according to new data and imagery that will capture changes in the region such as new high-water marks.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$2,314,155.37	$5,000,000.00	$1,115,081.38	$3,884,918.62	$0.00

Activities: DPS is developing new models, incorporating new post-Helene LIDAR data along with high-resolution rainfall, stream gauge, and storm damage data to identify areas for future updates to flood zones for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulatory digital flood insurance rate maps, in coordination with affected local communities.

The new flood hazard data will also support building-level risk assessments and the evaluation of mitigation strategies, aiding local rebuilding efforts. Updated modeling will focus on watersheds that received the heaviest rainfall and where significant channel migration occurred.

The department used this funding for post-processing of LIDAR mapping scans, which provide critical input for updating the state's floodplain mapping, understanding shifts that occurred due to Helene, and evaluating how flood risks evolved as a result.

LIDAR map processing occurs in two stages. The first stage – which is a 2D base-level elevation map – became available to priority counties in 2025 as completed. Another round of post-Helene

2D “rain on grid” data was provided to some counties by June 30, 2026, and the remainder of counties were provided this data by September 30, 2026. A final stage of data processing, which requires FEMA input and approval, will take longer to complete.

Broadband Satellite Resiliency Grant Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Information Technology (DIT)

Purpose: To award grants to eligible entities to purchase installation materials for satellite internet service. Installation materials and internet service must be for the grantee’s own use and not for distribution to other parties. No portion of funds granted under this section shall be used for internet service subscriptions.[5]

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000,000.00

Activities: NCDIT received more than 350 interest forms from state agencies, local government units, volunteer fire departments, and community anchor institutions for its $1 million Broadband Satellite Resiliency Grant program that uses state funds appropriated through the Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) grant program. The program, which prioritizes organizations operating in the 39 counties designated in the Hurricane Helene federal disaster area, provides funding for satellite “resilience in a box” tools to preserve essential communications when other networks go down during emergencies and natural disasters.

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks

Federal Agency: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: This federal award from EPA provides funding for DEQ’s Leaking Underground Storage Tank program, primarily for corrective action.

[5] DIT previously reported to GROW NC that this was a $20 million appropriation but corrected its reporting to reflect the actual appropriation of $1 million.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$14,250,000.00	$9,590,274.75	$547,082.92	$278,420.01	$699,976.71	$3,959,748.54

Activities: This program investigates suspected petroleum releases and performs corrective action on these releases. Sites affected by Hurricane Helene are assessed, and, based upon each site's condition, DEQ cleans up the underground storage tank releases and/or provides oversight of corrective action, site-specific corrective action, and enforcement. During the investigation process, if water supply wells are impacted, DEQ provides alternative water.

Parks and Recreation Trust Fund

Responsible State Agency: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR)

Purpose: Funds can be used for the state parks system or state recreational forests.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$7,962,500.00	$7,962,500.00	$0.00	$0.00

Activities: The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources uses this portion of funding in the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund for capital projects, repair and renovation of park facilities damaged by Hurricane Helene, and land acquisition. Funding is for projects that are not eligible for FEMA Public Assistance reimbursement.

Town of Canton Wastewater Treatment

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Funds for acquisition of the former Pactiv wastewater treatment facility and other related properties for the purpose of constructing a new regional wastewater treatment facility and other related infrastructure outside of the floodplain for disaster mitigation and recovery.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$16,000,000.00	$0.00	$16,000,000.00	$0.00

Activities: Funds have been transferred to the Town of Canton. The town will use this funding to acquire the current wastewater treatment plant and additional property.

Transportation Infrastructure Repair

Responsible State Agency: Department of Transportation (DOT)

Purpose: The General Assembly authorized DOT to use previously appropriated state funds for transportation infrastructure repair and reconstruction, state cost share for eligible federal funding, and aid for the department's cash flow. This funding authorization included:

- $125 million from the Transportation Emergency Reserve (SL 2024-57)
- All future Credit Balance Funds until recovery is complete (SL 2025-26)
- $28,161,418 in unexpended Hurricane Dorian funds (SL 2025-26)
- $600,000 from the NC Railroad Dividend (SL 2025-26)

Expenditures:

Expenditure of S.L. 2024-57 Funds

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$125,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$125,000,000.00

Expenditure of S.L. 2025-26 Funds

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$(6,829,849.78)	$346,198,357.09	$150,922,682.97	$5,292,876.21	$189,982,797.91

Activities: As of September 2026, DOT spent approximately $2 billion of existing operational funds on Hurricane Helene recovery. In addition, the department began to utilize funding made available for Helene recovery by the General Assembly in SL 2025-26. SL 2025-26 states that DOT shall use all future Credit Balance Funds for Helene recovery until recovery work is complete. As of September 30, 2026, the Credit Balance Funds available to DOT for Helene

recovery totaled $346,198,357.09. While SL 2024-57 made $125 million available to DOT for Helene recovery, the department awaits a technical correction to the language related to this appropriation before the department will use the funds.

In August 2026, DOT changed the source of funds for a portion of state matching expenditures for repairs to Interstate 40 from Highway Funds to Trust Funds, resulting in a decrease in allotted funding and expenditures from the SL 2025-26 funds. Doing so resulted in the negative amount included for the first quarter in the SL 2025-26 table above.

As of September 2026, the department estimates $5.8 billion in total transportation costs for Helene recovery.

Underground Storage Tank Repair

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: To provide emergency bridge loans to owners and operators of commercial underground storage tanks for testing and repair of infrastructure in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$300,000.00	$2,000,000.00	$0.00	$1,162,296.35	$837,703.65

Activities: SL 2025-26 reallocated $20 million from this program for other uses. DEQ awarded loans to all eligible applications. The department distributed notice letters to potential loan recipients, visited 35 sites in western North Carolina to meet with owners and operators, and informed more than 3,800 facilities about the loan program.

Local Capacity for Recovery

Election Administration

Responsible State Agency: State Board of Elections

Purpose: Allocates funds to the State Board of Elections for items such as technology and internet connectivity, printing and communications, temporary staff, mobile voting units, and related supplies and equipment.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$87,650.00	$2,750,000.00	$0.00	$679,853.14	$2,070,146.86

Activities: From the $5 million originally appropriated for the 2024 election in the affected area, $2.25 million was reappropriated for other uses in SL 2025-26. The General Assembly also authorized the State Board of Elections to use the remaining funds for conducting future elections in the impacted area.

Governor's Recovery Office for Western NC Funding

Responsible State Agency: Office of the Governor

Purpose: These funds will serve as operating costs for the Governor's Recovery Office for Western North Carolina (GROW NC) and help fund initiatives beyond staffing and operations, like technical assistance efforts and long-term economic recovery planning.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$933,698.15	$10,000,000.00	$397,560.15	$3,672,311.87	$5,930,127.98

Activities: The Governor's Recovery Office for Western North Carolina facilitates coordination among state agencies working on the recovery, reports on the status of the recovery to the Governor and the General Assembly, and assists local governments, nonprofit organizations, and residents in western North Carolina with efforts to recover from Hurricane Helene. As of September 30, 2026, the Recovery Office employed 20 staff.

Hurricane Helene Local Government Capital Grant Program

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Funds are made available to local governments and federally recognized tribes in western North Carolina for capital grants to repair, renovate, or replace infrastructure damaged by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$1,497,077.39	$70,000,000.00	$25,796,848.02	$44,203,151.98	$0.00

Activities: OSBM opened applications for the Helene Local Government Capital Grant program in September 2025. The application deadline was November 21, 2025. Capital grants are intended to repair, renovate, or replace infrastructure damaged by Helene. In December 2025, OSBM awarded all available funding for 80 local government infrastructure projects. Grant agreements are signed with all but three remaining grantees, which are in the process of receiving FEMA Public Assistance or insurance determinations before moving forward. OSBM received 172 applications representing $118 million in need.

The second round of the program, which now includes funding for volunteer fire departments, opened September 25, 2026. Applications are due by November 23, 2026. The General Assembly appropriated $65 million for this purpose in the 2026 Appropriations Act.

Local Government Cash Flow Loans

Responsible State Agency: Department of State Treasurer

Purpose: Allocates funds to the Department of State Treasurer to administer a cash flow loan program to support local governments. Loans are intended to serve as bridge loans until FEMA reimbursement is received.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$151,500,000.00	$0.00	$148,578,911.77	$2,921,088.23

Activities: The Department of the State Treasurer expended funds appropriated for this program in both SL 2024-53 and SL 2025-26. A total of $148,529,411.77 was wired across three rounds of

funding through 109 loans to local governments. Remaining funding was kept available to cover administrative expenses, and of that, $49,500 was used.

As of September 30, 2026, $723,790 has been repaid by local governments.

In September 2026, the Department of the State Treasurer awarded additional loans to local governments with $20 million appropriated by the General Assembly in the 2026 Appropriations Act and the balance of previously awarded funds. These loans appear in the table below.

Loans made to municipal and county governments

Local Government Unit	County	Offered Amount
Town of Clyde	Haywood	$ 1,000,000.00
Town of Canton	Haywood	$ 2,809,630.60
County of Madison	Madison	$ 3,600,000.00
County of Polk	Polk	$ 593,670.00
County of Rutherford	Rutherford	$ 2,767,787.63
Village of Chimney Rock	Rutherford	$ 4,000,000.00
Town of Lake Lure	Rutherford	$ 5,000,000.00
Town of Beech Mountain	Watauga	$ 3,000,000.00
Total		**$ 22,771,088.23**

Round 1

County	Local Government Unit	Loan Amount	Wire Date
Ashe County	Ashe County	$ 468,678	4/3/2025
Ashe County	Lansing	$ 207,673	5/2/2025
Avery County	Avery County	$ 1,973,034	5/8/2025
Avery County	Banner Elk	$ 769,419	3/26/2025
Avery County	Sugar Mountain	$ 428,865	3/13/2025
Avery County	Crossnore	$ 266,444	4/10/2025
Avery County	Elk Park	$ 178,731	4/3/2025
Avery County	Newland	$ 166,206	3/7/2025
Buncombe County	Buncombe County	$ 8,449,310	3/7/2025
Buncombe County	Asheville	$ 2,791,793	3/27/2025
Buncombe County	Biltmore Forest	$ 1,028,198	4/10/2025
Buncombe County	Black Mountain	$ 705,703	3/12/2025
Buncombe County	Woodfin	$ 664,984	3/13/2025
Buncombe County	Montreat	$ 120,716	5/13/2025
Burke County	Morganton	$ 5,460,967	6/5/2025
Caldwell County	Caldwell County	$ 1,146,530	7/17/2025
Cleveland County	Cleveland County	$ 1,162,090	7/10/2025
Cleveland County	Boiling Springs	$ 149,625	6/6/2025
Haywood County	Canton	$ 1,958,746	6/18/2025
Haywood County	Waynesville	$ 503,483	6/13/2025
Haywood County	Clyde	$ 126,238	2/24/2025
Haywood County	Maggie Valley	$ 23,440	3/18/2025
Henderson County	Henderson County	$ 4,197,973	5/15/2025
Henderson County	Laurel Park	$ 1,512,214	3/11/2025
Henderson County	Hendersonville	$ 1,172,005	3/19/2025
Henderson County	Mills River	$ 133,954	4/1/2025
Jackson County	Sylva	$ 203,929	4/1/2025
Madison County	Madison County	$ 1,601,939	2/28/2025
Madison County	Marshall	$ 1,040,338	6/2/2025
McDowell County	Old Fort	$ 573,328	3/20/2025
McDowell County	McDowell County	$ 217,051	3/21/2025
Mitchell County	Mitchell County	$ 2,887,431	3/18/2025
Mitchell County	Spruce Pine	$ 2,831,869	4/1/2025
Mitchell County	Bakersville	$ 76,766	3/7/2025
Polk County	Polk County	$ 1,654,939	4/4/2025
Polk County	Tryon	$ 164,467	5/28/2025
Polk County	Saluda	$ 150,546	3/20/2025
Rutherford County	Lake Lure	$ 3,423,123	3/20/2025
Rutherford County	Rutherford County	$ 1,836,666	4/29/2025
Rutherford County	Spindale	$ 160,985	5/1/2025
Surry County	Dobson	$ 48,053	4/2/2025
Watauga County	Beech Mountain	$ 3,825,337	3/3/2025
Watauga County	Watauga County	$ 895,478	4/8/2025
Watauga County	Seven Devils	$ 112,986	6/13/2025
Wilkes County	Wilkesboro	$ 227,252	4/16/2025
Yancey County	Yancey County	$ 3,680,783	4/16/2025
Yancey County	Burnsville	$ 2,171,711	3/10/2025
Total		**$ 63,551,998**	

Round 2

County	Local Government Unit	Loan Amount	Wire Date
Ashe County	Ashe County	$ 309,259	8/15/2025
Avery County	Avery County	$ 1,301,914	7/11/2025
Avery County	Sugar Mountain	$ 282,988	6/20/2025
Buncombe County	Buncombe County	$ 5,575,310	6/24/2025
Buncombe County	Asheville	$ 1,842,175	7/2/2025
Buncombe County	Biltmore Forest	$ 678,460	7/2/2025
Buncombe County	Black Mountain	$ 465,661	7/2/2025
Buncombe County	Woodfin	$ 438,792	6/20/2025
Buncombe County	Montreat	$ 79,655	8/1/2025
Cleveland County	Cleveland County	$ 766,810	7/10/2025
Haywood County	Waynesville	$ 332,225	8/1/2025
Haywood County	Maggie Valley	$ 216,710	7/10/2025
Henderson County	Henderson County	$ 2,770,048	7/2/2025
Henderson County	Laurel Park	$ 997,840	7/18/2025
Henderson County	Mills River	$ 88,390	7/2/2025
Madison County	Madison County	$ 1,057,046	7/29/2025
Madison County	Marshall	$ 686,471	7/3/2025
Madison County	Hot Springs	$ 94,506	8/7/2025
McDowell County	Old Fort	$ 378,313	8/1/2025
Mitchell County	Mitchell County	$ 1,905,283	6/20/2025
Mitchell County	Spruce Pine	$ 1,868,620	7/2/2025
Polk County	Polk County	$ 1,092,018	7/2/2025
Polk County	Tryon	$ 108,524	6/26/2025
Polk County	Saluda	$ 99,338	7/29/2025
Rutherford County	Lake Lure	$ 2,258,761	7/23/2025
Rutherford County	Rutherford County	$ 1,211,931	7/29/2025
Rutherford County	Spindale	$ 106,227	6/18/2025
Watauga County	Beech Mountain	$ 2,524,163	7/10/2025
Watauga County	Watauga County	$ 590,884	7/3/2025
Yancey County	Yancey County	$ 2,428,779	6/24/2025
Yancey County	Burnsville	$ 1,433,012	7/2/2025
Total		**$ 33,990,111**	

Round 3

County	Local Government Unit	Loan Amount	Wire Date
Ashe County	Ashe County	$ 485,631	10/14/2025
Avery County	Avery County	$ 1,227,536	9/25/2025
Avery County	Banner Elk	$ 578,609	9/17/2025
Avery County	Sugar Mountain	$ 263,135	9/19/2025
Avery County	Elk Park	$ 67,633	9/4/2025
Buncombe County	Buncombe County	$ 5,418,434	9/11/2025
Buncombe County	Asheville	$ 12,218,317	9/16/2025
Buncombe County	Biltmore Forest	$ 657,303	9/17/2025
Buncombe County	Black Mountain	$ 1,233,911	9/22/2025
Buncombe County	Woodfin	$ 400,072	9/18/2025
Buncombe County	Montreat	$ 65,472	9/17/2025
Cleveland County	Cleveland County	$ 507,228	9/22/2025
Haywood County	Waynesville	$ 298,672	9/10/2025
Haywood County	Haywood County	$ 998,885	9/5/2025
Haywood County	Maggie Valley	$ 231,051	9/4/2025
Henderson County	Henderson County	$ 5,276,144	9/4/2025
Henderson County	Laurel Park	$ 676,827	9/19/2025
Madison County	Madison County	$ 902,849	9/26/2025
Madison County	Marshall	$ 523,951	10/1/2025
Mitchell County	Mitchell County	$ 2,706,171	9/4/2025
Mitchell County	Spruce Pine	$ 3,364,027	10/7/2025
Polk County	Polk County	$ 911,230	9/19/2025
Polk County	Tryon	$ 107,514	9/8/2025
Rutherford County	Lake Lure	$ 2,328,479	8/27/2025
Rutherford County	Rutherford County	$ 1,557,449	9/16/2025
Rutherford County	Spindale	$ 52,345	9/22/2025
Watauga County	Beech Mountain	$ 1,499,749	9/11/2025
Watauga County	Watauga County	$ 3,268,633	9/4/2025
Watauga County	Seven Devils	$ 41,466	10/1/2025
Yancey County	Yancey County	$ 1,920,977	8/27/2025
Yancey County	Burnsville	$ 1,197,600	9/9/2025
Total		**$ 50,987,303**	

State and Local Government Unmet Needs

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Purpose: Funding for state agencies and units of local government in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene for unmet needs not covered by insurance or available federal aid.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$121,162.50	$50,000,000.00	$294,500.00	$45,703,167.14	$4,002,332.86

Activities: DPS uses a portion of these funds to pay costs associated with Helene recovery that are not covered by the federal government.

The remaining funds – $26 million – were transferred to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) for use administering grants designed to address unmet needs for small business support and housing repairs. OSBM administered a grant for $20 million to expand the Western North Carolina Small Business Initiative and leverage additional philanthropic investment of $10 million from the Dogwood Health Trust and $5 million from the Duke Endowment. These funds expanded the small business grant program, which provided a total of $55 million in grants to 2,182 businesses.

OSBM administered grants to Baptists on Mission and Habitat for Humanity for $3 million each ($6 million total). These grants were designed to meet immediate housing needs while the state completed the extensive requirements to create the federally funded housing repair and reconstruction program in the Department of Commerce and launch its operations. Baptists on Mission expended funds solely for rehabilitation projects and immediate needs. The organization spent a maximum of $30,000 per home on repairs. As of September 2026, Baptists on Mission repaired 472 homes with these funds as part of their home repair and rebuild program that has completed more than 1,200 total home rebuilds. Habitat for Humanity will use the funding to provide permanent repairs for 160 homes, construction of six new homes, and temporary housing for 12 households for up to six months. Habitat for Humanity has completed 117 projects and served 142 families as of September 30, 2026.

State Parks and Local Government

Responsible State Agency: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR)

Purpose: Funds available to units of local government as matching funds.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$4,287,500.00	$4,287,500.00	$0.00	$0.00

Activities: The Helene Recovery Fund through the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund provides dollar-for-dollar matching grants to local governments for the acquisition and/or development of park and recreational projects to serve the public. The Division of Parks and Recreation announced the availability of grant funding on October 1, 2025, and the deadline for applications was January 30, 2026. The grants were distributed as follows:

- The City of Asheville in Buncombe County received $345,000 for Azalea Park. Funds will enhance a trail along the Swannanoa River with bench seating and fitness stations.
- Ashe County received $300,000 for Family Central Park in Jefferson. New amenities include a splash pad, accessible playground, and picnic shelter.
- Avery County received $987,500 for Hodge Turbyfill Fields in Newland. Funds will rebuild park amenities including restrooms, walking paths, and footbridges and repair ballfields and playgrounds.
- The Town of Banner Elk in Avery County received $204,201 for Tate-Evans Park. Funds will reconstruct a pavilion outside of the floodplain, reconstruct a pedestrian bridge, and add new multipurpose courts.
- The Town of Beech Mountain in Watauga County received $353,250 for Shane Park. Funds will rebuild and enhance a campground, replace a parking lot, add a pavilion, and renovate a bathhouse.
- Buncombe County received $284,368 for boat launch replacements on the French Broad River.
- The Town of Canton in Haywood County received $403,804 for Sorrells Street Park. Funds will go to structural repair and renovation of a community center and add a new flood-resilient playground and an outdoor plaza.
- The City of Hendersonville in Henderson County received $361,762 for Sullivan Park. Funds will replace and relocate restrooms and replace a damaged playground.
- The Town of Montreat in Buncombe County received $307,274 for Flat Creek. Funds will restore and stabilize streambanks, add a new geolift system with native plantings, and facilitate design and engineering of a future bridge.
- The Town of Seven Devils in Watauga County received $117,716 for repairs on the Otter Falls Trail. Funds will construct engineered switchbacks to make the trail safer and reduce future landslide and erosion risks.
- Watauga County received $494,000 for Cove Creek Park in Sugar Grove. Funds will replace trails, benches, a playground, and a picnic shelter and add new exercise equipment, creek access points, a fishing pier, and a performance stage.

Technical Assistance for Assessments and Design

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Purpose: Allocates funds to provide technical assistance to local government units in counties with a federal disaster declaration for assessment and design of water and wastewater infrastructure repair, including the feasibility of regionalization.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$74,355.95	$7,000,000.00	$4,774,334.90	$2,225,665.10	$0.00

Activities: DEQ provided 19 technical assistance grants to local governments for preliminary engineering as part of their emergency bridge loans. Another 14 technical assistance grants have been obligated to local governments to assess and/or design interconnections for resiliency with other local government partners. Some grantees expended all funding while others are still conducting projects.

Technical Assistance for Local Governments

Responsible State Agency: Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM)

Purpose: Provide technical assistance with local recovery funds, including applying for federal financial aid, planning and permitting assistance, and building capacity for building and trade inspectors. Counties with populations of less than 250,000 will be given priority for these grants.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$0.00	$13,500,000.00	$0.00	$13,500,000.00	$0.00

Activities: OSBM disbursed all funds equally among the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina League of Municipalities. The organizations are using this funding to provide technical support to western North Carolina communities that includes, for example, development and submission of disaster recovery grant applications, legal and financial assistance, and providing recovery trainings for local government professionals.

Renew NC

Renew NC: Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: Grant to support housing repair, affordable housing construction, rental assistance, local redevelopment capacity, and mitigation activities.

Expenditures:

CDBG-DR Life-to-Date

Project	Cumulative		
	Obligated	Total Funds Drawn Down	Expended
Administration - Agency General Operations	$6,550,830.98	$5,815,181.69	$6,134,376.84
Administration - Commercial District Revitalization Program (CDR)	$0.00	$292,961.20	$314,041.53
Administration - Infrastructure CDBG-DR	$0.00	$295,179.37	$322,339.65
Administration - Multi-Family Large - CDBG-DR	$0.00	$208,123.32	$232,968.44
Administration - Workforce Housing for Ownership (WHO)	$0.00	$25,436.56	$31,697.60
Multi-Family Housing: Small Rental Rehabilitation Program	$0.00	$88,582.36	$92,931.84
Multi-Family Housing: Large Project Program - CDGB-DR	$69,139,800.00	$0.00	$0.00
Single-Family: Low and Moderate Income (LMI)	$178,327,923.65	$14,730,797.93	$14,788,890.57
Single-Family: Mitigation - Low and Moderate Income (LMI)	$0.00	$4,311,034.71	$4,311,034.71
Single-Family: Urgent Need (UN)	$18,898,753.67	$1,701,207.91	$1,720,572.14
Totals	**$272,917,308.30**	**$27,468,505.05**	**$27,948,853.32**

Renew NC - State Funds

Purpose	Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
DCR Operations	$5,000,000.00	$5,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00

Activities: Governor Josh Stein established the Division of Community Revitalization (DCR) within the NC Department of Commerce for the purpose of administering North Carolina's CDBG-DR grant for Hurricane Helene Recovery. The General Assembly appropriated $5 million in SL 2025-2 to support DCR's operations.

DCR finalized a grant agreement with HUD for $1.4 billion in CDBG-DR funding, which supports multiple programs as approved in the state action plan submitted to HUD in March 2025:

- $807 million: Single-Family Housing Program
- $191 million: Multi-Family Housing Program
- $53 million: Workforce Housing for Ownership
- $194 million: Community Infrastructure Program
- $111 million: Commercial District Revitalization Program
- $71 million: Program Administration

The General Assembly appropriated $120 million to DCR in SL 2025-02 to support a HUD-compliant Home Reconstruction and Repair program that would later be reimbursed by federal funds. This appropriation improved the timeline for single-family housing repair and reconstruction while the state worked with federal partners to receive the $1.4 billion allocation of CDBG-DR funds from HUD. The program launched on June 16, 2025, under the name Renew NC, and applications for the Single-Family Housing Program were accepted until January 31, 2026.

The Department of Commerce Division of Community Revitalization (DCR) obligated $81,495,887.42 for the implementation vendor contract for the Renew NC Single-Family Housing program. DCR structured the contract to pay for outcomes, not activities. Payments are made as the vendor meets milestones set out in the contract. By structuring the contract to award outcomes instead of activities, DCR used a different contracting model than the state used in previous recoveries. The state began drawing down funds for the Single-Family Housing program from HUD in October 2025.

Single-Family Housing Program

The Renew NC Single-Family Housing Program provides rehabilitation, reconstruction, replacement, and reimbursement assistance to low- to moderate-income households impacted by Hurricane Helene across 28 counties. The program received a total of 7,924 applications. Of those, 5,750 applications have been determined ineligible or inactive and 2,173 are active. Most of the eligible applicants were confirmed to be at or below 60% area median income, to be in a HUD-identified Most Impacted and Distressed Area, and to have a child, person with a disability, or elderly adult in the home.

As of November 11, 2026, 233 homes are complete, with an additional 230 homes currently under construction.

Multi-Family Housing Program

The portion of the Multi-Family Housing Program dedicated to small unit rentals (one to four units) began accepting applications on December 15, 2025, and closed for applications on July 10, 2026. It helps eligible rental property owners (landlords) repair, reconstruct, or replace small rental properties (one to four units) damaged by Hurricane Helene. Assistance is provided as a grant with a 10-year affordability period. The program received 161 applications representing 190 units. As of September 29, 2026, there are 94 applications active, while 67 have been determined inactive or ineligible.

Pre-screenings for the Multi-Family Construction and Repair Program opened on June 1, 2026, followed by the launch of full applications on June 25, 2026. This program is designed to increase the availability of safe and sanitary affordable rental housing in areas affected by Helene by supporting the rehabilitation, development, or new construction of multifamily properties with five or more units. Applications closed November 2, 2026. DCR received 28 applications requesting a total of $276 million. This program has $70 million available to award. DCR anticipates announcing awards in early 2027.

The Large Multi-Family Housing Program, administered in partnership with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, accepted applications from January to May 2026. They announced awards in August 2026. Through this partnership, $69.1 million in CDBG-DR funds were invested in 10 LIHTC projects in the most impacted and distressed counties, which will create 828 new affordable homes to support ongoing recovery in western North Carolina.

Workforce Housing for Ownership Program

Prescreening for the Workforce Housing for Ownership Program opened on July 20, 2026, and full applications opened in August 2026. This program supports the development of affordable housing for purchase by low- and moderate-income families (households up to 80% of AMI). Eligible applicants include qualified local governments and public, private, and nonprofit organizations, as well as Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs) and Community-Based Development Organizations (CBDOs). Grant awards range from $2 million to $5 million. As of September 2026, the program has 61 potential projects in the prescreening phase and seven applications in progress. Applications remain open through December 13, 2026.

Commercial District Revitalization Program

Applications were open through August 4, 2026, for Round 1 of the Commercial District Revitalization Program for local governments and nonprofit organizations that received FEMA Public Assistance (PA) decisions. The program received 27 applications requesting $153 million.

They plan to award $40 million in Round 1 and announce awards in November 2026. DCR plans to open Round 2 for applications in December 2026 and have $71 million available to award.

Community Infrastructure Program

Round 1 of the Community Infrastructure Program opened for full applications on July 6, 2026, and closed on September 16, 2026. The program received 53 applications requesting $397 million. They plan to award $55 million in Round 1 and announce awards in December 2026. DCR plans to open Round 2 for applications in early 2027 and have $139 million available to award.

Award amounts will generally range from $500,000 to $15 million per project. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition, demolition, site preparation, or renovation of properties;
- Flood control and stormwater management systems;
- Restoration of public spaces, including parks and community centers; and
- Physical upgrades and rehabilitation assistance for public utility services.

Round 1 will award priority points to water and sewer, parks and recreation facilities, and roads and bridges projects. Round 2 will likely open in early 2027. Offering two rounds addresses the needs of local governments at different stages in the recovery process. Some local governments have FEMA Public Assistance decisions for their projects, and others do not.

Natural Resources

Good Neighbor Agreement: Assessment of Biological and Ecological Resources of the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests

Federal Agency: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR)

Purpose: This agreement between the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and the U.S. Forest Service derived from the Forest Service's Good Neighbor Authority, a tool that makes it easier for the Forest Service to team up with non-federal partners to care for forests. This collaborative effort is to assess the impacts of Hurricane Helene on the unique biological and ecological resources of the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests and adjacent lands with a focus on documenting rare species populations.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$10,146,638.90	$1,417.08	$465,744.84	$245,030.47	$467,161.92	$9,678,059.90

Activities: This agreement will support staff assessment and monitor damage over a period of 10 years. Assessments will inform recommendations for restorations and management actions for long-term resilience of rare species and their natural habitats. The agreement supports eight new Natural Heritage Program permanent, time-limited positions for a 10-year period. This program works in tandem with other Good Neighbor Agreements between the U.S. Forest Service and the State of North Carolina.

Good Neighbor Agreement: Pisgah and Nantahala National Forest Restoration

Federal Agency: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Responsible State Agency: Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC)

Purpose: This agreement between the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and the U.S. Forest Service was derived from the U.S. Forest Service's Good Neighbor Authority, a tool that makes it easier for the Forest Service to team up with non-federal partners to care for forests. The agreement is the largest of its kind for the Forest Service. The agreement empowers the Wildlife Resources Commission to perform comprehensive recovery efforts throughout the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests over the next 10 years.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$290,388,237.00	$5,453,071.29	$2,666,624.21	$1,896,664.75	$2,567,084.92	$282,368,080.79

Activities: WRC will partner with the U.S. Forest Service to remove storm debris, repair roads and recreation areas, manage invasive species, restore damaged watersheds, and improve wildlife habitat in the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests. WRC expects to hire approximately 90 staff members to facilitate this work.

Good Neighbor Agreement: Pisgah and Nantahala National Forest Hazardous Fuel Reduction

Federal Agency: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Responsible State Agency: NC Forest Service (NCFS)

Purpose: This agreement between the North Carolina Forest Service and the U.S. Forest Service will reduce hazardous fuels across wildland-urban interface areas and develop strategies to manage the presence of invasive or non-native species in western North Carolina. The agreement tasks the NCFS to perform wildfire mitigation and recovery efforts throughout the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests over the next 10 years.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$65,979,207.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$65,979,207.00

Activities: NCFS will partner with the USFS to remove downed trees and storm debris on national forestland and private lands, reduce wildfire risk for neighboring towns and communities, manage non-native species, and improve access on roads and trails for firefighters.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Funds

Federal Agency: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: DEQ received supplemental federal funding from EPA to support hazardous waste, recycling, and solid waste management recovery in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Obligations as of September 2026	Federal Funds Drawn Down	FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$61,006,486.00	$32,843,667.85	$484,539.34	$220,486.89	$536,453.15	$27,626,365.00

Activities: This funding, called the North Carolina Hurricane Helene Supplemental Appropriation for Hazardous Waste and Solid Waste Management Financial Assistance Grants, provides critical support for disaster response, emergency preparedness, and long-term resilience. Funding is distributed across several divisions and programs and will be used to support immediate response efforts and long-term resilience projects.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act funds are used for a variety of projects including the Recycling Infrastructure Grant, Solid Waste Debris Recovery and Disposal, Brownfields Redevelopment, Waste Pesticide Management, and Hazardous Waste Preparedness.

On June 2, 2026, DEQ awarded all available funding for the Helene Recovery Recycling Infrastructure Grant to 16 local governments to rebuild and improve recycling and organic debris management systems for long-term resilience. The following counties and municipalities were awarded Recycling Infrastructure Grants, with award amounts in parentheses:

- Alleghany County ($2,800,000)
- Ashe County ($3,000,000)
- Avery County ($544,000)
- Town of Black Mountain ($525,000)
- Buncombe County ($3,500,000)
- Graham County ($1,400,000)
- Haywood County ($2,514,500)
- Jackson County ($3,000,000)
- Macon County ($2,750,000)
- Town of Marshall ($356,000)
- McDowell County ($580,000)
- Mitchell County ($380,000)
- Rutherford County ($1,500,000)
- Watauga County ($280,000)
- Wilkes County ($570,000)

- Yancey County ($1,300,000)

Applications for the Helene Debris Recovery and Disposal program opened on June 15, 2026, and remained open until September 14, 2026. Awards are expected by December 2026. This program provides grants to local goverments and non-governmental organizations in western North Carolina to help communities shorten timeframes and/or fund remaining Helene solid waste disaster debris clean-up and removal projects that are not covered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or other funding sources.

The DEQ Brownfields Redevelopment Section is making funds available to assist property owners and communities with environmental site assessments, remediation, community planning efforts, and feasibility studies. Eligible properties must have been in productive use at the time of the storm and now be idled or impaired as a result.

Local governments in Helene-impacted communities can apply for a Hazardous Waste and Solid Waste Management Financial Assistance Grant to support recovery and redevelopment. These grant funds are targeted for individual project redevelopment. Eligible properties must have been in productive use at the time of the storm and now be idled or impaired as a result. Funding from this grant can be used for environmental assessments to determine potential levels of contamination on a project site and feasibility studies to evaluate the site's redevelopment potential. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Government's Development Finance Initiative will conduct feasibility analysis for redevelopment of qualified properties.

Summary of Awards to DEQ and Description of Programs

Grant Programs	Funding	Description
Recycling Infrastructure	$26,355,456	Grants to local governments to replace or improve recycling infrastructure damaged by the storm, build resilient convenience centers and transfer stations, and coordinate workshops.
Debris Recovery and Disposal	$20,394,893	Direct funding for local governments and nonprofits to manage disaster debris, storage, reduction, disposal, and non-hazardous waste collection.
Brownfields Redevelopment	$5,025,931	Identification, assessment, and remediation of contaminated sites as well as community planning efforts for areas that were previously in productive use.
Emergency Response and Cleanup	$2,351,705	Environmental contracts to remove orphaned containers, contaminated soil, and other hazardous materials caused by Hurricane Helene.

Grant Programs	Funding	Description
Hazardous Waste Preparedness	$1,147,393	Groundwater sampling at impacted sites and field response for storm-related emergencies. This funding source will be utilized for internal projects only.
Waste Management Workshops and Grant Support	$1,381,669	Administer grant, develop resources, and provide resilient solid waste, recycling, and household hazardous waste infrastructure workshops for local government solid waste and recycling managers. This funding source will be utilized for internal projects only.
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	$4,349,438, subaward	Collection events and disposal programs for unusable pesticides, including mini-bulk containers at farm and dealer sites, with education and training components for long-term safety.

Soil and Water Conservation Technical Assistance

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: Funds to provide technical support to soil and water conservation districts in the affected area, including the creation of time-limited positions.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$134,132.08	$2,000,000.00	$0.00	$617,500.51	$1,382,499.49

Activities: The department established two time-limited positions in the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Funding also supports seven additional positions to be contracted through local soil and water conservation districts. These contracts took effect July 1, 2025, and run through June 30, 2028.

Other State Appropriations

Office of the State Auditor Helene Recovery Dashboard

Responsible State Agency: Office of the State Auditor

Purpose: Funds for the Office of the State Auditor to provide and maintain its public dashboard on Hurricane Helene recovery.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$185,060.00	$2,000,000.00	$221,698.26	$1,207,814.22	$570,487.52

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, the Office of the State Auditor obligated about $222,000 and expended just over $1.2 million.

State Matching Funds

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety

Purpose: Session Laws 2024-51 and 2024-53 provided a total of $395 million for state matching funds required for federal disaster assistance programs for state and local governments.

Expenditures:

FY 27 Q1 Expenditures	State Funds Net Appropriation	Obligations as of September 30, 2026	Cumulative Expenditures	Balance
$14,874,549.54	$395,000,000.00	$0.00	$120,581,297.35	$274,418,702.65

Activities: These funds are expended when the federal government requires a state match for recovery services, such as debris removal. Therefore, funds will not be expended immediately but over time as the federal government reimburses the state for eligible work. The rate of spend from this fund increased since April 2025, when FEMA denied the state's request to extend the 100 percent federal cost share for expenses covered by FEMA Public Assistance. In addition to FEMA Public Assistance, the state expects to cover 25 percent of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The state received a "lock-in" amount of $1.543 billion in funding for HMGP, meaning the state's 25% cost share equates to $513 million. Further, the state anticipates a bill from FEMA for the state's share of the cost of the signficant significant debris removal operations conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the region. SL 2026-41 appropriates $450 million to provide the nonfederal share for federal disaster recovery programs for Hurricane Helene.

Appendix I: Other Federal Funds

Other Federal Funding as of September 30, 2026

This table shows federal funds that for the most part are disbursed to entities other than state agencies, including individual households, small business owners, local governments, nonprofits, and others. The sole exception is FEMA Public Assistance funds, which can be disbursed to state agencies.

Assistance to State Agencies, Local Governments, and Nonprofits

Agency	Funding Program	Federal Funding Obligated
HUD	**CDBG-DR Asheville***	$116,393,102
FEMA**	Public Assistance (A) - Debris Removal	$620,557,314
	Public Assistance (B) - Emergency Protective Measures	$712,088,494
	Public Assistance (C) - Roads and Bridges	$637,176,716
	Public Assistance (D) - Water Control Facilities	$19,947,633
	Public Assistance (E) - Buildings and Equipment	$97,519,799
	Public Assistance (F) - Utilities	$146,499,568
	Public Assistance (G) - Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Other Items	$83,578,938
	Public Assistance (Z) - Management Costs	$222,233,167
	Total	**$2,655,994,733**

*The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the City of Asheville a $225,010,000 CDBG-DR grant . The amount in the table above reflects the total funds from this award that Asheville had obligated as of September 30, 2026.

**Source of FEMA Public Assistance obligations is the FEMA Portal as of September 30, 2026, and reflects funds obligated by FEMA for approved projects.

Assistance to Individuals and Businesses

Agency	Funding Program	Federal Funding Allocated or Disbursed
Small Business Administration	Business Physical Damage Loans	$214,292,700
	Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)	$53,538,400
	Home and Personal Property Disaster Loan Program	$166,021,500
Department of Labor	DOL Unemployment Insurance	$57,977,643
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP)	$64,983,438
	USDA Disaster Assistance Fund	$25,000,000
FEMA	FEMA Disaster Unemployment Assistance	$38,795,254
	FEMA Individual Assistance: Housing Assistance	$295,078,995
	FEMA Individual Assistance: Other Needs Assistance	$273,101,933
	Individual Assistance: Private Roads and Bridges	$34,179,775
	Total	**$1,222,969,637**

Programs Completed

Agency	Funding Program	Federal Disbursed
U.S. Department of Education	Project School Emergency Response to Violence	$7,350,907.00
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Emergency Prescription Assistance Program	$2,434,611.00

Appendix II: SL 2026-41 Helene Recovery Funds

Agency	Purpose	Previously Funded	Appropriation Amount
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Wildfire Assets and Preparedness	Yes	$ 7,000,000.00
Department of Environmental Quality	Dam Safety Grants	Yes	$ 20,000,000.00
Department of Environmental Quality	Landslide Hazard Mapping	Yes	$ 1,000,000.00
Department of Public Safety	Ongoing Repair and Reconstruction (Volunteer Organizations)	Yes	$ 35,000,000.00
Department of Public Safety	State Matching Funds	Yes	$ 450,000,000.00
Department of Public Safety	State Private Roads and Bridges Repair and Replacement Program	Yes	$ 30,000,000.00
Department of the State Treasurer	Local Government Cash Flow Loans	Yes	$ 20,000,000.00
Office of State Budget & Management	Hurricane Helene Local Government Capital Grant Program	Yes	$ 65,000,000.00
Department of Commerce	Temporary Relocation Assistance (TRA) Program	No	$ 40,000,000.00
Department of Commerce	Tourism Development Authorities (TDAs)	No	$ 2,000,000.00
Department of Public Safety	Communication and Disaster IT Systems	No	$ 2,000,000.00
Department of Transportation	FHWA and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Gap	No	$ 3,500,000.00
Department of Transportation	Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (FIMAN) Gauges	No	$ 1,528,539.00
Office of State Budget & Management	Deaf and Blind Pathways Foundation, Inc.	No	$ 250,000.00
Office of State Budget & Management	Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs)	No	$ 2,600,000.00
Office of State Budget & Management	Madison County	No	$ 27,000,000.00
Office of State Budget & Management	Veterans Restoration Quarters (ABCCM)	No	$ 5,000,000.00
Office of the State Fire Marshal	Public School Insurance Fund	No	$ 10,000,000.00
Total			**$ 721,878,539.00**

Agency	Purpose	Reallocation Amount
Department of Commerce	Renew NC - Program Implementation (CDBG-DR)	$ (120,000,000.00)
Department of Environmental Quality	Underground Storage Tank Repair	$ (400,000.00)
Department of Health and Human Services	Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	$ (3,944,647.00)
Department of Information Technology	Fiber Network Restoration	$ (12,000,000.00)
Department of Public Instruction	Competitive Grant Program for Public School Infrastructure	$ (8,000,000.00)
Department of Public Instruction	School Extension Learning Recovery Program	$ (4,395,165.00)
Department of Public Instruction	School Nutrition Employee Compensation	$ (943,307.00)
Department of Public Instruction	School Nutrition Food, Supplies, and Equipment Loss	$ (3,644,290.00)
Department of Public Instruction	Technology Funds for Public Schools	$ (4,170,000.00)
Department of Transportation	NC Railroad Dividend	$ (4,800,000.00)
North Carolina Community College System	Expanded Mental Health Support for Community College Students	$ (784,490.00)
Office of the State Fire Marshal	Grants to Fire Departments and Rescue Squads	$ (4,846,640.00)
Total		**$ (167,928,539.00)**
Net Appropriation		**$ 553,950,000.00**

Appendix III: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Federal Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Safety

Purpose: The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild in ways that reduce or mitigate future disaster losses in their communities.

After the federal disaster declaration in response to Hurricane Helene, the state was authorized for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). In October 2025, the state was notified by FEMA of a $1.543 billion allocation of federal funds through HMGP. The program operates with a 75 percent federal and 25 percent state cost share, meaning the state's HMGP match is approximately $513 million if fully realized.

Funding:

Submitted Projects Total	Federal Share	Obligated to NC as of September 30, 2026	Disbursed to NC as of September 30, 2026
$2,162,159,573	$1,627,756,490	$254,958,753	$25,508,937

Activities: HMGP offers funding for several mitigation efforts. Three mitigation efforts make up the majority of HMGP funding: voluntary acquisition of flood-damaged properties, voluntary elevation of flood-prone properties, and infrastructure upgrades to prepare for the next disaster. HMGP also allows local governments to apply for funding to purchase generators.

Generally, counties and the state begin processing and submitting HMGP applications one year after an HMGP-designated disaster. After Helene, counties and the state began processing and submitting HMGP applications months after the storm, with the first voluntary property acquisition submission to FEMA in February 2025. FEMA approved the first voluntary acquisition in January 2026. The state finished submitting HMGP applications to FEMA in August 2026.

As of September 2026, the state has submitted 892 properties for voluntary acquisition, with 545 approved by FEMA. The state has submitted 466 properties for voluntary elevation, with zero properties approved by FEMA. The state has submitted 86 infrastructure applications to FEMA, with zero projects approved by FEMA.

Appendix IV: Programs No Longer Active

The programs listed below are no longer active (i.e., carrying out their core mission), though in some cases cumulative expenditures are less than the amount appropriated.

Arts Organization Grants

Responsible State Agency: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR)

Purpose: To distribute flexible funding to assist arts organizations in their recoveries from Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

Funding Source	Funds Awarded	Cumulative Expenditures
Federal	$200,000.00	$200,000.00
Private	$715,000.00	$715,000.00
Total	**$915,000.00**	**$915,000.00**

Activities: The North Carolina Arts Council awarded grants to 69 nonprofit arts organizations in early 2025. These funds supported administrative and artistic functions of arts organizations throughout the impacted 26-county region. Recipients were able to use the funds for salaries, artists' fees, production, travel, promotion, programming expenses, supplies and equipment, office expenses, and facility operations. Funding was provided by a combination of private and federal sources, including a $200,000 federal grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Private sources included individual donations, grants from private foundations, and proceeds earned from benefit events.

Crisis Counseling Immediate Services Program

Federal Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: The Crisis Counseling Immediate Services Program is a short-term disaster relief initiative designed to provide immediate psychological and emotional support to individuals and communities affected by disasters. FEMA activated the program to address the mental health needs of residents dealing with stress, trauma, and challenges resulting from the disaster.

The Hope4NC Crisis Counseling Program provides immediate support and crisis counseling services at no cost for North Carolinians following Hurricane Helene via the Hope4NC Helpline.

Expenditures:

Federal Funds Approved or Awarded	Cumulative Expenditures
$56,297.01	$56,297.01

Activities: The FEMA grant provided funding for the Hope4NC program, which assists individuals in communities as they recover from Helene's devastating impacts. Unspent funds from the Crisis Counseling Immediate Services Program reverted to FEMA once the Regular Services Program grant became available in January 2025.

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Facility Repairs

Responsible State Agency: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DA&CS)

Purpose: Funding for DA&CS facility repairs in the Helene-affected area.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$210,000.00	$152,600.00

Activities: SL 2024-57 allowed DA&CS to consolidate and reallocate existing capital project funds up to $210,000. The department repurposed $152,600 for facility repairs.

Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: Funds to assist DHHS and county departments of social services in matching federal funds for the administrative expenses incurred in operating D-SNAP, a federal program to provide food assistance to low-income households with food loss or damage caused by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$6,000,000.00	$3,771,792.61

Activities: A total of $7,543,585.22 was spent on D-SNAP – 50 percent state and 50 percent federal. The funds served 72,703 households with food support following Helene. SL 2026-41 reallocated the remainder of these matching funds.

Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina Business Loss Assessment

Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: Allocates funds to DOC for a contract with the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) to conduct a business loss assessment in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00

Activities: DOC transferred all funds to the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, which spent approximately $60,000 conducting the Business Loss Assessment through research and data collection. The report has been finalized and released.

Emergency Grants for Affected Private College and University Students

Responsible State Agency: University of North Carolina System

Purpose: Funds to distribute to eligible private colleges and universities to assist students impacted by Hurricane Helene with paying for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student's ability to remain enrolled.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$1,000,000.00	$846,660.50

Activities: As of December 31, 2025, 607 students benefited from these grants. All private institution requests have been covered.

Emergency Grants for Affected UNC Students

Responsible State Agency: University of North Carolina System

Purpose: To assist students impacted by Hurricane Helene with paying for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student's ability to remain enrolled.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$5,000,000.00	$5,000,000.00

Activities: Emergency grants were awarded to 5,021 students. All funds are expended, and the program is now closed.

Expanded Mental Health Support for Affected Community College Students

Responsible State Agency: NC Community College System (NCCCS)

Purpose: The General Assembly appropriated funds in October 2024 for mental health support for students and staff at higher education institutions impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$1,250,000.00	$531,582.00

Activities: As of September 30, 2026, 8,085 students and 2,323 staff received support through this program. SL 2026-41 reallocated the remaining balance.

Grants to Fire Departments and Rescue Squads

Responsible State Agency: Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

Purpose: SL 2025-2 provided the initial appropriation of $10 million for the purpose of disbursing grants of up to $500,000 to small and volunteer fire departments across 39 federally disaster-declared counties to cover expenses incurred due to Helene, to purchase equipment, or to make capital improvements to assist with readiness for future emergency response. SL 2025-26 appropriated $18 million for $50,000 grants to each fire department and rescue squad in the 25 westernmost counties to repair or replace equipment and facilities damaged by Helene and to enhance wildfire response and preparedness. SL 2026-41 transferred the $4,496,640 remaining balance in the program to the Helene Fund.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$28,000,000.00	$23,258,720.58

Activities: The Office of the State Fire Marshal awarded grants to local and volunteer fire departments. In its first round of applications, the office received grant requests totaling more than $54.5 million to repair or replace equipment and facilities damaged by Helene and to enhance wildfire response and preparedness.

Need-Based Scholarship for Public College and University Students – Attending Outside Disaster Area

Responsible State Agency: North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority

Purpose: Funds for the Need-Based Scholarship for Public Colleges and University Students program to make additional award funds available to be used to provide additional financial aid to eligible disaster-impacted students.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$3,500,000.00	$3,500,000.00

Activities: These funds were awarded to students from Hurricane Helene-impacted counties attending a University of North Carolina System institution or NC Community College System campus outside the impacted area. These funds provided 4,082 awards to those students. All funds have been spent.

Need-Based Scholarship for Public College and University Students – Attending in Disaster Area

Responsible State Agency: North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority

Purpose: Funds for the Need-Based Scholarship for Public Colleges and Universities program to make additional award funds available in FY 2024-25 to provide additional financial aid to eligible disaster-impacted students.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$15,600,000.00	$15,600,000.00

Activities: These awards were for students at Appalachian State University, the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Western Carolina University, along with directly impacted UNC and community college students. As of December 31, 2025, 21,397 students received awards from this program. The State Education Assistance Authority reallocated unobligated Next NC need-based funding to further supplement this program, allowing the program to support more students.

Need-Based Scholarships for Students Attending Private Colleges and Universities – Additional Awards

Responsible State Agency: North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority

Purpose: Allows for use of unobligated funds available for need-based scholarships for students attending private institutions of higher education to provide additional financial aid to eligible disaster-impacted students.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$2,500,000.00	$2,394,945.00

Activities: These awards were for students at Hurricane Helene-impacted institutions and students from Helene-impacted counties attending private institutions outside the impacted area. As of December 31, 2025, 3,226 students received awards. It is not expected that additional funds will be expended.

Railroad Repair Funds

Responsible State Agency: Department of Transportation (DOT)

Purpose: Temporarily reclaims NC Railroad Dividend to be deposited in the Highway Fund. Dividend represents 25 percent of the company's prior year income. In FY 26, appropriations of this dividend are as follows: $2 million to Blue Ridge Southern Railroad, $2 million to Great Smoky Mountains Railroad, and $600,000 to DOT. (The $600,000 is reflected in the Transportation Infrastructure Repair entry in this report.)

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$4,000,000.00	$4,000,000.00

Activities: DOT signed grant agreements with Blue Ridge Southern Railroad and Great Smoky Mountains Railroad to facilitate the disbursement of funding. The funds for Great Smoky Mountains Railroad were disbursed in December 2025, and funds for Blue Ridge Southern Railroad were disbursed in February 2026. The dividend payment from NC Railroad was received by the Department of Transportation.

Rental Assistance

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: Distribution of funds to county departments of social services in counties with a federal disaster declaration to provide rental assistance to households that suffered hardship due to Hurricane Helene and face a housing crisis, such as imminent risk of eviction. Funds can be used to pay for up to two rent payments per household.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00

Activities: A total of 862 households received support through this program as of December 31, 2025. DHHS allocated the full appropriation of $1 million to the counties, and the counties spent the maximum amount possible based on the reimbursements submitted.

School Extension Learning Recovery Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: A voluntary school extension learning program to provide instruction on specific subjects and enrichment to students in grades four through eight to address learning losses and other negative impacts caused by unusual and extraordinary conditions related to Hurricane Helene in the 2024-2025 school year.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$9,000,000.00	$4,725,388.72

Activities: In all, 14 local education agencies, 16 charter schools, and the North Carolina School for the Deaf accepted funds to offer summer programming for students. Programs were required to offer math and reading courses, as well as time for enrichment programming and physical activity each day. Programs served 79,447 students.

School Nutrition Employee Compensation

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: Compensation of school nutrition employees located in federal disaster declaration counties that would have been provided by school meal receipts as part of the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program. Funds are only for employees in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$3,500,000.00	$2,556,692.72

Activities: Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program in Helene-impacted areas were eligible for these funds, and that included nearly all of the region's public schools and some charter schools.

Funding was made available to all schools in the impacted districts to cover Helene-related missed days and non-Helene missed days. Funds served 29 school systems and three charter schools.

The General Assembly reallocated $12.5 million in disaster relief funding previously allocated to the Department of Public Instruction in SL 2025-26. The program closed on June 30, 2025. No further expenditures will be made.

School Nutrition Food, Supplies, and Equipment Loss

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: Funds for the repair or replacement of food nutrition equipment, food, and food nutrition supplies in public school units participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$5,000,000.00	$1,469,280.29

Activities: DPI distributed funds to public school units. SL 2026-41 reallocated the remaining balance.

Select Site Readiness Program

Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: The Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina offers the Select Site Readiness Program to prepare industrial sites for development by upgrading infrastructure to increase competitiveness for new business investment. The General Assembly expanded the program to include five additional sites in western North Carolina.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$15,000,000.00	$15,000,000.00

Activities: The Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina designated five additional Select Site locations in western North Carolina, in addition to a previous site designated in Henderson County.

Technology Funds for Public Schools

Responsible State Agency: Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Purpose: Funds for the replacement of school technology, particularly student and teacher devices, in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$5,000,000.00	$555,084.01

Activities: As of June 30, 2026, 10 school systems and charter schools were served. SL 2026-41 reallocated the remaining balance.

Utility Assistance

Responsible State Agency: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Purpose: This funding is for county departments of social services, in counties with a federal disaster declaration, to provide utility assistance to households that suffered hardship due to Hurricane Helene and face a housing crisis.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$9,000,000.00	$9,000,000.00

Activities: As of December 31, 2025, 10,089 households received assistance under the program. DHHS allocated the full appropriation of $9 million to the counties, and the counties spent the maximum amount feasible.

Visit NC Tourism Promotion

Responsible State Agency: Department of Commerce (DOC)

Purpose: Provides funds to the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina's Visit NC division to support and revitalize western North Carolina's tourism economy.

Expenditures:

State Funds Net Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures
$14,000,000.00	$14,000,000.00

Activities: Visit NC leverages these funds to expand the reach of tourism marketing initiatives to benefit western North Carolina. All funds have been spent.



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