

## FACTS IN FLOODS' WAKE

### ***DISASTER FOOD ASSISTANCE\****

- Approved for 13,871 households in Iowa (35,093 individuals) .....Total: \$4.5 million in benefits
- 82 percent were new Food Stamp customers. These households received an average benefit of \$355. The remaining households (18 percent) were already receiving food assistance and qualified for additional help averaging \$200. Like the regular food assistance program, these benefits are 100 percent federal dollars. Disaster food assistance is a one-time benefit and is immediately available.

### ***FEMA HOUSING ASSISTANCE\*\****

- Assistance dispersed to 28,713 recipients.....Total: \$104,519,692 with an average award of \$5,187
- Assistance deals with the physical structure of a home — includes temporary housing, repair, replacement and permanent housing construction.

### ***FEMA OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE\*\****

- Assistance dispersed to 7,014 recipients.....Total: \$13,168,472 with an average award of \$1,889
- Assistance deals with the contents of a home and necessary expenses and serious needs caused by the disaster. This includes medical/dental costs, clothing, household items, tools/equipment required for employment, necessary educational materials, fuels for primary heat source, moving and storage expenses, and damaged vehicle costs.

As of August 5, FEMA has processed approximately 29,145 registrations for assistance. To date, only 1,053 individuals have received the maximum FEMA award of \$28,800. Into early August, ONA staff members were still answering between 200 to 400 calls a day to the toll-free line and processing 320 claims a day.

### ***UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE\****

- 7,655 regular claims identified as disaster related
- 1,925 disaster unemployment assistance claims
- In total, unemployment insurance and disaster unemployment assistance have been delivered to 9,580 individuals. Disaster unemployment assistance is provided to individuals who do not qualify for regular benefits, this includes: newly employed workers who have not earned more than two quarters of eligibility, farmers, migrant and seasonal workers, self-employed individuals, and people who were offered a position but unable to begin working.

### ***CHILD-CARE BUSINESSES / SLOTS AFFECTED***

- 26 licensed preschools, child-care centers or Head Start sites reported damage.
- 87 registered child-care homes reported damage.
- It is estimated that 2,500 children may have been affected through closed homes and centers, whether briefly or prolonged, or through relocation to another site.
- In Cedar Rapids alone: 1,800 children were impacted by closures and relocations.
- In the most damaged area of Cedar Rapids, it is estimated that 1,000 children under the age of 5 lived in the affected area.

\* Through July 31, 2008

\*\* Through August 5, 2008

### **The Iowa Policy Project**

318 2nd Ave. N  
Mount Vernon, IA 52314  
(319) 338-0773 • [www.iowapolicyproject.org](http://www.iowapolicyproject.org)

### **CHILD & FAMILY POLICY CENTER**

1021 Fleming Building • 218 Sixth Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
(515) 280-9027 • [www.cfpciowa.org](http://www.cfpciowa.org)