Everyone has access to some immediate short-term benefits to help with basic needs:

- Soup kitchens for hot meals
- Food pantries for groceries
- Health centers
- Crisis counseling services
- Emergency overnight shelters (many of them ask you leave in the daytime)
- Domestic violence shelters

Check with the nearest One-Stop Center at www.careeronestop.org or ask your local health center about local emergency services that can help you.

Learn more about assistance after a disaster from the Farmworker Justice guides on Income and Housing Assistance.

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If the President declares a major disaster, D-SNAP (Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits or “disaster food stamps” are available for up to 30 days. The program is run by state agencies with help from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

You can get benefits as soon as 72 hours from the time you apply. You can only apply for D-SNAP benefits for a limited period of time after the disaster. D-SNAP is NOT the same as regular food stamps (SNAP).

To qualify for D-SNAP:
- You must have lived in the disaster area at the time of the disaster
- You must plan on buying food during the disaster period
- You must have experienced at least one of the following:
  - Out-of-pocket disaster-related expenses that are not expected to be reimbursed during the D-SNAP 30-day benefit period
  - Lost or inaccessible income
  - You cannot access money

States may ask for a Social Security Number (SSN) on their D-SNAP application, but the application must say that a household will not be denied benefits because of failure to provide an SSN.

For more information on D-SNAP visit: www.disasterassistance.gov/get-assistance/forms-of-assistance/5769

SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) provides low-income individuals and families assistance to buy food at grocery stores and other food retailers.

You can qualify for SNAP benefits if:
- You meet certain income requirements
- You are employer or are participating in an employment and training program; and
- You are a U.S. citizen, Lawful Permanent Resident for more than 5 years, Lawful Permanent Resident under the age of 18, or a non-citizen admitted for humanitarian reasons (i.e. an Asylee or Refugee)

To find the phone number for your state SNAP office or for more information about how you can qualify, call the SNAP toll-free information number at: 1-800-221-5689.

You can also go to the SNAP website at: www.fns.usda.gov/snap.