



United Way
of Thurston County

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Additional FEMA Funds Available Through United Way of Thurston County for Food and Shelter Programs

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) of Thurston County will receive \$76,845 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county. These funds have been made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The recently-awarded funds are a supplement to the previous 2009 award of \$164,474 and are to be used to provide services for people who have needs for food and shelter because of unemployment caused by the current economic situation.

A local FEMA Board, administered by United Way of Thurston County, will determine how the funds awarded for needs in Thurston County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations. Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) have an accounting system to record and report expenditures, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have already demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter services, and 5) have a volunteer board. All organizations which meet these criteria are invited to apply for funds, whether or not they received funding in the past.

Funding applications are available at United Way of Thurston County, 1211 Fourth Avenue E, Suite 101, Olympia, WA and are due by 3:00 p.m. on May 21. Further information is available by contacting FEMA distribution coordinator Bill Munro, at (360) 866-8858 or wrmunro@msn.com. The local Board will meet on May 28 to make funding decisions.

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