

October 16, 2018

## WEATHER-RELATED/SUPPLY SHORTAGE CRISIS POLICY

RE: HURRICANE MICHAEL

EHEAP Weather-Related/Supply Shortage (WR) funds will be used to assist low-income elders to maintain or re-establish electric service, provide utility deposits at new places of residence for those permanently displaced, and provide repairs or replacements of air-conditioning and electrical equipment to households with health-related conditions exacerbated by flooding, wind, and other storm damage.

Utility assistance requests outside the parameters of the provided directives are not eligible for WR assistance. All WR assistance client files shall contain proof that the assistance was both energy and storm event related, and occurred during the period from October 7, 2018, through January 7, 2019.

WR emergency assistance is a benefit for elder Floridians, that is in addition to other EHEAP benefits. The maximum WR benefit is \$1,000.00 per household for expenses incurred as a result of Hurricane Michael, from October 7, 2018, through January 7, 2019. The use of WR funds does not include paying for prior usage, unpaid bills, past due bills, or supplementing a crisis benefit. Additionally, the use of the WR funds is not intended to replace coverages available through homeowner's or renter's insurance. Applicants will be asked to certify that their insurance coverage will not adequately cover the costs of these repairs or replacements.

Eligibility for this WR assistance will be established through the EHEAP screening and application process. Applicants will be required to submit invoices for repair or replacement of existing air conditioning or other electrical equipment from a certified contractor stating that the damage is related to Hurricane Michael. To maintain, re-establish or provide utility deposits at new places of residence, the applicant will provide proof of the residential displacement and proof of new residential address. Temporary housing, such as hotel expenses and travel costs incurred to transport applicant to safe place, is an eligible benefit, provided emergency assistance from any other program for the same type of benefit has not been received.

Preference should be given to households containing elders, young children, and persons with disabilities.