



## South Carolina Caucus of Black School Board Members

October 2, 2024

### **Re: Support for Caucus Members Affected by Hurricane Helene**

Dear Esteemed Members of the SCCBSBM,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. As president of the South Carolina Caucus of Black School Board Members, I am writing to express our deepest concern and support for those among us who have been affected by Hurricane Helene.

To our members in the impacted areas: please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this challenging time. The strength and resilience you've shown in the face of this disaster are truly commendable. Our organization stands ready to support you in any way we can as you navigate the recovery process.

For those who have suffered losses due to Hurricane Helene, I strongly encourage you to apply for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) if you qualify. FEMA provides crucial support for individuals and families affected by natural disasters.

To apply for FEMA assistance, please visit their official website:  
<https://www.fema.gov/assistance/individual>

Eligibility criteria for filing a FEMA claim typically include:

1. You must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien. FEMA must be able to verify your identity.
2. Your address at the time of the disaster and the address where you are now staying.
3. Your insurance, or other forms of disaster assistance received, cannot meet your disaster-caused needs.
4. Your necessary expenses and serious needs are a direct result of the declared disaster.
5. Your damaged property must be in a federally declared disaster area.

To file a claim:

1. Document the damage with photos and video if possible.
2. Make a list of damaged or lost items.
3. If you have insurance, file a claim with your insurance company first.
4. Apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.DisasterAssistance.gov), through the FEMA mobile app, or by calling 1-800-621-3362.

Remember, the SCCBSBM is here to support you. If you need any assistance or have questions about resources available to you, please don't hesitate to reach out to our organization.

Stay strong, stay safe, and know that we are here for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melvin M. Stroble, Sr." with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melvin M. Stroble, Sr.  
President

