



Why This Matters

On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy made landfall near Atlantic City, New Jersey. The storm impacted coastal and inland communities, resulting in loss of life, structural damage, and power loss to over 8.5 million homes and businesses. Before Sandy's landfall, President Obama issued an emergency declaration for the State of New Jersey, allowing FEMA to be proactive in its disaster response. FEMA's ability to quickly respond to disasters is vital in lessening the suffering of survivors; and helps the impacted communities to rebound back to normal.

FEMA's Initial Response in New Jersey to Hurricane Sandy

What We Determined

FEMA's initial response to Sandy in the state of New Jersey was effective and efficient. FEMA proactively prepared for Sandy by pre-positioning water, commodities and personnel to a Federal staging area in New Jersey. FEMA tasked other Federal agencies to prepare for disaster response after landfall. New Jersey's Fusion Center provided the Initial Operating Facility support for FEMA and New Jersey's Office of Emergency Management.

We visited the FEMA - New Jersey Joint Field Office during the first month of operation, and determined that FEMA engaged its Federal and local partners effectively. It could take years for the state of New Jersey to fully recover from Sandy. FEMA's effective initial response presented a strong start.

For Further Information:

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