

# About Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida (CLSMF)

*The mission of CLSMF is to provide access to justice through high quality legal assistance to low-income persons.*

CLSMF is a nonprofit legal aid organization which provides free legal assistance to low-income people with civil legal problems in twelve counties across Central Florida. Since 1966, dedicated CLSMF lawyers, paralegals, legal assistants and advocates have worked diligently to solve civil legal problems for people facing life-changing situations, such as domestic violence, unlawful eviction, or the loss of veterans' health or public benefits. We are committed to delivering the highest quality legal aid, with dignity and respect, for those who are seeking access to justice.

*\*We do not provide legal assistance in criminal or traffic matters*



The Florida Bar Foundation, with *Interest on Trust Accounts* program funding, provides support for this service.



## CONTACT US

Helpline: 1-800-405-1417

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Florida Relay TTY calls Dial 711

[www.clsmf.org](http://www.clsmf.org)

### OFFICE LOCATIONS

#### DAYTONA BEACH OFFICE

128 Orange Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
Administrative Office Phone: (386) 255-6573

#### INVERNESS OFFICE

106 N. Osceola Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450

#### KISSIMMEE OFFICE

800 North Main Street, Kissimmee, FL 34744

#### OCALA OFFICE

1610 SE 36th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

#### ORLANDO OFFICE

122 E. Colonial Dr., Ste 200, Orlando, FL 32801

#### PALATKA OFFICE

216 S. 6th Street, Palatka, FL 32177

#### SANFORD OFFICE

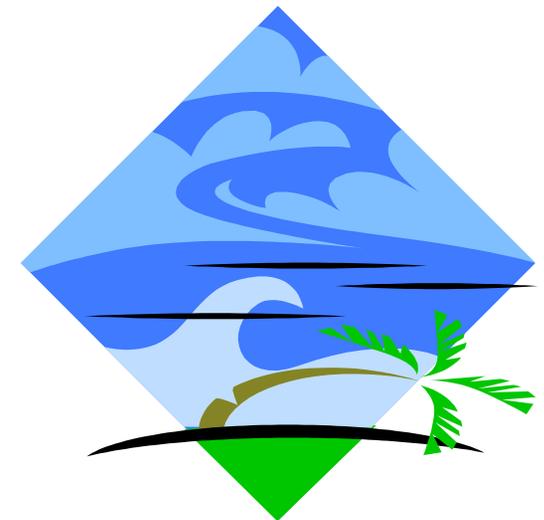
315 Magnolia Avenue, Sanford, FL 32771

#### TAVARES OFFICE

226 West Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778



## Frequently Asked Questions...



## Food Assistance After a Disaster

## Who Is Eligible for Food Assistance After a Disaster?

After a disaster, there are 3 different kinds of Food Assistance that you may be able to get:



- Replacement Food Assistance to replace lost or spoiled food;
- Disaster Food Assistance because you were caught in the disaster; and
- Expedited Food Assistance because you are in immediate need.

Depending on your circumstances and the kind of Food Assistance that are made available, you may be eligible for only one kind, or you may be eligible for two kinds, all three, or none. Here is a description of the three kinds of Food Assistance and how you can qualify.

### Replacement Food Assistance

#### **1. I am getting Food Assistance, but all my food spoiled when the power went out during the disaster. What can I do?**

You are eligible for Replacement Food Assistance to help you replace the spoiled food. Please contact your case worker or someone else at your local office of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or call 1-866-762-2237 for more information on how to apply.

### Disaster Food Assistance

#### **1. What is Disaster Food Assistance?**

The federal government can decide to give out Disaster Food Assistance when grocery stores are open for business again, after a disaster has kept food from being delivered to them.

#### **2. Who is eligible for Disaster Food Assistance?**

That depends on what the government decides after each disaster. Households in the disaster area may be eligible for Disaster Food Assistance even if they would usually not be eligible for Food Assistance.

#### **3. How do I apply for Disaster Food Assistance?**

Call DCF's toll-free number at 1-866-762-2237 to find out where to apply, or contact your local Disaster Recovery Center.

Be sure to tell DCF that you are applying for Disaster Food Assistance.

You may also be able to apply online at [www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/](http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/)

### Expedited Food Assistance

#### **1. What are Expedited Food Assistance?**

Expedited Food Assistance are for very needy people, and are given within 7 days after they apply. When you apply for regular Food Assistance, you will be asked questions to see if you qualify for expedited Food Assistance.

#### **2. How do I know if I am eligible for Expedited Food Assistance?**

To be eligible for expedited Food Assistance you must show either that:

- A. Your household has less than \$150 in monthly income before taxes and \$100 or less in cash and in bank accounts; or
- B. You are a migrant or seasonal farmworker household with less than \$100 in cash and you will not be getting any more income during the month you apply; or
- C. Your household's monthly rent or mortgage and utilities are more than

your combined monthly income before taxes and the amount you have in cash and bank accounts.

#### **3. Are immigrants eligible for expedited Food Assistance?**

Refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, lawful permanent residents (green card holders) with 40 quarters of work in the U.S., members of federally recognized Indian tribes, veterans, members of the armed services, and U.S. citizens are eligible.

#### **4. What verification do I need to get expedited Food Assistance?**

You must be able to verify that you are who you say you are by showing documents with your name on them, or by having someone say they know you.

#### **5. Do I have to meet any other eligibility requirements?**

You will be asked for verification of your immigration status, your social security number, your income and your expenses at the time you apply. But even if you cannot give all of the verification, you will be eligible for expedited Food Assistance within 7 days after you apply.

#### **6. If I do not qualify for expedited Food Assistance, can I still get regular Food Assistance?**

Yes, your food stamp application must be processed and you must receive a written decision within 30 days stating whether you are eligible, and the amount of benefits to which you are entitled. If you are denied benefits, but you believe you are entitled to them, **contact the Legal Services office closest to you** (a list of our locations is on the back page of this brochure).