

NYSUT - Superstorm Sandy Resource Sheet

NOTE: Updates and additions are highlighted in yellow. (Last updated 11/5/12)

The devastation and loss resulting from Superstorm Sandy reminds us of one of the tenets of organized labor: We must look out for one another. As we begin to hear reports of the damage sustained by our NYSUT brothers and sisters, please find some resources and points of contact that we can provide to those calling for assistance or are looking to help out:

RESOURCES:

United Way 2-1-1: For those members who need assistance with basic needs, we refer them to the United Way's 2-1-1 hotline which is operational in most of the affected areas. Further information regarding United Way's 2-1-1 program and disaster guide can be found at www.211ny.org or www.uwnys.org.

FEMA: If you haven't contacted the Federal Emergency Management Agency yet, call (800) 621-3362 or if you are able to access the Internet, go to www.disasterassistance.gov. If you are calling be aware you will need to have: your Social Security number, current and pre-disaster address, telephone number where you can be reached; insurance information, including policy numbers; total household annual income, a description of losses caused by the disaster; and the dates of the disaster. In New York, the following counties have been declared as disaster areas: Bronx County, Kings County, Nassau County, New York County, Queens County, Richmond County and Suffolk County.

U.S. Department of Labor: The U.S. Department of Labor is assisting in the recovery efforts in communities affected by this season's hurricanes and their relief efforts are summarized at: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/hurricane-recovery.htm>

NYSUT Social Services: This program provides expert guidance from experienced caring professionals to help members and their dependents cope with some of Superstorm Sandy's unexpected complications. Social Services staff may be reached at 800-342-9810, ext. 6206 or at socsvcs@nysutmail.org.

NYSUT Disaster Relief Grants: download the application for assistance at www.nysut.org/disasterrelief, or contact your local president or NYSUT regional office. Please refer questions about the Disaster Relief Fund to Jeff Lockwood at 800-342-9810, ext. 6252 or at disasterrelief@nysutmail.org. Completed applications can be forwarded to NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund: Attn: Jeff Lockwood, Accounting Department, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, New York 12110

UFT members: Two hotlines for UFT members with urgent concerns are available: 718-852-4900 in Brooklyn and 718-275-4400 in Queens, also at <http://www.uft.org/sandy-help>. If you live in the other three boroughs, call either number for assistance. The hotlines will be staffed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice. Updates are being posted to the UFT's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Metlife Auto and Home Questions: In addition, those members who are participants of the NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed MetLife Auto & Home program should file claims with MetLife at 1-800-854-6011. However, if during that process questions arise, members should feel free to contact Lynette Metz at NYSUT headquarters, 800-342-9810, ext. 1244. For up-to date information, please also visit: www.memberbenefits.nysut.org

QUESTIONS?

www.NYSUT.org/DisasterRelief * 800-342-9810, ext 6252 * disasterrelief@nysutmail.org

AFT PLUS Member Benefits: Union Privilege offers up to \$500 in grants for union members hurt by natural disasters, provided they meet two requirements: 1) Members who have an AFT credit card or mortgage in place for 12 months prior to the disaster, and 2) FEMA declares their county of residence a disaster area. If both of these terms are met, AFT members are eligible for a grant of up to \$500. Contact Union Privilege Customer Service at 1-800-622-2580 or at www.unionplus.org/money-credit/natural-disaster-relief-fund.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Donate to NYSUT's Disaster Relief Fund: Donations to NYSUT's Disaster Relief Fund are urgently needed to provide direct assistance to members in need. Please Donate or Run a drive for the NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund: You may donate online at www.nysut.org/disasterrelief or to NYSUT Headquarters, Attn: Jeff Lockwood, Accounting Department, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, New York 12110. Make your check payable to "NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund." Please refer questions about the Disaster Relief Fund to Jeff Lockwood at 800-342-9810, ext. 6252 or e-mail to disasterrelief@nysutmail.org.

American Red Cross: Donations to the American Red Cross can be made by calling (800) 733-2767, or online by visiting the website for your local Red Cross chapter. To find your local office, visit www.redcross.org and enter your zip code on the right side of the home page.

United Way: To donate to those most affected by Superstorm Sandy please consider visiting UWSandyRecovery.org to donate to the United Way Regional Sandy Relief Fund. You can also use your phone to text RECOVERY to 52000 to make a \$10 donation.

Damage Assessments: We ask that damage to your area be reported directly to Jeff Lockwood at 800-342-9810, ext. 6252 or disasterrelief@nysutmail.org. This way we will have one place to gather all the necessary data to determine what needs, if any, meet the criteria for NYSUT assistance.

Local Efforts: Contact your local president or building representative to see what your local union may be doing to help members in need.

Please note: Future updates to the Resource Sheet will be available at www.nysut.org/disasterrelief

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