

**Lincoln County Government**

353 North Generals Blvd.
Lincolnton, NC 28092

Media Contact: Vanessa Leon

Public Affairs Officer
vanessa.leon@lincolncountync.gov
(980) 745-3750

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**October 15, 2024****Disaster Food and Nutrition Services Program Offered in Lincoln County**

(Lincolnton) A Disaster Food and Nutrition Services (DFNS) benefits program will be offered by Lincoln County Department of Social Services at 1136 East Main St, Lincolnton, NC beginning Friday, October 18, 2024 through Thursday October 24, 2024 for those who suffered food losses, damage or destruction of the household's home or self-employment, lost income, or will incur a disaster related expense as a result of Hurricane Helene.

Eligible households can pre-register online for assistance beginning October 15, 2024, by using the ePASS pre-registration tool at epass.nc.gov. Once online pre-registration is completed, applicants will be issued a confirmation number. Once the application period begins on Oct. 18, people who pre-registered will need to complete an interview to apply by calling 1-844-453-1117.

A Lincoln County Department of Social Services worker will interview you and go over your application with you. Because long lines and wait times are possible, individuals are encouraged to bring medications and other necessary items. Due to limited space, individuals are encouraged to limit the number of people accompanying them and to consider arranging childcare if possible. Residents should come prepared for inclement weather while waiting outdoors as limited outdoor shelter is available for those waiting in line.

No food vendors will be allowed in the parking lots at application locations. In addition, no donations will be accepted or distributed at application locations. Please bring your photo ID and other forms that are not limited to social security card, mail, or collateral statement. Identity of the head of household or authorized representative must be verified for an application to be made.

For more information please visit the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services website, www.ncdhhs.gov or Lincoln County Government website, www.lincolncountync.gov.