When disaster strikes, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency works with local, state and federal partners to coordinate efforts throughout the preparedness, response and recovery process.

### WHAT HAPPENS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A DISASTER?

1. **GEMA/HS Field Coordinators Contact**
   - GEMA/HS field coordinators contact local emergency management agency officials regarding potential resources needed for disaster areas.

2. **Based on Reports from EMAs**
   - Based on reports from EMAs, GEMA/HS coordinates with the Office of the Governor regarding the need for a state emergency declaration.

3. **Based on Estimated Financial Impact**
   - Based on estimated financial impact of damages, GEMA/HS coordinates with FEMA and local authorities to conduct preliminary damage assessments and determine if damages exceed federal monetary thresholds.

4. **Local EMAs Are Responsible**
   - Local EMAs are responsible for reporting damages and requesting state assistance through GEMA/HS.

5. **When the Governor Declares a State of Emergency**
   - When the Governor declares a state of emergency, state resources may be deployed to support local governments.

6. **If Damages Exceed the Threshold**
   - If damages exceed the threshold, the Governor may request a federal disaster declaration from the President.

7. **Upon Approval of a Federal Declaration**
   - Upon approval of a federal declaration, federal resources are made available and could result in individual assistance and/or public assistance to impacted communities.

### TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

**INDIVIDUAL**
- Housing assistance, including temporary housing, repair, replacement, and semi-permanent or permanent housing construction
- Individual household programs help replace household items, furniture and clothing
- Other needs assistance including personal property and other items

**PUBLIC**
- Grant assistance for debris removal, life-saving emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement or restoration of certain disaster-damaged public facilities and certain non-profit facilities
- Hazard mitigation may be made available to help communities take measures to reduce or eliminate future risks to life and property