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REGIONAL DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS TO OPEN TO ASSIST SURVIVORS

TRENTON, N.J. — Two regional disaster recovery centers will open next week to consolidate several centers that are scheduled to close and provide a continuing recovery presence for Hurricane Sandy survivors in New Jersey.

The regional centers will offer the same federal disaster assistance services as current centers closing Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. in Cape May, Harvey Cedars, Jersey City, Linden, Paterson, Plainfield, Stafford and Woodbridge.

The two regional centers will open Jan. 7 at 9 a.m. and operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday:

Hudson County

Hudson County Government Building (formerly the Provident Bank building) 830 Bergen Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07306

Ocean County

Ocean County Southern Resource Center 179 S. Main St. Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Disaster survivors may visit any center to receive assistance and information. They are not limited to the center in their home county as all centers have the ability to access a survivor's specific case information.

FEMA staff are available at the centers to provide clarification to letters, assist survivors with finding a temporary home if their primary residence was damaged or destroyed, check on the status of their application for assistance or refer survivors to other agencies that may provide additional help.

Also, survivors can consult with Small Business Administration customer service representatives about low-interest disaster loans to repair or rebuild their home and FEMA mitigation specialists about cost-effective rebuilding and repair techniques to reduce property damages in future disasters.

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