



November 3, 2006
DR-NY-1665- NR005
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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER OPENS IN BUFFALO

(Buffalo, N.Y.) – The New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announce the opening of a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Buffalo on Monday, November 6.

Residents of Erie, Genesee, Niagara and Orleans counties who were affected by severe storms and flooding between October 12 and October 25, 2006 are encouraged to visit either of the two centers available to them. The DRCs will be open from **8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday** until further notice. The DRC locations are:

<p>The Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired 1160 Main Street, Buffalo, NY</p>	<p>Brighton Golf Club 70 Brompton Road Tonawanda, NY</p>
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Representatives of the state, federal, and voluntary agencies will be available to answer questions and provide recovery information on federal housing assistance, state and federal assistance for property damage, Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loans for individuals and businesses, tax guidance, insurance, home repair, reconstruction and protection of home utilities.

Child care will be available for families during the time they are visiting DRC representatives.

No cash, checks, debit cards or vouchers are distributed at DRCs. These centers are for the dissemination of information to assist in victim recovery.

Disaster victims are urged to register for assistance first by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585** for the hearing or speech impaired. Victims can also register online at www.fema.gov or visit a DRC to meet face-to-face with recovery specialists.

FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, initiates mitigation activities and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA works closely with state and local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, firefighters and other first responders. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

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Editors: For more information on New York disaster recovery, visit www.semo.state.ny.us or www.fema.gov.