



Easterseals UCP of NC and VA is proud to have been chosen as the agency to bring Hope 4 NC to the survivors of Hurricane Florence in **Duplin, Lenoir, Sampson Wilson and Wayne counties**. The mission of Hope 4 NC is to assist individuals and communities in recovering from the challenging effects of Hurricane Florence through the provision of community-based outreach and psychoeducational services. This model is unique in that our trained staff members are already a part of the communities they are serving and some of our counselors are survivors of Hurricane Florence themselves.

The program is FREE. The program is free due to funds that flow through the Federal government and are administered at the state level by the North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (MH/DD/SAS) to the eligible MCOs.

The program is ANONYMOUS. Counselors do not classify, label, or diagnose individuals and no case files are kept. Sessions are conducted in nontraditional, community-based settings such as libraries, community centers, churches, or even homes. In addition to individual sessions, our teams can provide group counseling sessions, public education, and assist families with referrals should there be a need for further mental health or substance abuse services. The crisis counselors who are in the community have completed an intensive training program so they can identify situations in which the crisis counseling model would be the optimal and appropriate type of service. It is important to delineate that crisis counseling is very different from traditional treatment services offered by mental health clinicians. The grid below shows you the difference between traditional treatment and crisis counseling.

Traditional Treatment v. Crisis Counseling

Traditional Treatment	Crisis Counseling (CCP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is office based. • Diagnoses and treats mental illnesses. • Focuses on personality and function. • Examines content. • Explores past experiences and their influence on current problems. • Has a psycho-therapeutic focus. • Keeps records, charts, case files, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is home and community based. • Assesses strengths and coping skills. • Counsels on disaster-related issues. • Accepts content at face value. • Validates common reactions and experiences. • Has a psycho-educational focus. • Does not collect identifying data.

It is unfortunate that so many in our communities have been impacted by Hurricane Florence but we are pleased to partner with federal, state, and local agencies to offer the services of this program. **To access this service please call 1-888-702-7853.** For more information regarding the program contact Melissa Harrell at 919-709-6619 or melissa.harrell@eastersealsucp.com.