



# Ashe Advantage Project Strength Meets Hope Grant Instructions

The Strength Meets Hope Grant program has been funded by Ashe County Advantage Project and by generous donations in support of Ashe County residents and businesses following Hurricane Helene. The grant fund is limited, so not all applications will be funded. Please follow the directions below in completing your application.

- Grant amounts will be determined based on the severity of damage/need and information supplied.
- Grantees must occupy a brick-and-mortar facility. Strictly online businesses are not eligible under this grant program.
- Grants are available for businesses that employ 1 to 10 full-time (40 hours/week) or equivalent employees. Part-time employees should be accounted for as an aggregate of the average time typically worked. For example, if you have two part-time employees who average 20 hours per week, you should add their time together to equal one FT equivalent employee.
- Grant funds shall only be used for recovery expenses or operational costs (i.e., rent or loan payments on the primary business facility, inventory, mold mitigation, etc.). If you are requesting funds for any other business-related expense, please provide documentation of need. For consideration, you must supply photos of Hurricane Helene related damage.
- You must provide documentation for your business, such as a voided business check or bank statement.
- Applications will be considered in the areas of most severe need first. Incomplete applications may be considered, but documentation will be required before funds can be made available.
- Funds are a grant to the business and the business is under no obligation to repay.
- Grantees understand that Ashe County Advantage Project may issue press notices and reports to donors about the program and understand that the business name, product, and location may be included in this information, along with the grant amount. No private business information will be released.

**Once application is complete, please email it and supporting appropriate documents to [info@asheadvantage.org](mailto:info@asheadvantage.org) or mail to Ashe County Advantage Project, PO Box 31, West Jefferson, NC 28694**



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Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner(s) Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Business Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Business Established: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Employees (FT/PT): \_\_\_\_\_

General Description of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Use for Funds Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the grant funds received must be used for the business operations listed, and that I am required to provide verification of my business and photo(s) of hurricane damage sustained as listed on the instructions. Failure to spend funds for the purposes outlined herein shall require immediate repayment of the any monies received.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_