

WNCSource CEO Report

October 17, 2024

Hurricane Helene Recovery

WNCSource clients and staff suffered major impacts from Hurricane Helene and the heavy rains that preceded it. Below is a list of some of those impacts:

- Early Childhood Center services suspended from September 26 – October 9
- Public Transit suspended from September 27 – October 4
- Older adult meal sites and home-delivered meals suspended September 17 – October 8
- Housing and administrative operations suspended September 27 – October 4
- At least 4 WNCSource staff displaced due to damage to their homes
- Several clients were displaced, we are still trying to determine how many
- Etowah Children's Center suffered extensive water damage. No clear timeline for reopening
- King Creek Children's Center has water damage to the roof and ceiling tiles
- Numerous trees need to be cleared



Recovery efforts began almost immediately. Below is a list of actions and outcomes from our recovery efforts:

- All WNCSource regularly scheduled employees were paid during the closures
- WNCSource drivers and vehicles helped people needing oxygen and dialysis go where they needed to be for treatment
- WNCSource drivers also helped Henderson County deliver relief supplies and equipment
- Safety walkthroughs have been completed for all WNCSource facilities
- All WNCSource vehicles have been checked for damage
- Public Transit resumed operations on October 7
- Housing and administration resumed operations on October 7
- Older adults and human services transportation resumed on October 7
- Older adult nutrition services in Transylvania County resumed on October 8
- Tiger Town Thrift Shop reopened on October 8
- There was a drive-through emergency supplies event for employees at King Creek Children's Services Center on October 9
- There will be drive-through emergency supplies pick-up events for WNCSource participant families over the next week
- Forest City Early Head Start Center reopened on October 10
- Hillview Children's Service Center Reopens on October 15
- All Henderson County Children Services sites with the exception of Etowah reopen on October 16
- Etowah families will be offered Early Head Start services at Hillview and Tebeau
- Etowah NC Pre-K families will receive priority for available slots

Give Your Neighbor a Lift

Thank you to all of the Board members who have contributed to Give Your Neighbor a Lift. There is still time to donate by check or online.

National Head Start Association Fall Leadership Institute

Thank you to WNCSource Board Treasurer Matt Ballance for participating in the NHSA Fall Leadership Institute. Linda Carter, WNCSource Children's Services Director and Margit Nelson, CS Operations and Procurement Manager also attended. We were joined by Head Start parents and professionals from across North Carolina to advocate for Head Start on Capitol Hill. Parents telling their Head Start success stories, and reminding our elected officials about this vital program, are how we keep Head Start strong.



WNCSource

September 25 at 1:43 PM · 🌐

Our CEO David White, together with Board Member Matt Ballance, and members of our WNCSource Children's Services team are attending the [National Head Start Association](#) conference in Washington DC this week. Here they are with members of the NC Head Start delegation in front of Senator Budd's office. Thank you Natalia Brama, Legislative Correspondent. [#HeadStartStrong](#) [#HeadStartWorks](#)