



November 19, 2024

The Honorable Senator Thom Tillis U.S. Senate 113 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Senator Ted Budd 304 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Representative Virginia Foxx 2462 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Representative Richard Hudson 2112 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Representative David Rouzer 2333 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Representative Gregory F. Murphy, M.D. 407 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Representative Dan Bishop 2459 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Representative Charles Edwards 1505 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Tillis, Senator Budd, Representative Foxx, Representative Hudson, Representative Rouzer, Representative Murphy, Representative Bishop, and Representative Edwards,

I am writing in response to your November 1, 2024 letter requesting my office initiate an investigation of the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency's (NCORR) use of Community Development Block Grant Disaster (CDBG-DR) Funds from Hurricanes Matthew and Florence. We take the concerns raised in your letter very seriously, and we are actively considering how best to address them.

HUD's disaster recovery programs are of critical importance to the communities that depend on CDBG-DR funding to assist with its unmet needs and mitigation activities following a disaster. My office is dedicated to using our oversight to improve the execution



of HUD's CDBG-DR program, as demonstrated by our audits¹, evaluations, and investigations across the country. That oversight is aimed at improving HUD's programmatic responsibility to assist, monitor, and oversee the grantees and subrecipients funded through the CDBG-DR program, as well as identify and eliminate fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in HUD's disaster recovery programs.

Our oversight staff assigned to disaster recovery and mitigation programs is examining how our future oversight work may be responsive to your request. As we continue these planning efforts, I would welcome a meeting with you and your staff to ensure that we have a full understanding of your concerns and priorities. If your staff have additional questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Chris Fontanesi, Acting Chief of Staff, at cfontanesi@hudoig.gov.

Sincerely,

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¹ As noted in your letter, my office completed an audit of NCORR in September 2022. We note that HUD has closed the three recommendations my office made from that report, with the most recently being closed on June 14, 2024. The status of each recommendation is available at available at: https://www.hudoig.gov/reports-publications/report/state-north-carolina-generally-had-capacity-and-mostly-followed