

TYPES OF DISASTERS

In the event of a disaster the **Commodity Distribution Program** releases USDA Foods in order to provide mass feeding.

There are **two types of disasters** where USDA Foods may be utilized.

1. **Presidentially Declared Disaster**

When a state determines a need for federal disaster assistance, the Governor requests assistance from the President.

- A **major disaster declaration** provides a full range of long-term Federal assistance programs.
- An **emergency declaration** is more limited in scope, and without some of the long-term Federal recovery programs available in a major disaster declaration.

2. **Situations of Distress**

A situation of distress is when a natural catastrophe or other situation has not been declared a disaster or emergency by the President, but may warrant the use of USDA Foods.

