

Displaced Family
Long Beach, New York
CDFI: The Disability Opportunity Fund

Todd and Kim G. have four children, two of whom have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, live in a home located in Long Beach, New York. They were forced to evacuate the home during Superstorm Sandy and upon returning to the home the day after the storm, found that the first floor was gone since their home was hit by both the bay and the ocean.

They were moved to a hotel in Garden City funded by FEMA. In addition to being displaced, the added stress of moving two young children with Autism Spectrum Disorder into an unfamiliar setting has proven very difficult. In addition, their new “neighbors” in the hotel have been less than understanding of their children’s mannerisms. To top it off, FEMA announced that they would stop payments for the hotel come mid-January.

A call to Autism Speaks directed this family to the Disability Opportunity Fund (DOF), which located a house that they can rent until the Long Beach home is repaired. The rental home will need some minor renovations/adjustments to suit this family. DOF has committed funds (approximately \$75,000) to help this family get into transitional housing.

