



Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Homebuyer Assistance Available for Residents of Flood-Affected Areas — Free Workshop in Watsonville, CA

Program offers up to \$300,000 in forgivable loans to help local residents purchase safer homes

Santa Cruz County, CA, November 4, 2025 – Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) invites residents who were renting or previously owned a home in **Santa Cruz or Monterey Counties during the 2023 floods** to attend a free Homebuyer Workshop on Wednesday, November 13, 2025 in Watsonville.

The workshop will introduce the ReCoverCA Homebuyer Assistance (HBA) Program, which provides up to \$300,000 in forgivable home loan assistance to help eligible households purchase homes in lower-risk areas, specifically outside designated special flood hazard zones and high fire-risk areas.

Attendees will learn about:

- How the ReCoverCA HBA Program works
- Eligibility requirements
- Qualifying property types
- Steps to get started

Interpreter services are available in Spanish and American Sign Language upon request during registration. Please indicate your needs when registering so GSFA can make accommodations.

Who Should Attend:

- Residents who were renting or previously owned a home in Santa Cruz or Monterey Counties during the 2023 floods
- Flood disaster recovery agencies and organizations
- Real estate professionals
- Residential service providers
- Members of the media

Event Details

- **Date & Time:** Thursday, Nov 13, 2025 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. PST
- **Location:** Hampton Inn & Suites Watsonville, 75 Lee Road, Watsonville, CA 95076
- **Cost:** Free
- **Register at:** <https://qrco.de/bgQnYU>

“Imagine owning your home, putting down roots, and building equity for the future,” said Carolyn Sunseri, GSFA Director of Marketing. “This workshop is an important step for families who were living in areas impacted by floods to explore a path toward stable, long-term homeownership.”

To qualify for financial assistance through the ReCoverCA HBA Program, applicants must have had their primary residence in a designated Qualifying Disaster Area (for example, Santa Cruz or Monterey Counties) at the time of the floods. During the first 60 days of the application period (November 10, 2025 – January 12, 2026), priority will be given to households that can demonstrate they were directly impacted by a flood event. Applicants must be considered first-time homebuyers (with limited exceptions) and meet the program’s income limits, capped at 80% of the Area Median Income, to be eligible for assistance.

The ReCoverCA HBA Program is administered by GSFA and funded by HUD through the California Department of Housing and Community Development. For a list of all qualifying disaster areas, complete program policies, updates, and information on other upcoming homebuyer workshops, visit www.gsfahome.org/recoverca-hba.

About Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)

GSFA is a local government entity and public agency, established in 1993, with a mission to provide affordable housing finance programs that support homeownership and strengthen California communities. GSFA has helped more than 86,800 individuals and families purchase homes, providing over \$680.7 million in down payment assistance.

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