



State Auditor

**Dave Boliek**

## RAPID RESPONSE SPECIAL REPORT

North Carolina

Office of the State Auditor

Rapid Response Division

1-800-730-TIPS

April 10, 2026

# Baptists on Mission (BOM)

## WHY WE CONDUCTED THIS REPORT

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene on September 27, 2024, the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) was tasked with monitoring the performance of entities receiving and distributing State relief funds. As part of this ongoing effort, OSA initiated a review of Baptists on Mission (BOM), to assess whether the organization effectively utilized \$3 million in State grant money to assist the victims of Hurricane Helene.

## OBJECTIVE

To evaluate the alignment of BOM activities with Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) grant requirements, assess the adequacy of BOM's fund-utilization processes, and determine BOM's overall contribution to Hurricane Helene disaster recovery efforts, as intended by the State's grant program.

## WHAT WE FOUND

- BOM maintained full compliance with requirements outlined in the OSBM grant agreement, adhering to all statutory, contractual, and financial management standards.

## WHAT WE FOUND cont.

- BOM effectively reduced per-repair project costs by utilizing volunteer labor, securing disaster relief discounts from retailers, and bulk purchasing building materials.
- From February 2025 through October 2025, BOM completed 472 projects (an average of 1.87 repairs of individual residences per day), with the average expenditure from grant funds being \$6,392 per home.

## BACKGROUND

BOM identifies itself as “a Christian missions organization that is an auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention of NC.”<sup>1</sup> Mobilizing thousands of volunteers annually, BOM provides training and resources to ensure that individuals have the knowledge and ability to engage in disaster relief, community development, and international missions.<sup>2</sup> The organization emphasizes its use of volunteers specializing in the skills needed to most effectively manage disaster relief operations.<sup>3</sup>

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, one of

<sup>1</sup> [Baptists on Mission - About.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Baptists on Mission - Disaster Relief Training.](#)

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

## **BACKGROUND cont.**

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the most destructive storms in North Carolina’s history, BOM was selected by OSBM to help lead relief efforts in western North Carolina.<sup>4</sup> Working in coordination with North Carolina Emergency Management, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army, BOM deployed over 30,000 trained volunteers across affected counties.<sup>5</sup> The organization provided approximately 500,000 hot meals through its mass-feeding units, operated mobile shower and laundry facilities, and delivered childcare services for displaced families.<sup>6</sup> Beyond immediate relief, BOM completed more than 5,000 home repairs related to mold prevention and structural stabilization, ensuring that rebuilt homes were safe for long-term habitation.<sup>7</sup>

## **OBSERVATIONS**

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OSBM’s grant agreement required BOM to submit monthly performance reports detailing grant-related activities, accomplishments, and key performance indicators. Analysis of BOM’s reported data determined that, from February 2025 to October 2025, the organization completed an average of 1.87 repairs per day, or about 52.4 houses per month.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 1 below shows a monthly breakdown of completed and in-progress repairs reported by BOM, and Figure 2 below shows how BOM allocated grant receipts on a monthly basis.

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<sup>4</sup> [Governor awards \\$3M grant to NC Baptists on Mission for ongoing Helene efforts | Baptist Press](#); see also [Baptists on Mission lead North Carolina’s Helene recovery | wfmynews2.com](#).

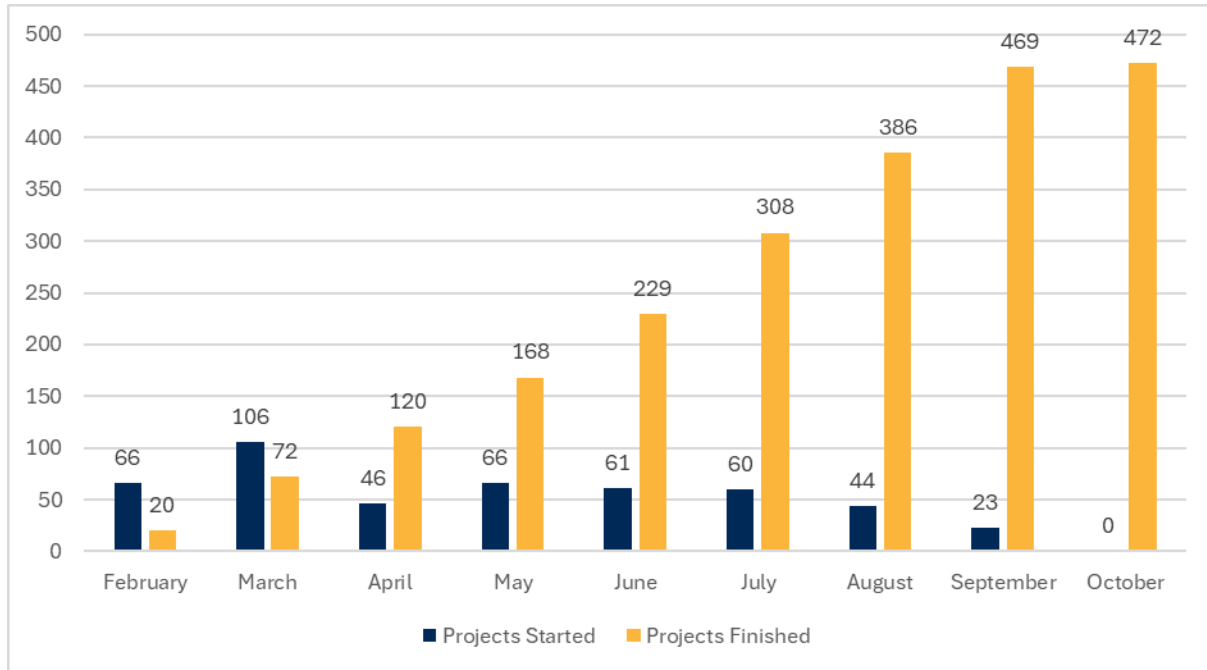
<sup>5</sup> [Baptists on Mission - Hurricane Helene](#).

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

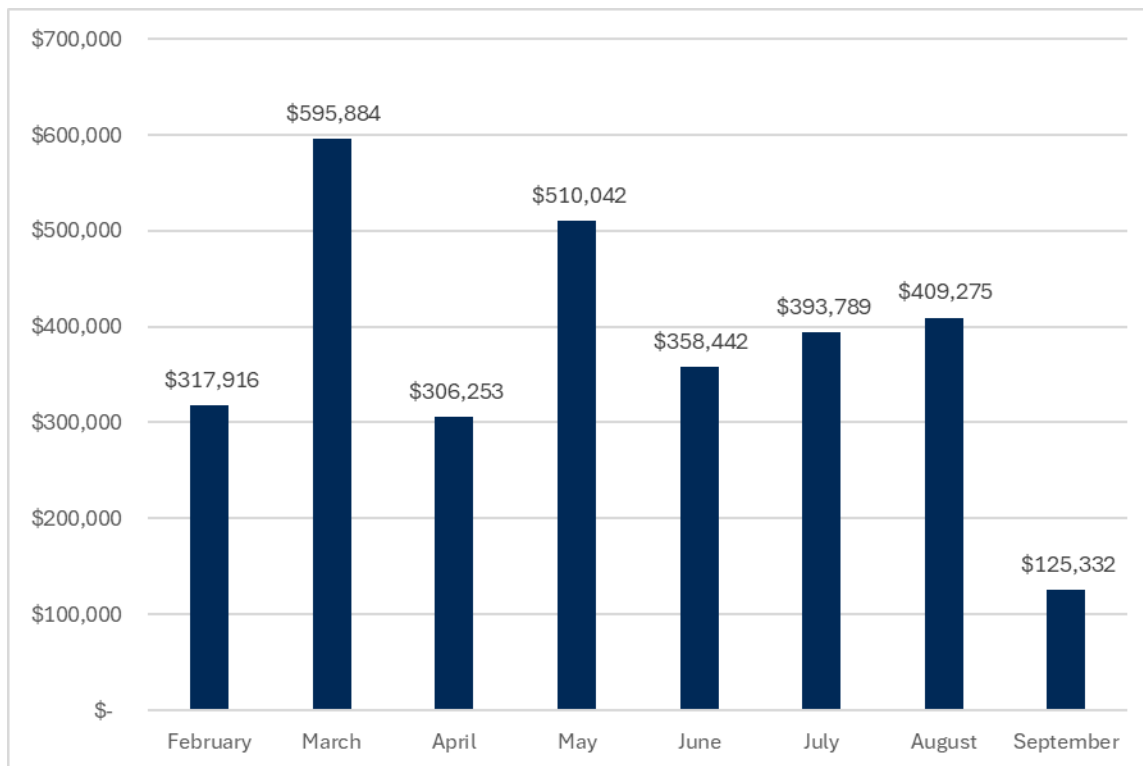
<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> OSBM Administered Grant Monthly Performance Reports for March 2025 through August 2025 (on file with OSA).

**Figure 1:** Completed and in-progress repairs reported by BOM using grant funds



**Figure 2:** Monthly allocation of the State’s \$3 million grant, including interest gained, by BOM.<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</sup> Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, “Program Report – Revenue and Expense – OSBM Helene T6” (on file with OSA).

An engagement by the OSBM Central Internal Audit Office, in conformance with Global Internal Audit Standards, was included in OSBM’s risk-based annual audit plan. The objective of the internal audit was to determine BOM’s compliance with all OSBM contract terms associated with Grant #44651. The internal audit’s memorandum illustrates one case involving a resident in Burnsville, North Carolina, whose home was displaced from its foundation by floodwaters. The house was swept into a low-lying area alongside a creek, making it unsuitable to rebuild in that location. In response to the homeowner's request, BOM converted the existing garage into a habitable living space, expanding it to include a kitchen and bathroom. This renovation resulted in a safe, functional one-bedroom home.<sup>10</sup>

BOM management initially estimated its cost of repairs at approximately \$20,000 per home.<sup>11</sup> Subsequent monitoring of project expenditures revealed that the average cost from grant funds was \$6,392 per home.<sup>12</sup> This reduction can be attributed to the organization’s use of volunteer labor, strategic bulk purchasing, and discounts secured from suppliers, all of which contributed to greater cost efficiency in disaster recovery operations.<sup>13</sup> Table 1 shows the amounts expended by BOM on repair efforts by municipality and the number of projects funded by grant funds in each location.

**Table 1:** Total expenditures by BOM, by municipality<sup>14</sup>

Location	Expenditures	Number of Projects Funded
Burnsville	\$738,524.82	138
Spruce Pine	\$547,103.14	112
Hendersonville	\$368,692.96	61
Marion	\$350,228.86	51
Boone	\$334,062.40	52
Bulk Purchase for Multiple Sites	\$273,890.73	1
Canton	\$239,406.42	35
Weaverville	\$155,039.70	18
Swannanoa	\$9,983.10	4

After Hurricane Helene, BOM established six rebuild centers across western North Carolina. Each center was initially able to house and feed up to 300 volunteers per night, with BOM actively working to increase this to 600 people as of September 2025.<sup>15</sup> From February to April 2025, all project sites consistently operated at full capacity, showing the high level of volunteer engagement that was essential for maintaining momentum in ongoing repair and reconstruction activities.

<sup>10</sup> Memorandum from NC Office of State Budget and Management, Central Internal Audit Office, to Kristin Walker, State Budget Director at NC Office of State Budget and Management (October 19, 2025) (on file with OSA).

<sup>11</sup> OSBM Administered Grant Monthly Performance Reports for March 2025 through August 2025 (on file with OSA).

<sup>12</sup> Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, “Program Report – Revenue and Expense – OSBM Helene T6” (on file with OSA).

<sup>13</sup> OSBM Administered Grant Monthly Performance Reports for March 2025 through August 2025 (on file with OSA).

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

To further extend its reach and capacity, in June 2025 BOM partnered with two local churches in Boone and East Flat Rock, thus allowing it to accommodate 70 additional volunteers.<sup>16</sup>

BOM has demonstrated strict adherence to the terms outlined in the OSBM Grant Agreement, ensuring full compliance with all statutory and contractual requirements. The agreement mandated that funds be used exclusively for nonsectarian, nonreligious purposes, and capped individual salaries funded by the grant at \$140,000 annually.<sup>17</sup> BOM complied with these grant agreement provisions while maintaining transparent financial practices, including separate accounting structures for grant funds and interest earnings.<sup>18</sup> The organization submitted monthly financial and performance reports as required,<sup>19</sup> certifying that all expenditures were for intended purposes and supporting this claim with invoices, payroll records, and contracts.

Beyond financial compliance, BOM has thus far met the operational and reporting obligations set by OSBM. The agreement required BOM to provide detailed scope-of-work documentation,<sup>20</sup> maintain conflict-of-interest policies,<sup>21</sup> and ensure monitoring and auditing access for five years post-contract.<sup>22</sup> BOM fulfilled these requirements by implementing an internal control framework that included annual conflict-of-interest disclosures and transparent procurement practices. BOM also cooperated fully with OSBM's monitoring and internal audit processes, granting access to all requested records and demonstrating accountability from the beginning of the grant period through the date of this report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

None.

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<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>17</sup> Contract #44651 between the NC Office of Budget and Management and Baptists on Mission (February 19, 2025) (on file with OSA).

<sup>18</sup> Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, "Program Report – Revenue and Expense – OSBM Helene T6" (on file with OSA)

<sup>19</sup> OSBM Administered Grant Monthly Performance Reports for March 2025 through August 2025 (on file with OSA).

<sup>20</sup> Contract #44651 between the NC Office of Budget and Management and Baptists on Mission (February 19, 2025) (on file with OSA); Appendix A to Contract #44651 between the NC Office of Budget and Management and Baptists on Mission (amended August 27, 2025) (on file with OSA).

<sup>21</sup> Contract #44651 between the NC Office of Budget and Management and Baptists on Mission (February 19, 2025) (on file with OSA); Baptists on Mission, "Conflict of Interest Policy" (February 5, 2025) (on file with OSA).

<sup>22</sup> Contract #44651 between the NC Office of Budget and Management and Baptists on Mission (February 19, 2025) (on file with OSA).

# BAPTISTS ON MISSION

04/06/2026

**North Carolina Office of the State Auditor**

David L. Boliek, State Auditor

**Re: Rapid Response Special Report- Baptists on Mission (BOM) OSBM Contract#44651**

Dear State Auditor Boliek,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the confidential draft Rapid Response Special Report for Baptists on Mission conducted by your office.

We are pleased to acknowledge that the audit report contained no findings. We appreciate the thoroughness of your audit team and their professional conduct throughout this process. Baptists on Mission remains committed to maintaining high standards of financial stewardship, transparency, and internal controls.

Clarification Regarding Project Expenditures: We want to provide clarification on the expenditure structure. The funds provided in this grant agreement were strategically leveraged in conjunction with other funding sources for home projects. Therefore, the audited expenditures represent a portion of the total project costs managed by BOM. We concur with the assessment that BOM effectively reduced per-repair project costs by utilizing volunteer labor, securing disaster relief discounts from retailers, and bulk purchasing building materials.

We appreciate the work of the Office of the State Auditor and look forward to continued compliance.

Sincerely,



Richard Brunson

Director, Baptists on Mission



# Ordering Information

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Copies of this report may be obtained by contacting:



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Raleigh, North Carolina 27699

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Fax: 919-807-7647  
Internet: [www.auditor.nc.gov](http://www.auditor.nc.gov)

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**Internet: [www.auditor.nc.gov/about-us/state-auditors-tipline](http://www.auditor.nc.gov/about-us/state-auditors-tipline)**

*NOTE: OSA maintains strict confidentiality when handling personally identifiable and other sensitive information in accordance with State and federal law. OSA takes all necessary precautions to ensure that sensitive information is not compromised or improperly shared. This special report is based on the limited information available to OSA during our investigation and is not exhaustive. This report does not constitute an audit or attestation engagement conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.*