



*Before and After of Mrs. Burch's Home*

### **MARION RESIDENT BACK IN HER HOME AFTER HURRICANE MATTHEW**

**Mullins, S.C., March April 3, 2018** – Celia Burch, a 55-year-old Marion citizen, had extensive damage to her home from Hurricane Matthew. “The roof was badly damaged, I had damage on all my ceilings,” Burch said, “I was without AC and heat,” she continued, “it really took a toll on me.”



*Mrs. Burch and PDR Case Manager Maria Gonzalez*

Burch continued to talk about how hard it was around the house with all the damage. “No one wanted to help me,” she said, “then I saw y’all (SCDRO) on the news and I thought I’d go see what it was all about.”

Burch applied to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office’s Hurricane Matthew housing program with the Palmetto Disaster Recovery Office. “They were really with me every step of the way,” Burch said, “and I thank God for them.”

Burch said when she stepped into her newly repaired home for the first time, she sat there and cried for about an hour. “I really didn’t expect all of this... God has truly blessed me.”

Repairs to Mrs. Burch's homes included:

- A new roof
- A new HVAC
- New ceilings throughout the home
- New entry steps for the front and back door
- Repaired floors in the kitchen and bathrooms



*Mrs. Burch standing in her newly repaired kitchen.*



*Before and After of Mrs. Burch's new roof.*

The teams that contributed to Smith's new home are:

- South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office (Construction)
- Palmetto Disaster Recovery Office (Case Management)
- Harvest Hope Food Bank (Welcome Home Food Basket)
- Marion County Long-Term Recovery Group (Move-in and Move-out)

SCDRO oversees grant programs that focus on rebuilding or repairing homes damaged by severe weather events, such as the severe storm event in October 2015 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. With the support and guidance of the South Carolina Department of Commerce, SCDRO manages federal funds available to assist in disaster recovery.

For more information on the program, visit <https://www.scdr.sc.gov/>