

TRANSCRIPT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT- DISASTER RECOVERY ACTION PLAN UPDATES

PRESENTED BY: MIKAYLA CATANI

INTRODUCTION SLIDE

“Good afternoon everyone. Thank you for joining us today. Welcome to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity’s Partnering with Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, which I will referred to as VOAD throughout the presentation. My name is Mikayla Catani and I am the Community Disaster Recovery Program Coordinator for Disaster Recovery. If you look on your screen there will be a grey panel on the right-hand side. Here you will find all the materials in this presentation and you will be able to download them. All materials will also be emailed. There is also a section titled “questions” where you can type in questions that you might have. We will respond to all questions once the webinar is over. Please do not hesitate to type in your questions or email us at RebuildFlorida@deo.myflorida.com.

Once again, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) would like to thank you for the assistance you provide homeowners after disasters impact Florida. Volunteer organizations, like all of you, play an important role in filling the gap for homeowners that need assistance after disasters. Florida and DEO are thankful for all of the incredible work you do for the citizens of this great state. We look forward to building our partnership with all of you so we can all continue to provide assistance. Today’s webinar will provide an overview of the Rebuild Florida Program, eligible communities, and how to further our partnership with your organizations.”

SLIDE 1 REBUILD FLORIDA OVERVIEW

“Rebuild Florida is a federally funded program administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity’s (DEO) Office of Disaster Recovery. Our federal partner is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD has awarded approximately \$1.4 billion to the state of Florida for Hurricane Irma recovery efforts. DEO has developed an action plan that addresses a direct or indirect impact from Hurricane Irma’s remaining unmet need. The plan containing programs that will address housing, economic revitalization, infrastructure repair and mitigation and public assistance activities. All programs within the State’s Action Plan follow HUD’s federal requirements.”

Slide 2 ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES

“This slide shows all of the state declared communities and the HUD identified most impacted and distressed communities. A federal requirement for the funding is that 80 percent of the funds must be spent in the HUD identified most impact communities.

These communities are highlighted on the map to the right. The declared counties listed are eligible for 20% of the recovery funds.

Slide 3 REGISTRATION

“This slide has all the registration information for the Rebuild Florida Program. The first bullet point is the link for our main webpage. Then we have our Rebuild Florida Call number listed at 844-833-1010. Please feel free to call this number to learn more about the program, ask questions you may have, or if you need help filling out a registration and application. The third bullet is a direct link to our Rebuild Florida Centers. These centers are located throughout the state in 10 of the original most impacted and distressed communities. These Rebuild Florida centers have case managers that can assist Floridians additional opportunities in registering and receiving aid through our process. The centers are open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Additionally, Rebuild Florida has three mobile buses that are traveling throughout the state in the most impacted and distressed communities. The link can direct you to the schedule for the buses. The buses also have case managers that are able to assist with registrations. The buses are stationed at each location from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. as well.”

Slide 4 REBUILD FLORIDA CENTERS

“This slide shows the location of our 8 Rebuild Florida Centers. Please feel free to visit any center that is near you, even if you do not reside in that county. Rebuild Florida Centers are open for anyone that has questions about the program, registration or applications. Coming in December we will have a new center in Miami.”

Slide 5 REBUILD FLORIDA BUS

“This slide shows the bus schedule for coming weeks. The schedule is updated each weekly so please check in each week to see if the bus is visiting your community and what specific address the bus will be at. Please notice that there are three different buses and the dates may vary bus to bus. Each bus runs throughout a region of the peninsula. We have divided the peninsula into three main regions.”

Slide 6-7 WEBISTE AND REGISTRATION

“This slide shows multiple resources that may be useful to you or any homeowners you have been assisting with Hurricane Irma damage. This slide continues the resources”

Slide 8 REBUILD FLORIDA WEBPAGE

“If you click our RebuildFlorida.gov, you will see to the upper right hand slide a list of helpful information. I will now take a second to pull up the webpage and go through some of our sections. Okay, you guys will come to the main page where you will find some basic information about our program and our agency. If you look to the right-hand side you will see helpful information. These are links to all the programs we are talking about. This first link will bring you to our Housing Repair and Replacement Program and all of the details associated with that program. The second is a link to the Rebuild Florida Centers and the bus schedule. The third link shows the process and steps for our Rebuild Florida program. The next bullet covers the same stuff, but in Spanish. Our last bullet is our Application Document Checklist and this will be a vital reference for you guys as you may be helping any clients in applying for our program. That will give you a list for all the documents that will be required in the application. As you scroll down on our main webpage you will find three options- The Housing Repair and Replacement Program, Business Recovery and Local government and Community Partners. If you click our Housing Repair button, you will be brought to our main housing repair page. The housing repair and replacement program has the main goals to repair, reconstruction or replacement of homes, including bringing the home into code compliance and providing resiliency for future storms. The page describes the program requirements here and who should apply, as well as who is eligible and who is not eligible. At the bottom of this page we have our housing repair and replacement guidelines. So, if you want to learn more details about the program and the difference between a single family application and a rental property application, you can click each of these guidelines that go more in-depth of the program. Now I am going to switch us back to our PowerPoint presentation and we are going to get into eligibility for the Housing Repair Program.”

Slide 11 ELIGIBILITY

“To be eligible for the program, you must meet the eligibility criteria listed. To be an eligible applicant, you must have suffered damage from Hurricane Irma, you must be located in one of the declared communities that was shown on slide 2, the property must be the primary residence at the time of the storm, and specifically for rental properties- the property must be rented to low- to moderate-income individual or intend to rent your property to low-to moderate-income individuals. There are affordability requirements for this program. It is important to note that priority will be given to the most vulnerable populations.”

Slide 12 REBUILD FLORIDA PROCESS

“Moving onto our next slide is the Rebuild Florida process. On our webpage, you will be able to find a document, it is in that list from the important documents called “Rebuild Florida Process”. This particular document provides an overview of the 8 steps in the Housing Repair and Replacement Program. This is a terrific reference to use to help homeowners understand the program, and prepare them for what steps will be taken, and then the order of the process. This is a great reference and a really good summary of the program and what to expect.”

Slide 13 PARTNERSHIP

“Now that brings us back to our partnership. We value all the work each of you do on a daily basis for Floridians, especially following the crisis of a disaster. We would like Floridians to know all about the resources that are available to them. If someone does not qualify for our program, we would like to have an opportunity to direct citizens to you. In order to successfully accomplish this, we would like to hear from you and learn more about the resources and assistance each of your programs offer. We believe Floridians will be able to greatly benefit, and we would appreciate your help in continuing to spread the word of our program with your clients, if you think they may be eligible.”

Slide 14 REBUILD FLORIDA OUTREACH TOOLKIT

“Also attached to this presentation is our Rebuild Florida toolkit. This will help you in spreading our message. The toolkit includes templates for newsletters, social media and websites. These are customizable and will guide you in your outreach efforts. If you have any questions, please contact us directly at our Rebuild Florida email which is RebuildFlorida@deo.myflorida.com as shown on this page.”

Slide 15 REQUEST FOR VOAD INFORMATION

“Additionally, we will send out a document requesting a review of each of your programs. We will use this information to categorize all programs available to Floridians. It is our biggest hope to create an effective resource guide to help direct Floridians to your programs. We really hope that from this point on that we will be working with you on a daily basis from here on out. And our hope is to be able to refer citizens to your services and vice versa to receive the best benefit possible. We are really looking forward to developing these relationships with you all. ”

Slide 16 CONTACT US

“Once again really appreciate your time in joining us for this webinar this afternoon. Attached in this presentation is a PDF of this PowerPoint, the Rebuild Florida Toolkit materials, and the VOAD information request form. Additionally, we will email all materials out in case you are having trouble downloading them. Please fill out the VOAD information request form by December 21 or earlier, so that we will be able to partner with your programs and gain all the information needed to help Floridians recover from disasters. The information request form will include general information about your program, the services you offer, the best contact person and a website link if applicable. We will respond to all questions when the webinar is over, so please do not hesitate to email us. If you are interested in joining our mailing list, go to our website at [www.floridajobs.org\CDBG-DR](http://www.floridajobs.org/CDBG-DR). To sign up, look at the top of the page on the right. This will be specifically for all program updates if you are interest in receiving information for all programs. Have a wonderful day and please do not hesitate to email or give us a call with any questions. Thank you for participation.”