

# DISASTER RECOVERY BULLETIN



## IN THIS ISSUE

FOCUS: Grants for Recovery  
In The Know  
*Health and Social Services*  
*Housing*  
*Infrastructure*

Additional Resources  
Calendar  
Grant Deadlines

Sandy Recovery Grants Awarded  
Job Openings

Welcome to the ***Disaster Recovery Bulletin***, an electronic dispatch for recovery workers produced weekly by the Hurricane Sandy federal disaster recovery coordination team. The bulletin includes information, resources, news and events to serve the recovery effort. Most of the content is organized by sector, allowing readers from a wide range of perspectives to easily find the items of greatest interest to them. If you have questions, comments or calendar items you'd like to submit, please email us at [editorNYrecovery@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:editorNYrecovery@fema.dhs.gov). To subscribe click [here](#). Please help us reach more recovery workers by emailing this to a friend.

Thanks for reading, and keep up the good work!

## FOCUS: GRANTS FOR RECOVERY

### Court says New York neglected disabled in emergencies

*New York Times*, Nov. 7, 2013

Jesse M. Furman, United States District Judge in New York found that New York City, through "benign neglect," was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The city was found to be in violation of the rights of nearly 900,000 of its residents with disabilities by failing to plan for and respond to emergencies and disasters. The ruling arose from a lawsuit filed in 2011 after Tropical Storm Irene, but came into sharper focus after Hurricane Sandy, when many New Yorkers with disabilities were stranded for days.

[Return to Top](#)

## IN THE KNOW

### Health and Social Services

#### New fire safety program for seniors affected by Sandy aims to save lives

*Sheepshead Bites*, Nov. 7, 2013

The New York City Fire Department Safety Education Unit has started installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for those who are hard of hearing; they are also performing in-home safety reviews, for senior citizens and people with disabilities whose homes had to be repaired due to Sandy.

[Return to Top](#)

### Housing

#### Help for some Sandy survivors requiring home repair or elevation

*The New York Times*, Oct. 31, 2013

A temporary change in a federal loan program for the rehabilitation and repair of houses may provide a new option for financing repairs to homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The Federal Housing Administration's 203(k) loan program covers purchase and renovation costs in a single mortgage. Although eligibility requirements rule out renovations that change a home's foundation, the government announced in September that it was temporarily lifting that prohibition for homes in areas devastated by Sandy's severe flooding. This means that homes requiring elevation to reduce flood risk may now qualify for 203(k) renovation loans. The rule change, which expires in March 2015, applies only to primary homes and to properties whose foundations are below new flood elevation standards. Also, after repairs, the elevated foundations must comply with Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements and local building codes.

[Return to Top](#)

### Infrastructure

#### U.S. Energy sector vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather

*Energy.gov*

This report characterizes the impact of climate change and extreme weather on the energy system by examining the following potential climate impacts: increasing temperatures, decreasing water availability, increasing frequency and intensity of storms and flooding and sea level rise. This report is part of a broader Department of Energy response supporting the administration's initiative on climate change adaptation planning.

[Return to Top](#)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery money

*Good Jobs New York*, Oct. 2013

This presentation outlines the Federal Disaster Relief Appropriations Act and illustrates changes in the \$1.7 billion in New York City's Community Development Block Grant program.

### Hurricane Sandy: An assessment of impacted commercial corridors and recommendations for revitalization

*Good Jobs New York*

In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, the Department of Small Business Services and the Economic Development Corporation have been working to assess the damage to the commercial corridors in New York City and formulate short- and long-term recovery plans. This report highlights critical corridors within these neighborhoods that experienced the most severe damage.

### Harnessing Collaborative Technologies

*Monitor Institute and the Foundation Center*

This report covers a wide array of collaborative needs related to the philanthropic process and highlights more than 170 different online tools that can help funders share information and work together.

[Return to Top](#)

## CALENDAR

### Event: Nov. 19

#### Financing an equitable and resilient future

*Pratt Institute, New York City Bar Association and BETTER, Inc.*

The conference will explore innovative mechanisms for financing social, economic and infrastructure needs to address climate change.

### Event: Dec. 11

#### Financial needs assessment and literacy training for disaster case managers

United Way of New York City is sponsoring a financial literacy training session for disaster case managers. The training is free.

[Return to Top](#)

## GRANTS DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2014

### Grants for Hurricane Sandy resiliency projects now available

*National Fish and Wildlife Foundation*

The Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program will award more than \$100 million in grants throughout the region. Grants from \$100,000 to \$5 million will be awarded to projects that assess, restore, enhance or create wetlands, beaches and other natural systems to better protect communities as well as fish and wildlife species and habitats, from the impacts of future storms and naturally occurring events.

[Return to Top](#)

## SANDY RECOVERY GRANTS AWARDED

### Mayors Fund to Advance New York City

### Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island

[Return to Top](#)

## JOB OPENINGS

### Disaster Relief Specialist

### Senior Underwriter - Multifamily Develop - Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Don't forget to check the [USAJobs.gov](http://USAJobs.gov) website for Hurricane Sandy recovery employment. Enter "FEMA" and "New York" for our latest offerings.

[Return to Top](#)

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