



**FOCUS    IN THE NEWS    EVENTS    GRANT DEADLINES    GRANTS AWARDED    JOB OPENINGS**

In anticipation of the launch of the New York Recovery Network, a platform providing access to information and connection to other professionals involved in New York's recovery from Hurricane Sandy, we've redesigned the recovery bulletin with an updated look.

What remains the same is our guiding editorial philosophy: news and tools that recovery workers can use to do their jobs more effectively. Please let us know how we can serve you better. To send comments or submit items of interest, please email us at [editorNYrecovery@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:editorNYrecovery@fema.dhs.gov). To subscribe [click here](#).

Thanks for reading, and keep up the good work!

**FOCUS: PRIVATE FUNDS ASSIST MORE HOMEOWNERS**

**Privately-raised funds provide home repairs for homeowners ineligible for Build it Back**

The Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations announced a home repair program to assist New Yorkers who may not be eligible for the city's Build it Back program. The \$14 million [NRRNYC Home Repair Program](#) is funded by the Mayor's Fund with support from the Robin Hood Foundation, the American Red Cross and JP Morgan Chase.

Applicants may be eligible for structural and non-structural repairs for homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy, complementing assistance provided by FEMA, private insurance and other sources. Homeowners affected by the storm can call 311, visit [nyc.gov/fund](http://nyc.gov/fund) or call NRRNYC at 212-455-9309 for more information.

[NY1 reported](#) the program is slated to provide up to \$80,000 in repairs for 400 to 600 homeowners. The program is administered by Neighborhood Revitalization NYC (NRRNYC), an affiliate of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). Contractors and volunteer organizations active in disaster who wish to apply for this program can visit [lisc.org](http://lisc.org) to access Requests for Qualification.

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**IN THE NEWS**

**HOUSING**

**Sandy forced some to leave illegal units**

*The Wall Street Journal*, December 26, 2013

The Wall Street Journal is reporting that thousands of people living in illegal apartments, such as basements and attics, were forced from their homes after Hurricane Sandy. According to some advocates for the poor, these unregulated apartments provided affordable housing that are rented for less than nearby legal units by people with low incomes. The new shortage of apartments in Sandy-affected areas has led to higher rents that these survivors cannot afford. And some homeowners are in danger of foreclosure because they cannot get rebuilding funding for undeclared apartments that now sit below the floodplain.

**NY Rising: nearly 2,400 Long Islanders to get \$82.8 million in federal funds**

*Newsday*, December 17, 2013

Nearly 2,400 Long Islanders whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Sandy are getting an \$82.8 million installment of federal reimbursements. The checks are the first significant distribution of cash reimbursements to help Sandy-hit homeowners pay for repairs that haven't been covered by insurance, FEMA or other sources. Homeowners in Nassau County are expected to receive 1,844 checks totaling \$62.3 million. Suffolk County homeowners should receive 533 checks totaling \$20.5 million.

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**COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Comment on proposed Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Action Plan Amendment 5**

*NYC.gov*

The city's CDBG-DR Action Plan details how the city plans to spend the \$3.22 billion HUD grant for eligible Hurricane Sandy disaster recovery and rebuilding activities. The comment period for this plan is now open and comments must be received by Sat., Jan. 25, 2014.

The plan, including amendments, describes how the city will use the funding to help New Yorkers rebuild their homes, businesses and communities, and addresses housing, business, infrastructure and resiliency programs.

**132 homeowners in Staten Island's South Beach submit paperwork for buy-outs**

*SIlive.com*, December 23, 2013

The state has received paperwork from 132 homeowners seeking buy-outs from the South Beach community of Staten Island that was devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Gov. Andrew Cuomo created the program last year, saying certain sections of Staten Island's shoreline should be restored to the natural environment.

**Next wave: future of beachfront living**

*Architecture Lab*, December 19, 2013

An undeveloped 81-acre parcel named Arverne East has become a place where the city can test-drive innovations in beachfront residential development. The city invited architects from around the world to propose developments for the area. Dubbed FAR ROC ("for a resilient Rockaway"), the sustainable-design competition asked firms for affordable and replicable visions that anticipate sea level rise and intense storms.

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**NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**USDA brings additional relief to landowners affected by Hurricane Sandy**

*U.S. Department of Agriculture*, December 18, 2013

The USDA announced \$19.2 million in funding for floodplain easements to help Hurricane Sandy survivors prevent damage in flood-prone areas. When landowners voluntarily place their land into floodplain easements, those properties will be restored to natural conditions to help prevent storm-related damage. Another round of applications for easement funds will be accepted starting in January. Funding is provided through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

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**COASTAL RESILIENCY**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers releases Hurricane Sandy coastal projects performance evaluation study**

*Defense Video & Imagery Distribution*, December 19, 2013

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has released the findings of the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Projects Performance Evaluation Study to evaluate the performance of existing USACE coastal projects impacted by Hurricane Sandy. The primary focus was an evaluation of 75 constructed coastal storm risk management projects from Maine to Virginia. Overall, the report found that existing USACE projects performed as designed in reducing coastal storm risks. The study also presents recommendations for potential improvements to how coastal risk reduction projects are formulated

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**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**MTA: Floodproofing South Ferry station may mean building on parkland**

*WNYC*, December 16, 2013

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is looking to make the South Ferry subway station more resilient by strengthening walls, plugging leaks and doubling the number of pumps. Because the room containing the electrical relays sits at the lowest part of the station and the only way to flood-proof the electrical system is to place it above ground on the edge of Battery Park, the MTA must negotiate with the Parks Department.

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**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Queens College program helps Sandy workers**

*Times Ledger*, December 21, 2013

The Center for the Biology of Natural Systems at Queens College received a \$547,000 federal grant to conduct research on improving working conditions for post-disaster reconstruction efforts. The program works directly with construction laborers to identify hazards and find ways to address them. The program's coordinators have collaborated with Make the Road New York, a citywide nonprofit that works with immigrant laborers.

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**RECOVERY EVENTS**

**JANUARY 9:** *New York Disaster Interfaith Services*

**FDRC Ken Curtin to give keynote at NYDIS's 2013 partnership awards and reception**

The New York Disaster Interfaith Network will hold its annual meeting Jan. 9. The keynote speaker will be Ken Curtin, the Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator for FEMA, Region II.

**JANUARY 9 & 10:** *Enterprise Community Partners*

**Resilient Design for Coastal Communities**

The two-day performance-level course is set to provide planning and design professionals with the knowledge and training necessary to design hurricane-resilient commercial and institutional buildings.

**JANUARY 10:** *Center for Architecture*

**Transformation of urban infrastructure and creating resilience**

The need for urban and suburban infrastructure systems to be designed to anticipate impacts of global climate change while also managing current problems through multi-disciplinary design. Price: Free for American Institute of Architects. Members; \$10 for non-members

**JANUARY 14:** *Hartford Seminary*

**Disaster spiritual care worker training**

This training provides an overview of best practices for volunteers who would be supervised by a disaster chaplain in a response to a mass-casualty situation or in a mass-care setting. The training covers topics such as emotional and spiritual care throughout a disaster, disaster-site operations, mental-health assessment and referral, effective self-care practices for care providers, and the Federal Incident Command System. The cost of this training is \$110 and includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials.

**JANUARY 14, 15, 16:** *NYC Community Development Block Grant*

**City of New York CDBG-DR Notice Of Proposed Action Plan Amendment**

Public hearings will be held regarding Action Plan Amendment 5, which details how the city plans to use the second portion of CDBG-DR funding. Call 311 or check [nyc.gov](http://nyc.gov) for the most updated information.

**JANUARY 23:** *National Disaster Preparedness Training Center*

**FEMA's National Disaster Preparedness Training Center's half-day coastal community resilience course**

This four-hour course focuses on coastal community resilience as a unifying framework for community-based planning, preparedness, response and recovery. The course will demonstrate how to integrate risk-based, community-based and collaborative strategies into plans and programs.

**JANUARY 27:** *Nassau County Bar Association*

**Free legal consultation clinic for Nassau residents**

Individual consultations are available with representatives from the Nassau County Homeownership Center, Community Development Corporation of Long Island, La Fuerza Unida, Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee and volunteer bankruptcy attorneys from the Nassau County Bar Association.

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**Grant Deadlines**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2014**

**EPA's environmental workforce development and job training grant**

These grants are provided for nonprofit and other eligible entities to recruit, train and place unemployed and under-employed workers, including low-income and minority populations. The grant also includes residents who were historically affected by hazardous and solid waste sites and facilities to help them obtain the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field and in the assessment and cleanup work taking place in their communities.

**MARCH 19, 2014**

**National Science Foundation seeks proposals for \$15 million in grants for resilient interdependent infrastructure processes and systems**

The NSF seeks proposals with transformative ideas that will ensure that interdependent critical infrastructure systems are effective, efficient, dependable, adaptable, resilient, safe and secure for the Resilient Interdependent Infrastructure Processes and Systems Program. Successful proposals are expected to study multiple infrastructures focusing on them as interdependent systems that deliver services, enabling a new interdisciplinary paradigm in infrastructure research.

**MARCH 28, 2014**

**The Federal Transit Administration announces \$3 billion for transit agencies**

The Federal Transit Administration is awarding grants on a competitive basis for projects that will protect their transit infrastructure from being damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The goal is to advance the best regionally coordinated projects, and make them more resilient.

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**SANDY RECOVERY GRANTS AWARDED**

**Federal grant of \$1.8 million will pay for most repairs at Howard Beach School**

**American Red Cross awards \$25,000 Superstorm Sandy Grant to New York Cares for coat drive**

**Frank E. Clark Charitable Trust awards \$25,000 grant to Philanthropy New York**

**The U.S. Department of Agriculture will give \$7.5 million to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to fund bluebelt expansion on Staten Island**

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**JOB OPENINGS**

**Technical Lead developing data sharing, analytics and reporting, Izar Associates**

**Graphic Designer, FEMA Region II**

**Crew Unit Lead, FEMA Region II**

**National Disaster Recovery Support, Planning Writer, FEMA Region II**

**Project Coordinator, FEMA Region II**

**Group Supervisor, FEMA Region II**

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.

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