

## Monthly Members Meeting

September 26th, 2023



#### **Welcome & Introductions**

Homelessness In The News, Kate Santich

**Report Housing Discrimination,** Brian Postlewait

**Homelessness in East Orange County,** Tim McKinney – United Global Outreach

Homeless Memorial, Micaela Cox - IDignity

**Long-Term Recovery From Hurricane Ian,** Janna Souvorova – Orange County

**Culinary Training Program,** Keonna Yearwood – Second Harvest

Tuition Exemption For Students Experiencing Homelessness, lan Infante

VI-SPDAT Community Meetings, Jackie Ebert

**Brighter Days Update,** Valerie Perez

**Announcements** 

#### Agenda



Kate Santich



## REPORT HOUSING DISCRIMINATION



#### How to Report Housing Discrimination Online

You can Report Housing Discrimination with FHEO online in <u>English</u> or Spanish.

**Email/Regular Mail** 

You can download or print this form (also available in Arabic, Chinese, Khmer, Korean, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese) and email/send it to your local FHEO office at the address on this list.

#### Phone Phone

You can speak with an FHEO intake specialist by calling 1-800-669-9777 or TTY: 1-800-877-8339.

## Information About Reporting Housing <u>Discrimination</u>

If you believe your rights may have been violated, we encourage you to report housing discrimination.

Because there are time limits on when an allegation can be filed with HUD after an alleged violation, you should report housing discrimination as soon as possible. When reporting housing discrimination, please provide as much information as possible, including:

- Your name and address;
- The name and address of the person(s) or organization your allegation is against;
  - The address or other identification of the housing or program involved;
- A short description of the event(s) that cause you to believe your rights were violated;
   and

## Retaliation Is Illegal--Assistance for Persons with Disabilities

It is illegal to retaliate against any person for making an allegation, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner in a proceeding under HUD's allegation process at any time, even after the investigation has been completed. The Fair Housing Act also makes it illegal to retaliate against any person because that person reported a discriminatory practice to a housing provider or other authority. If you believe you have experienced retaliation, you can report housing discrimination.

HUD provides a toll-free teletypewriter (TTY) line: 1-800-877-8339. You can also ask for disability-related assistance when you contact FHEO, including reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids and services.

#### Assistance for Persons with Limited English Proficiency

You can report housing discrimination in any language. For persons with limited English proficiency, HUD provides interpreters. HUD also provides a <u>Spanish language version</u> of the online report housing discrimination form. You can find descriptions of your fair housing rights in several languages other than English <u>here</u>.

To file a complain in other languages than English:

https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/fair\_housing\_equal\_opp/complaint\_filing\_languages \_other\_english

### Homelessness In East Orange

Tim McKinney, United Global Outreach



# Central Florida in Section of the Se

remembering our homeless neighbors
who re who passed away in 2022









## Send names and birthdates of individuals who experienced homelessness and have passed away in 2023:

Micaela Cox

reservations@idignity.org



## Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program







#### **Background & Purpose**

Orange County government is a recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. Orange County will receive an allocation of \$219,712,000 to help communities in hard-hit areas recover from Hurricane Ian. This amount includes \$191,054,000 for unmet needs and \$28,658,000 for mitigation.



#### What is CDBG-DR?



CDBG-DR dollars are a flexible set of funds to carry out a wide range of activities related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation of risk.

#### **How Can the Funds Be Used?**

CDBG-DR funds can be used for activities such as:

- Housing
- Infrastructure and capital projects
- Economic revitalization and Section 3 requirements on economic opportunities
- Public services (limited to 15%)

The entire Orange County (to include municipalities) is considered an impacted area where CDBG-DR funds can be used as long as proposed projects/activities meet the eligibility requirements of the program.

#### **CDBG-DR: Basic Program Requirements**

- While CDBG-DR funding is flexible, each funded activity must:
  - address a direct or indirect impact from the disaster in a most impacted and distressed area;
  - 2) be a CDBG-eligible activity (primarily serve low- moderate-income persons or geographies);
  - 3) meet a national objective of the CDBG program (benefit low- to moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention/elimination of slums and blight, or meet an urgent need).
- Additionally, all CDBG-DR activities (unless funded with the mitigation set-aside)
   <u>must be tied to the disaster covered by the allocation (Hurricane Ian)</u>.

#### CDBG-DR Timeline (estimated)

Early 2024: upon approval of the Action Plan by HUD, the CDBG-DR program will launch.

November 2023: draft Action Plan is published for public comments

**September/October 2023**: Community engagement and outreach process for CDBG-DR funds.

March 15, 2023: HUD announced that the County will receive \$219,712,000 in CDBG-DR funds.

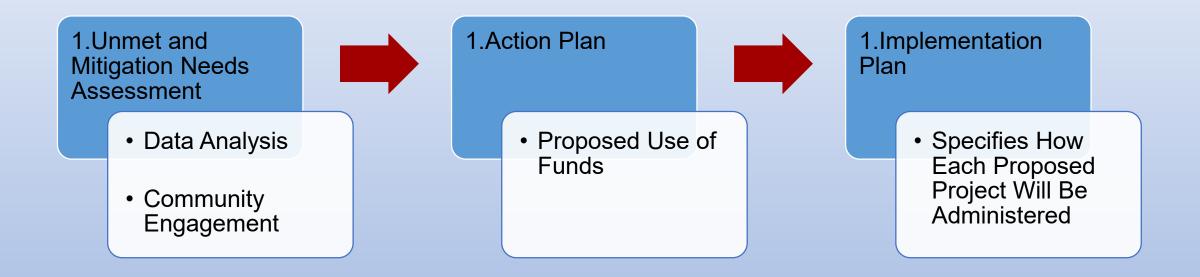
**September 28, 2022:** 

Hurricane Ian makes landfall

#### CDBG-DR Timeline (cont.)

Orange County's Public Action Plan details the timeframe for the CDBG-DR funding. Once HUD approves the Action Plan in January-February of 2024, Orange County will begin the execution of the funding agreements. Orange County will have 6 years from the Agreement execution date to spend the funds.

#### **Understanding The Process**



Overall, the planning process for CDBG-DR funds takes approximately 4-6 months.

### Unmet and Mitigation Needs Assessment

In developing its CDBG-DR Action Plan, Orange County intends to solicit input from other Divisions/Departments, local jurisdictions, public housing authorities, advocacy groups, and community partners, as well as citizens, to determine the remaining long-term resiliency needs and the most critical disaster mitigation needs.



## CDBG-DR: Overview of Activities – Housing

#### Housing activities can potentially include the following:

- New construction (rental and homeownership)
- Reconstruction/rehabilitation of single-family or multi-family housing
- Homeownership assistance
- Buyouts
- Rental assistance
- Other, such as housing for vulnerable populations

## CDBG-DR: Overview of Activities – Infrastructure and Capital Projects

#### Infrastructure activities can potentially include the following:

- Public facilities
- Public improvements
- Match (to satisfy a match requirement, share or contribution for any other Federal program, such as Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)
- Elevation of non-residential structures

### CDBG-DR: Overview of Activities – Economic Revitalization and Public Services

#### **Economic development activities** can potentially include the following:

- Economic revitalization and Section 3 requirements on economic opportunities
- Attraction, retention, and return of businesses and jobs to a disaster-impacted area

#### Public services activities (limited to 15%) can potentially include the following:

- Housing counseling
- Legal advice and representation
- Job training and placement
- Other

The County must assess whether public services are necessary to complement activities intended to address housing, infrastructure, and economic revitalization, and how those services would need to be made accessible to individuals with disabilities.

#### **Community Engagement**

#### **The Community Engagement Process**

- A resident survey available on its CDBG-DR website. The survey can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OC\_CDBG-DR">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OC\_CDBG-DR</a>.
- Community meetings will be held in each of the six County commission districts. The schedule of the community meetings, including dates, times, and locations, will be posted on the CDBG-DR website.



#### **Community Engagement**



#### Purpose

Hurricane Ian devastated southwest Florida, making landfall on September 28, 2022 as a Category 4 hurricane with strong winds, heavy rainfall and severe flooding. Nearly a month-and-a-half later, Hurricane Nicole struck the east coast of Florida on November 10, 2022. It was announced in March of 2023 that, to help underserved communities in hard-hit areas recover from disasters, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated \$2.7 billion to communities throughout Florida. Orange County will

#### **Citizen Participation Survey**

#### **Take Survey to Provide Input**

(available in English, Spanish and Creole)

CDBG-DR Summary Sheet

#### **Community Engagement**

**Citizen Participation Survey** 



## **Community Engagement**

Date	Time	Location	District/Commissioner
Thursday, September 28 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	John Bridges Community Center 445 W 13th St Apopka, FL 32703	District 2 Commissioner Moore
Thursday, October 5 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	New Beginnings Church 6859 Edgewater Commerce Pkwy Orlando, FL 32810	District 2 Commissioner Moore
Monday, October 16 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	<b>Bithlo Community Park</b> 18501 Washington Ave Orlando, FL 32820	District 5 Commissioner Bonilla
Tuesday, October 17 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	Goldenrod Recreation Center 4863 N Goldenrod Rd Winter Park, FL 32792	District 5 Commissioner Bonilla
Thursday, October 19 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	East Orange Community Center 12050 E Colonial Dr Orlando, FL 32826	District 4 Commissioner Gomez-Cordero
Wednesday, October 25 <sup>th</sup>	6pm -7pm	<b>Taft Community Center</b> 9450 S Orange Ave Orlando, Fl 32824	District 3 Commissioner Uribe

<sup>\*</sup> Additional community meeting dates, times and locations are being added; the updated schedule is posted on the CDBG-DR program website.

## Community Engagement: Focus groups summary

- Residents of mobile parks and homeless persons are disproportionally affected.
- Lack of media and resources to help LEP individuals access any assistance before and/or after the hurricane.
- Significant weather events affect most vulnerable groups.
- Some barriers reported by nonprofits: transportation, adequate generators, weather-resistant features; language, lack of communication between agencies and organizations, etc.
- Need shelter and housing for special needs persons, housing for working families.
- Need funds for home repairs (FEMA not enough).
- Need for resource navigation, hurricane preparedness (ex. disaster resilience hubs)
- Need for legal assistance.

#### **Affected areas:**

- Taft
- Pine Hills
- Parramore
- Englewood
- Orlo Vista
- Oak Ridge
- Eatonville
- East Winter Garden
- University and Rouse Rd. Areas
- Bithlo and Ocoee (specifically Mobile Home Parks)
- Lake Nostalgia (including communities around the area)
- Maxwell Terrace (experienced damages to 93 units/floods)
- Semoran Blvd./Colonial Dr. to Aloma Ave.

#### **CDBG-DR: Project Selection Process**

- County projects (could be county-wide): prioritized based on need and eligibility criteria;
- Jurisdictional projects: awarded to eligible projects/activity based on a regular application process (Notice of Funding Availability/NOFA);
- Other projects (nonprofits, housing developers, PHAs): also awarded based on program eligibility through a regular application process (NOFA).

#### **Additional Information and Resources**

#### **Orange County CDBG-DR Website**

https://www.ocfl.net/NeighborsHousing/OCDisasterRecovery.aspx

#### **HUD Exchange Website**

https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dr/

#### **Contact Us**

#### Mitchell Glasser, Manager, Housing and Comm. Development

Mitchell.Glasser@ocfl.net

Janna Souvorova, Chief Planner

Janna.Souvorova@ocfl.net

#### For Immediate Assistance/Information

- Community Resource Helpline Call 211
- Office of Tenant Services and Fair Housing (407) 836-7368
- Orange County Financial Assistance and Section 8 (407) 836-5159
- Orange County Down Payment Assistance (407) 836-5150
- Orange County Code Enforcement (407) 836-3111
- Orange County Housing Rehabilitation Program (407) 836-5181

