

With a high volume of media coverage in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Good Jobs New York is keeping the spotlight on how government money is proposed to be spent in the rebuilding process. For more information on transparency and opportunities for community involvement, follow us on Twitter @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Also, let us know how we can adjust this alert to make it better

Keeping an eye on Hurricane Sandy recovery dollars Weekly News Round-up: August 8-August 15

In This Issue

[This week's news](#)

[Advocacy News](#)

[Advocacy Reports](#)

[Federal, State & Local Resources](#)

New from GJNY

Dazed and confused about the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013? We can help. Check out Good Jobs New York's new tool to help New Yorker's understand the Federal Disaster Relief Act and New York City's plan for the first round of CDBG funds.

[At-a-Glance: Federal Disaster Relief After Hurricane Sandy](#)

联邦政策一瞥：飓风桑迪救援资金分配 - (中文) ([In Chinese](#))

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

The sequester has lessened the amount of Community Development Block Grants to be allocated that were approved in the disaster relief act from \$16 billion to \$15.2 billion. The waiver also broadens the use of CDBG-DR funds permitted for "tourism industry activities" and "uncapped" income limits in some New Jersey towns to assist low-income and moderate income residents. [The National Association of State Budget Officers](#)

The Red Cross announced a \$1 million grant to the Staten Island Foundation. Grants will go to organizations such as those providing long-term recovery services and mental health services. [NY1](#)

The FBI and Office of Inspector General with the Department of Homeland Security are investigating use of disaster aid by Seaside Heights, NJ. [The Star-Ledger](#)

After an investigation by the [New York State Attorney General's Office](#), a Queens resident was charged with defrauding the city and relief agencies with over \$87,000 by claiming she was homeless due to the storm. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

Disaster relief centers across the region have been busy helping low-income individuals needing emergency aid after Hurricane Sandy. [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [NBC 4 New York](#)

\$19 million in grants from the U.S. Small Business Administration has been awarded to 11 states and Puerto Rico to assist with rebuilding and resiliency efforts. The grants will allow for technical assistance and training. [Credit Union Times](#)

Some Union Beach, New Jersey homeowners expecting FEMA funds to help with demolishing homes have been denied by the county. At question is the definition of whether a home is in danger of collapsing. [CBS New York](#)

The City's largest Halloween parade held in the Village needs \$50,000 for the parade to be held this year. Last year's parade was cancelled by the city due to the storm. [DNA info](#)

New Jersey Gov. Christie is trading jabs again with other Republicans, this time with Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), about his

NEW Transparency Tip:

The Star Ledger created an interactive tool to help track the use of Sandy funds in New Jersey municipalities. [Sandy Recovery Scorecard](#)

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advocacy for federal disaster relief funds. [Politico](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

A "Science and Resilience Institute" to be based in Jamaica Bay, Queens will help implement the Bloomberg Administration's SIRR plan announced in June. [Crain's New York Business](#)

ALSO: Along with the new Institute, the Bloomberg Administration [announced](#) a \$100 million grant competition to "build coastal resilience."

The New Jersey Recovery Fund [announced](#) nearly \$4 million in grants to organizations related to Planning and Environment, Media and the Arts.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced the finalists of a design that will create systems to help protect communities and create better coordination in the region. [Crain's New York Business](#)

An interview with Jamie Rubin, Director of the New York Sandy Task Force about the task force's efforts, its upcoming report and a regional approach to rebuilding. [Metrofocus](#)

What is expected to be the first lawsuit of its kind, a family is suing New York City after a 30-year old Flushing, Queens resident was killed by a tree that fell on the family's home. [New York Daily News](#)

A special court established by the New York State Supreme Court has been set up in Staten Island to facilitate lawsuits stemming from the Hurricane. [Staten Island Advance](#)

New flood maps and a law passed shortly before Sandy, may increase flood insurance premiums around the country. A bipartisan effort in Congress is prepared to ask FEMA to delay implementing parts of the law. [The Wall Street Journal](#)

Analysis from the American Road & Transportation Builders Association reviewed economic demographics, bond ratings, financing mechanisms and procurement to find that Sandy rebuilding funds will have a beneficial impact in New York and New Jersey. [American Journal of Transportation](#)

A family of Ospreys whose nests were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy, have built new ones atop a crane in Long Island, NY. The Ospreys are federally protected and is the official bird of Nassau County. [CBS New York](#)

Unsuspecting buyers in Virginia are purchasing cars flooded by Sandy. [ABC 7 Local WJLA](#)

The Mayor of Highlands, New Jersey is considering raising part of this coastal town by 10 feet. [Fox 5 News](#)

At a meeting of American Sociological Association, various scientists debate the impact storms like Sandy have on communities. [Huffington Post](#)

Housing

City officials [announced](#) that Galaxy General Contracting, Arverne By the Sea, LLC, and the Bluestone Organization have been chosen to rebuild new privately owned homes. Target areas include coastal communities in all boroughs except Manhattan.

ALSO: The projects will be funded with various federal, city and state funds, including CDBG funds. [The Real Deal](#)

Volunteers in New Jersey who are working with relief groups to help repair homes are learning the challenges of remediating mold. [NJ.com](#)

In Breezy Point, Queens one of the hardest hit areas, home rebuilding efforts are painfully slow due in part to special permits needed for this unique area. [Associated Press via MSN News](#)

Jobs

Some at-risk youth got summer jobs helping New York City communities hard hit by Sandy. [Voice of America](#)

Advocacy News

List your upcoming event here! Email elizabeth@goodjobsfirst.org

Regional

This week: various beach clean-up activities for impacted areas around the region for Clean Ocean Action Waves of Action Day. [FortheShore.org](#)

Hurricane Sandy relief volunteer opportunities in New York City are listed at [New York Cares](#)

Brooklyn

Saturday, September 14, 11 am - 2 pm. [Homeowner Resource Forum](#) sponsored by Neighborhood Housing Services. Capital One Bank, 1425 Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11236.

Manhattan

Wednesday, September 11, 2013. 9 am - 4:30 pm. NeighborWorks America Northeast Region presents [Navigating the Road to Housing Recovery: Training the Counselor](#). This one-day course is designed for housing counselors and others working with disaster victims. 641 Lexington Avenue (@54th Street), 4th Floor Conference Rooms B & C.

Queens

Saturday, August 24th, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Rockaway Peninsula [Loss, Loss, Lost Walking Tour](#); Participants will explore the peninsula in the aftermath of the storm through experiencing, sharing and invoking personal loss.

New Jersey

Tuesday, October 29. [Superstorm Sandy: One Year Later conference](#). Monmouth University, West

Long Branch, N.J. Presented by Monmouth University, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Recovery Fund.

The Christie Administration released best practices for treating mold in flooded homes. Additionally, the New Jersey Department of Health will offer training sessions in mold removal and assessment.

Advocacy Reports

NEW: 2013 New Jersey Hurricane Sandy Long-Term Relief and Recovery Assistance Guide from the United Way.

NEW: The Superstorm Research Lab, a mutual aid research collective, is working to understand the changes in how New York City policy actors, NGO leaders, activists, volunteers, and residents are thinking about social, economic and environmental issues following Hurricane Sandy.

The Sandy Regional Assembly released its community-based analysis of the Bloomberg Administration's Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency (SIRR) report.

New York City Public Advocate Bill de Blasio documents the efforts of community-based organizations providing disaster relief services for low-income families after Sandy: Supporting Community-Based Disaster Response: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Sandy

The Center for Urban Real Estate: NYC 2040: Housing the Next One Million New Yorkers

American Planning Association-New York Metro Chapter for the Rockaway Development & Revitalization Corporation: Getting Back to Business: Addressing the Needs of Rockaway Businesses Impacted by Superstorm Sandy

The Sandy Regional Assembly, made up of environmental justice organizations, community-based groups, labor unions, and advocates have released Recovery from the Ground Up: Strategies for community-based resiliency in New York and New Jersey. Based on input from grassroots groups, the Recovery Agenda includes priorities relating to low-income people, communities of color, immigrants, and workers.

The 2013 CoreLogic Storm Surge Report ranks storm surge risk for U.S. metropolitan areas; New York metro region is ranked number 1. New Orleans is number 5.

Climate Central, Hurricane Sandy's Untold Filthy Legacy: Sewage

The Pratt Center for Community Development has published a series of maps documenting Sandy's impacts on low-income residential communities and Industrial Business Zones.

Enterprise Community Partners, 'Measuring the Response to Hurricane Sandy'

Food Bank For New York City, Hurricane Sandy Response: 100 Days of Meeting the Needs

Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy, Sandy's Effects on Housing in New York City.

The Alliance for a Just Rebuilding released Sandy's Mold Legacy: The Unmet Need Six Months After the Storm; Other reports include: After Sandy, Prioritizing the Vulnerable and Displaced: Fixing Major Flaws in City Hall's Disaster Recovery Planning

Federal, State & Local Resources

NEW: [Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant Program](#). This program, through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior, aims to fund ways to rebuild wetlands, beaches and other ecosystems.

顯利街社服中心「希望之星」撫慰珊迪災民受創心靈 - Henry Street Settlement in Lower Manhattan provides free mental health counseling to people and families affected by Sandy. Hot line: (800) 543-3638; In Chinese: (877) 990-8585.

The New York [Community Reconstruction Program](#), formerly known as Community Reconstruction Zones; the program's website includes an interactive map of the "NY Rising Communities" and a prominent link for making public comment.

[The New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Sandy Recovery Resource Guide](#), updated July 9, 2013.

Report by the U.S. Department of Energy: [U.S. Energy Sector Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Extreme Weather](#). Part of the Obama Administration's national climate change adaptation planning, this report examines current and potential impacts of climate trends on the nation's energy sector. It includes an interactive map showing the location of current climate vulnerabilities in the energy sector.

[Hurricane Sandy: An Assessment of Impacted Commercial Corridors and Recommendations for Revitalization \[pdf\]](#). This report by the New York City Department of Small Business Services and the New York City Economic Development Corporation provides an assessment of commercial corridors in Brooklyn, Staten Island, Manhattan, and Queens.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation released its RFP for the "Neighborhood Game Changer" competition. Winning proposals will receive up to \$18 million in CDBG funds to support the proposed project. Deadline for submission is Monday, September 9, 2013. [NYCEDC Press Release](#)

Institute for Public Knowledge on the immediate aftermath of Sandy and the rebuilding process. [Superstorm Sandy Research Initiative](#)

Report by the New York City Department of City Planning Sustainable Communities Consortium, [Designing for Flood Risk](#) and [Urban Waterfront Adaptive Strategies](#)

Updated [Hurricane Evacuation Maps](#) for New York City

For more resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

Check out our resources on Hurricane Sandy money at our website. Or follow us on Twitter: @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. Please forward your suggestions on how we can make this round-up more useful to you in your work.

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