



**Business Recovery Status Report #6  
Presidential Disaster #1763  
August 15, 2008**

[www.flood2008.iowa.gov](http://www.flood2008.iowa.gov)

**Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce** ([www.cedarrapids.org](http://www.cedarrapids.org))

- **Events – To register call the Chamber at 319-398-5317**
  - August 27, 9-11:00 AM Employment Strategies for those laid off or unemployed. Management Resource Group and Iowa Workforce Development will offer tools and assistance for your job search.

**Iowa Department of Economic Development** ([www.iowalifechanging.com](http://www.iowalifechanging.com))

- **Iowa Downtown Summit - Disaster Recovery Forum**
  - Wednesday, August 27 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Charles Theatre, 409 North Main St., Charles City
  - Register at [www.iowalifechanging.com/promotions/disasterrecovery/registration.asp](http://www.iowalifechanging.com/promotions/disasterrecovery/registration.asp) or contact Debi Flanders at 515.242.2734 to learn more.

**Iowa State University Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS)** <http://www.ciras.iastate.edu>

- CIRAS teams met with four additional manufacturers and are addressing challenges and offering solutions to assist in exceeding pre-disaster production levels. Examples of assistance include facility layout, materials testing, and education on conducting business with federal, state and local agencies along with identifying current and future procurement opportunities for Iowa businesses.

**Iowa Workforce Development** ([www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org))

- Received an extension of the filing deadline for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). All 67 counties declared eligible for DUA have an extended filing deadline of **September 12, 2008**.

**Linn County Nonprofit Resource Center** ([www.lcnrc.org](http://www.lcnrc.org))

- Released the results of an in-depth needs assessment and flood impact of nonprofit organizations. The summary is based on information provided by 47 Linn County nonprofit organizations directly impacted by flooding in June 2008, both arts and culture and human service based.
- A copy of the summary can be found at [www.lcnrc.org](http://www.lcnrc.org).

**Private Non-profit Resources**

- To be considered a private non-profit (PNP), a facility must (1) be open to the general public and (2) provide an essential governmental service.
- Divided into two categories, depending on the types of services provided. These include critical services, such as power and water companies, sewage plants, direct medical care, telephone communications and fire or emergency services; and non-critical services, such as educational facilities, low-income housing, homeless shelters, senior citizen centers, zoos, libraries, museums, etc.
- PNPs providing critical services may apply directly to FEMA for assistance for both emergency and permanent work.
- Emergency work includes two main categories: (1) debris removal and (2) emergency protective measures, such as temporary buildings and overtime for fire and police personnel.

- PNPs that provide non-critical services may apply to FEMA for emergency services only. Those non-critical PNPs wishing to receive funds for permanent work must apply to the Small Business Administration (SBA).
- SBA loans are available up to \$2 million and are usually low-interest loans stretched out over a long term.
- If a PNP providing non-critical services applies to SBA and is denied – or if the loan does not cover all expenses – the facility may then apply to FEMA for possible assistance.
- PNPs that offer both critical and non-critical services may apply simultaneously to both FEMA and SBA.

### **Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission (RIAC)**

- **Meeting**
  - The fourth and final RIAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19, 2008, in Cedar Falls at the Holiday Inn – University Plaza at 5826 University Avenue.
- **“Speak Up Iowa”**
  - On Monday, residents in the Red Oak area attended the third session. The following day, the RIO and its task force members were in Fort Dodge.
  - The last session will be held on **Tuesday, August 19** from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Cedar Falls – University Plaza at 5826 University Ave., Cedar Falls.

### **Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) ([www.rio.iowa.gov/](http://www.rio.iowa.gov/))**

- **Declarations**
  - August 13, 2008 Governor Chet Culver announced that **seven additional** Iowa counties – Adair, Audubon, Cass, Grundy, Guthrie, Henry and Winnebago - were granted a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance and Cherokee County was granted Public Assistance.
  - 83 counties have been approved for Public Assistance.
  - 74 counties have been approved for Individual Assistance.
  - **The incident period for the disasters has been closed.** Damages must have occurred in the period between May 25, 2008 and midnight on August 13, 2008.
- **Submit your ideas to RIO**
  - Ideas can be submitted at [www.rio.iowa.gov](http://www.rio.iowa.gov) or by calling the office at 515.242.5004.
- Business owners affected by the recent disaster may be unclear about the aid available.
  - By protecting themselves financially by purchasing coverage for flood damage and business interruption, insurance is the best line of defense for businesses.
  - No Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants are available to for-profit businesses, including rental properties.

### **Safeguard Iowa Partnership ([www.safeguardiowa.org](http://www.safeguardiowa.org))**

- **Business Survey**
  - In coordination with the Rebuild Iowa Office and Iowa Department of Economic Development, Safeguard Iowa Partnership sent a survey (<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB2285ANSY3CQ>) to businesses across the state to gather information on estimated business damage (physical and economic loss).
  - The data will be included in the Rebuild Iowa Workforce and Economic Development task force report.
  - Businesses are encouraged to respond to the short survey by August 19.
  - Responses to the questions will remain anonymous.
  - As of August 15, 541 surveys have been completed.

- **Governor's Homeland Security Conference**

- This year there will be a public-private track which will include lessons learned from private partners who were directly and indirectly impacted by the recent disasters. This will be the first year that a track will be dedicated to the private sector.
- September 30-October 1, 2008 at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines.
- Draft agenda and information on lodging can be found at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/home/governorshomelandsecurityconference/tabid/173/default.aspx](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/home/governorshomelandsecurityconference/tabid/173/default.aspx).
- Reserve your room soon as a block of rooms for this event will expire on September 7, 2008.
- Conference fee is \$125.
- Additionally, a one-day **free** training event will take place on September 29, 2008 at the Embassy Suites; "The Art of Deterrence" will be presented by the HALO Corporation.

**UNI Regional Business Center** (<http://entre.myentre.net/>)

- MyEntreNet will host a webinar on Thursday, August 21, noon with Doug Norby, owner of Norby's work Perks, an office design firm in Grand Forks. Doug will share his story of survival, recovery and prosperity as MyEntreNet continues their series on the recovery from the Great Grand Forks Flood of 1997. For more information on Norby's Work Perks, visit [www.norbys.com](http://www.norbys.com).
- To participate in a MyEntreNet Webinar, go to the MyEntreNet Website at [www.myentre.net](http://www.myentre.net) and log in.
  - If you haven't already registered, you will need to fill out a brief registration form to access MyEntreNet.
- Simply click "Webinar" located on the compass at the left side of your home page.
- Once at the webinar login page, enter your name and click 'login'.

**U.S. Chamber Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC)**

- **National Disaster Help Desk for Business**
  - Activated in Iowa since June 15 to working with Chambers, local/state/federal government, businesses and non-profits.
  - 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP (888-692-4943).
  - Informing national Corporate Donors on local stories and Iowa needs.
  - Need help, not sure where to go, give us a call.
  - Corporate donations into Iowa have reached \$53,285,000 going to support a variety of nonprofit organizations assisting those impacted by the floods.
- **"Cedar Rapids Economic Recovery & Rebuilding" – Final Report**
  - BCLC, with the help of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), sent a team of national experts into Cedar Rapids to determine economic damage and recovery priorities.
  - The team coordinated with the SBA's disaster office; toured damaged areas; met with chamber, city, state, and federal officials; and gathered business needs.
  - The study, along with BCLC's National Help Desk for Business, has been made possible by a generous grant from the Office Depot Foundation.
  - NOW AVAILABLE: You can download the 1) Report, 2) PowerPoint presentation, and 3) listen to audio from the Team's presentation all at: [http://www.uschamber.com/bclc/programs/disaster/midwestfloods\\_2008.htm](http://www.uschamber.com/bclc/programs/disaster/midwestfloods_2008.htm) (NEW LINK)
- **Jobs4Recovery**
  - BCLC is partnering with IBM to re-launch Jobs4Recovery.
  - Jobs4Recovery is a portal for employment opportunities in communities severely affected by disasters. Workers, volunteers, and employers may search job information from more than 1,000 job boards or browse listings categorized by affected communities.
  - The website (in progress) can also provide job information from dozens of local chambers, nonprofit organizations, and related job resources.

- BCLC and IBM first launched the Jobs4Recovery service in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.
- More details and information to follow soon.

**U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** ([www.sba.gov/floods/](http://www.sba.gov/floods/))

- *SBA Application for Property Damage Deadline – September 29, 2008*
- *SBA Application for Economic Injury Deadline – February 27, 2009*
- SBA offers two kinds of loans:
  - Low-interest disaster loans
    - Businesses of any size, as well as private non-profit organizations, may be able to borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment inventory and other business assets.
  - SBA can lend additional funds to businesses to make improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.
  - Economic Injury Disaster Loans
    - To small businesses, as well as to most private, non-profit organizations, to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Those loans may be available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.
  - Loans are determined on a case-by-case basis.
- SBA Customer Service Representatives (CSR) staffing 2 fixed Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs).
- Operating 7 Disaster Loan Outreach Centers (DLOCs) throughout the state.
  - SBA Customer Services Representatives are available at each location to meet with homeowners, renters, and non-farm businesses of all sizes to provide program information, help applicants complete paperwork and forms, and to close approved SBA disaster loans.
- SBA has staff at the Joint Field Office (JFO) to coordinate all needs with federal, state, and local partners. SBA has Communication Specialists in the Joint Information Center (JIC) and in the field to handle all SBA media and congressional inquiries.
- Continues to sponsor a Business Recovery Center (BRC) at Westdale Mall in Cedar Rapids, where SBA has assisted over **2,100** visitors at the center.
  - Available to answer specific questions about how a disaster loan may help each business and to help owners' complete business loan applications.
  - Sponsors the availability of multiple additional services at the BRC and there is no charge for any of the services.
    - Business owners may obtain assistance in applying for low-interest SBA Disaster Loans, and gain access to government contracts and procurement through SBA Government Contracting.
    - Iowa Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" are providing assistance with reconstruction of lost financial records, development of business plans and cash flow projections, how to obtain lost tax returns and submit casualty loss claims on tax returns, adjusting to market changes as a result of the flooding, tornadoes and severe storms, and other post-disaster counseling services. These services are free and available by appointment.
    - The DRCs and the DLOCs have contact information on how businesses may obtain these same counseling services from their local SCORE chapter, regional SBDC office and the Iowa Women's Enterprise Center for businesses that may not be located near the Cedar Rapids BRC.

Iowa SBA Loan Approval Totals Statewide Current as of 8/14/2008		
	Applications Approved	Funding Approved
Home	2,611	\$137,262,400
Business/EIDL	427	\$51,197,100
Total	3,038	\$188,459,500

## Donations and Volunteer Management

### Iowa Aidmatrix Portal

To donate cash go to [www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=iowa](http://www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=iowa). The organizations listed are members of National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters and other nonprofit organizations assisting in the recovery efforts in Iowa.

To view the identified needs and donate products go to [www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/FEMA/PublicPortal/ListOfNeeds.aspx?PortalID=113](http://www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/FEMA/PublicPortal/ListOfNeeds.aspx?PortalID=113). To fill a need, select **donate** and complete the required information.

Donations as of 8/15/2008			
Accepted Donations	Declined Donations	Pending Donations	Total Donations
27	2	24	53

Needs Posted as of 8/15/2008	
Fulfilled Needs	Total Needs
25	475

Aidmatrix Users as of 8/15/2008		
Total # of Users	Total # of Organizations	Total # of Cash Users
62	54	17

### Embrace Iowa 2008 Disaster Fund

The 2008 Iowa Disaster Fund will NOT take the place of contributions to local agencies such as community foundations, United Ways or Red Cross Chapters; rather, the Fund will encourage local contributions and also provide a fund for those wishing to make statewide contributions.

To donate go to [www.desmoinesfoundation.org/page10002684.cfm](http://www.desmoinesfoundation.org/page10002684.cfm).

### Cedar Rapids Job & Small Business Recovery Fund

The Cedar Rapids Job & Small Business Recovery Fund provides financial assistance to a for-profit business (person or entity that sells good or services) or the owner of commercial property in Cedar Rapids that has sustained losses as a result of the flood.

Status as of COB 8/14/2008		
Funds Pledged	Funds Distributed	# of Businesses
\$2,683,213	\$1,180,950	58

To donate go to [www.gcrf.org](http://www.gcrf.org). Select "Job & Small Business Recovery Fund" from the selection of flood funds.

To apply go to [www.corridorrecovery.org/BusinessRecovery/BizRecoveryFundApplication.asp](http://www.corridorrecovery.org/BusinessRecovery/BizRecoveryFundApplication.asp).

### Alliant Energy Foundation – Rebuilding Our Communities Grant Program

Rebuilding Our Communities Grant Program will provide funds to non-profits in Alliant Energy communities that were directly affected by the recent flooding. The Foundation has allocated up to \$1 million for the program and groups can apply for up to \$20,000 in unrestricted funds to use for flood-related expenses. The Foundation will accept applications until October 1, 2008. Organizations may obtain an application and more information regarding Alliant Energy Foundation Rebuilding Our Communities Grant online at [www.alliantenergy.com/foundation](http://www.alliantenergy.com/foundation) or by calling (608) 458-4483.

**Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service**

If you are interested in volunteering, register at

<https://volunteer.united-e-way.org/icovs/volunteer/register/?id=>