



**Business Recovery Status Report #7
Presidential Disaster #1763
August 22, 2008**

www.flood2008.iowa.gov

Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce (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.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov)

- **Interagency Levee Work Group**
 - Newly established work group that operates out of the Iowa Joint Field Office.
 - Provides support for floodplain risk management efforts to counties, incorporated communities, private levee owners and other involved with levees and flood management.
 - Offers the expertise of multiple federal and state agencies in levee repair and maintenance as well as floodplain recovery efforts.
 - Provides a coordinated “one-stop shop” to help manage present and future flood risk in vulnerable areas.
 - Iowans interested in levee assistance who have not yet applied for aid can call (515)251-3501.
- **Long Term Community Recovery Inter-Agency Coordination Team (IACT) Meeting**
 - Dave Miller, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Administrator, facilitated the meeting held August 12.
 - The meeting addressed the topic of how to maintain community perspective and continuity.
 - A major challenge will be helping those communities considering buyouts to discover resources for comprehensive planning to provide them with new options focused on community development and growth.
 - IACT and the Rebuild Iowa Office have individual functions but are focused on providing opportunities for discussions and continued collaboration.
 - IACT continues to strive for developing a cooperative environment for identifying and addressing long-term recovery issues.

Iowa Department of Economic Development (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 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 three additional manufacturers (total=13 companies) 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.

Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission (RIAC)

- **Meeting**
 - The fourth and final RIAC meeting was held Tuesday, August 19, 2008, in Cedar Falls following a bus tour of Parkersburg, New Hartford, Cedar Falls, Waterloo, Evansdale and Waverly.
 - Task force updates were provided from long-term recovery planning, floodplain management and hazard mitigation, and public health and health care.
 - RIAC will be meeting Monday, August 25 and 26 to review the draft initial 45-day report due to Governor Culver on September 2, 2008.
- **“Speak Up Iowa”**

Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) (www.rio.iowa.gov/)

- **Declarations**
 - Winnebago County was added to the list of Iowa counties eligible for Public Assistance.
 - The number of designated counties is now 85 of Iowa’s 99 counties.
 - One of the counties, Audubon, has Individual Assistance but not Public Assistance.
 - 11 have Public Assistance but not Individual Assistance.

Safeguard Iowa Partnership (www.safeguardiowa.org)

- **Business Survey**
 - In coordination with the Rebuild Iowa Office and Iowa Department of Economic Development, Safeguard Iowa Partnership sent a survey to businesses across the state to gather information on estimated business damage (physical and economic loss).
 - 580 businesses completed the survey.
 - The results were shared with Rebuild Iowa Workforce and Economic Development task force.
- **Governor’s Homeland Security Conference**
 - September 30-October 1, 2008 at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines.
 - The agenda and information on lodging can be found at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/home/governorshomelandsecurityconference/tabid/173/default.aspx.
 - 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.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) (www.sba.gov/floods/)

- *SBA Application for Property Damage Deadline – September 29, 2008*
- *SBA Application for Economic Injury Deadline – February 27, 2009*
- 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 **2,300** 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 8/22/2008		
	Applications Approved	Funding Approved
Home	2,687	\$141,656,400
Business/EIDL	459	\$57,791,200
Total	3,146	\$199,447,600

Donations and Volunteer Management

Iowa Aidmatrix Portal

To donate cash go to 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. To fill a need, select **donate** and complete the required information.

Donations as of 8/22/2008			
Accepted Donations	Declined Donations	Pending Donations	Total Donations
27	2	27	56

Needs Posted as of 8/22/2008	
Fulfilled Needs	Total Needs
29	479

Aidmatrix Users as of 8/22/2008		
Total # of Users	Total # of Organizations	Total # of Cash Users
64	56	18

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.

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.

To donate go to 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.

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 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=>