



**Business Recovery Status Report #10
Presidential Disaster #1763
September 12, 2008**

www.flood2008.iowa.gov

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (www.iowaagriculture.gov)

- Farmers interested in participating in the new supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program must sign-up before **September 16** deadline.
- Those eligible are encouraged to contact their local Farm Service Agency to take advantage of the recovery program.
- The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) offers crop yield loss assistance for crops, including grazing lands that are not fully covered by crop insurance or the noninsured crop disaster assistance program.

Iowa State University Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) (www.ciras.iastate.edu)

- CIRAS teams continue to offer solutions to assist manufacturers (total=16 companies) 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.
- CIRAS is exploring opportunities/needs for hosting workshops to address common industry recovery challenges.

Jumpstart Iowa Initiative

- New housing and economic development program to address immediate needs.
- **Housing Program**
 - Administered through the Iowa Finance Authority.
 - To help homeowners either make a down payment on a new house, repair their current home, or maintain their mortgages while waiting for a potential buyout from FEMA.
 - Maximum award is a \$50,000 loan, plus an additional \$10,000 for energy efficient appliances, all of which will be forgiven if the homeowner stays in the house for ten (10) years.
- **Small Business Program**
 - Administered through the Iowa Department of Economic Development
 - Funds will help pay down their SBA loans from the federal government
 - Provide funding to promote sustainable rebuilding efforts.
 - Loans will be forgiven if the business opens its doors within six (6) months of receiving funds.

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

- FEMA granted Governor's request to cover 90% of Iowa's disaster related costs.
- **Community Development Block Grant**
 - Detailed action plan for the \$85 million dollars in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) allocated by Congress in June, but remain to be delivered to flood victims by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- The full action plan can be found at www.iowalifechanging.com/community/downloads/disasterrecoveryactionplan.pdf.
- **Small business stimulus:** businesses will be offered up to \$50,000 as a forgivable loan. The purpose of these loans is to provide working capital to help ensure business survival. A total of \$10,000,000 has been set aside for this purpose.

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 1 fixed Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs).
- Operating 6 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 **2,800** 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 9/11/2008		
	Applications Approved	Funding Approved
Home	2,832	\$147,706,000
Business/EIDL	529	\$74,324,500
Total	3,361	\$222,030,500

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.as=px?PortalID=113. To fill a need, select **donate** and complete the required information.

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.

Donations as of COB 9/12/2008	
Funds Pledged	Funds Distributed
\$5.9 Million	\$1,640,000

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 9/11/2008		
Funds Pledged	Funds Distributed	# of Businesses
\$4,989,163	\$2,509,150	127

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=>