



**Business Recovery Status Report #18**  
**Presidential Disaster #1763**  
**November 7, 2008**

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

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

- CIRAS teams continue to offer solutions to assist manufacturers (total=18 companies) in exceeding pre-disaster production levels. Examples of assistance include facility layout, materials testing, energy efficiency 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 and beginning to collect lessons learned on preparation, disaster response, and recovery in industry. In addition, CIRAS is working with other Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) centers and their partners across the US in identifying best practices for disaster recovery.
- CIRAS has volunteered to act as a resource for the Iowa Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce case management activities for manufacturing companies.

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

- Executive Order #9 Signed by Governor Culver
  - Governor Culver signed Executive Order 9 to aid in disaster recovery efforts, which directs the Iowa Finance Authority to administer and track the allocation of additional tax-exempt bonding authority that will help finance projects in areas hit by the disasters.
  - A result of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008, which was signed into law by the President on October 3.
  - Act provides Iowa with additional bonding authority for the issuance of tax-exempt bonds, above and beyond the State's normal tax-exempt bonding authority.
  - The additional bonding authority can be used for a broader array of potential projects than normally allowed under federal law for tax-exempt bonds.
  - Proceeds of the bonds can be used to finance real property for projects including single family and multifamily housing, property of certain regulated utilities and commercial property.
  - The business/person using the tax-exempt bond proceeds must have suffered a loss attributable to the storms, tornados or flooding, or is a business designated by the Governor as replacing a business that suffered a loss due to the storms, tornados or flooding.
  - In the case of property for certain regulated utilities (property used for furnishing electricity, gas and steam, for example) damaged by the storms, tornados or flooding, only the repair or renovation of such property can be financed on a tax-exempt basis under the Act.
  - Estimated amount of additional tax-exempt bonding authority provided under the Act to Iowa is approximately \$2.6 billion.
  - Bonds must be issued before January 1, 2013.
- Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission met November 6 and 7 in West Des Moines to discuss and work on the Rebuild Iowa Office's 120-day Report. The Commission will present the report to Governor Culver on November 17.
- Jumpstart Iowa

- Governor Culver announced an effort to reach those who are eligible for Jumpstart Iowa with a new public service campaign. During the month of November, print, billboard, radio and television announcements will direct Iowans to the Jumpstart Iowa Web site ([www.jumpstart.iowa.gov](http://www.jumpstart.iowa.gov)) or to the toll-free number 1-866-849-0323 to find out more information about the program and how to apply for financial assistance.

Jumpstart Small Business Update*						
Current as of COB 11/6/2008						
Total # of applicants	Total amount requested	Total # applicants approved	Total amount obligated	Total amount disbursed	Ave. Award	Applications Ineligible
591	\$88.7 million	405	\$14.5 million	\$4.4 million	\$35,802	83
*Numbers are based on initial reporting figures. Numbers are expected to increase as more Iowans complete their Jumpstart Iowa applications.						

- Harvesting Resources for Iowa Communities – Iowa Rural Development Council is hosting resource tradeshows to highlight state, federal and local resources in an informal setting. To register for the tradeshow click [here](#). Two sessions scheduled:
  1. Friday, November 14, 2008 at Iowa Wesleyan College, Howe Student Activity Center, Mount Pleasant
- Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference: Learning from the Past/Planning for the Future – December 9-10 at the Marriot Hotel & Conference Center in Coralville. Optional Community Design workshop on December 11 should be of interest to architects, engineers, contractors, small businesses, industries, city, county and community leaders, consultants and the general public. Registration is \$100 for the conference and an additional \$50 for the design workshop. Professional Development Hours can be earned. Registration and sponsorship opportunities available at [www.iowalifechanging.com/register](http://www.iowalifechanging.com/register).

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

- *SBA Application for Property Damage Deadline – October 31, 2008*
- *SBA Application for Economic Injury Deadline – February 27, 2009*
- Continues to sponsor a Business Recovery Center (BRC) at Westdale Mall in Cedar Rapids, where SBA has assisted over **3,400** visitors at the center.

Iowa SBA Loan Approval Totals Statewide		
Current as of COB 10/30/2008		
	Applications Approved	Funding Approved
Home	3,051	\$155,778,600
Business/EIDL	631	\$89,963,700
Total	3,682	\$245,742,300

**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.

**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 11/6/2008		
Funds Pledged	Funds Distributed	# of Businesses
\$5,110,000	\$5,105,350	280

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).

**Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service**

If you are interested in volunteering, register at

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