

[FOCUS](#) [IN THE NEWS](#) [EVENTS](#) [GRANT DEADLINES](#) [GRANTS AWARDED](#) [JOB OPENINGS](#)

As we move closer to the launch of the New York Recovery Network, a platform providing access to information and connection to other professionals involved in New York's recovery from Hurricane Sandy, we've redesigned the recovery bulletin with an updated look.

What remains the same is our guiding editorial philosophy: news and tools that recovery workers can use to do their jobs more effectively. Please let us know how we can serve you better. To send comments or submit items of interest, please email us at editorNYrecovery@fema.dhs.gov. To subscribe [click here](#).

Thanks for reading, and keep up the good work!

FOCUS: FORUM PROVIDES MODEL FOR COLLABORATION

A joint Hurricane Sandy recovery science grantee meeting was held on Jan. 7, 2014. The meeting convened with the U.S. Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences as well as principal researchers on Hurricane Sandy recovery projects. The joint meeting is expected to be part of a series of forums where project leaders can share information regarding their project priorities, tools and outcomes.

The [Mailman School of Public Health](#), home to several research award recipients and partners, hosted this first forum. Assistant Secretary Nicole Lurie kicked it off by discussing the need to use the same definitions of resilience and engaging other researchers for a science-based collaborative approach. Overall goals include creating common approaches and data sets, defining resilience and coming up with a core set of questions to minimize redundancy. The organizers felt that creating an opportunity for exchange early in the process would also increase the opportunities to collaborate.

[Return to top](#)

IN THE NEWS

ECONOMY

New partnership forms to support storm-ravaged Far Rockaway

Real Estate Weekly, January 9, 2014

The Urban Land Institute is partnering with the New York City mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability to support the city's resiliency efforts along Mott Avenue in Far Rockaway. Recommendations will be developed through a Technical Assistance Panel program (TAP), which, in consultation with local residents and other stakeholders, addresses land use challenges. The purpose of the TAP study is to identify potential retail development opportunities near the terminals of the A train and the Long Island Rail Road.

Claiming disaster losses with the IRS

Internal Revenue Service, 2013

This IRS publication presents the special rules that apply for loss claims for federally declared disaster areas. It contains information on how a survivor can deduct a loss, how to claim a loss, how to treat the home in a disaster area and what tax deadlines may be postponed. It also discusses recordkeeping, reporting losses and post-disaster relief grants.

Survey reveals small businesses on Staten Island slow to recover

Staten Island Advance, January 13, 2014

According to a survey, many Staten Island small business owners say the lack of available capital and loan opportunities have hurt their ability to recoup losses from Hurricane Sandy. To determine current business conditions, the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce and NY Rising distributed a survey to affected merchants. The project revealed that 66 percent of merchant participants still need capital, 50 percent have yet to secure loans and many of the impacted businesses suffered more than \$100,000 in damages. Four hundred Staten Island businesses were queried and the survey received 85 responses.

[Return to top](#)

INFRASTRUCTURE

Opinion: after Hurricane Sandy, go and create a microgrid

IntelligentUtility, January 10, 2014

According to the author, Hurricane Sandy exposed the weaknesses and failures of the existing energy system where wide power outages created disruptions to commerce and city life. Upgrading New York City's energy systems can include investment into microgrids that would provide reliable power to critical systems like hospitals and railways. A microgrid serves as a miniature utility that can function autonomously from the main grid. The author encourages recovery professionals to take on the challenge of creating a microgrid system.

FEMA funds to help New York gas station operators install generators

NY1, January 14, 2014

FEMA has granted \$5.1 million to help New York gas station operators install power generators to use during emergencies. In the days after Hurricane Sandy, many gas stations didn't have the power to pump gas even if they had gas available. A recent New York law requires every gas station within half a mile of a highway exit to be able to switch to generator power within 24 hours after a disaster. These funds are estimated to cover 75 percent of the cost for station owners.

[Return to top](#)

MITIGATION

Clarkstown to get \$6.4 million for flood mitigation

Nanuet Patch, January 14, 2014

Clarkstown will receive two grants of more than \$6.4 million for flood remediation projects: \$3.4 million from Launch Coastal Protection to reduce flooding problems in the Klein Avenue area of West Nyack and \$3 million from NY Rising for additional rebuilding and revitalization assistance. The funds will enable the town to increase the height and length of the Klein Avenue levee. The levee has continuously been overwhelmed by high levels of water in the Hackensack River, which results in major flooding of the Klein Avenue neighborhood.

[Return to top](#)

HOUSING

NY Rising: funds for Sandy homeowners coming soon

Long Beach Patch, January 10, 2014

According to this report, officials from the NY Rising program are waiting for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to approve a new installment of funding before they release grants to homeowners. Jon Kaiman, Gov. Cuomo's special adviser for Long Island storm recovery, pointed out that different types of verifications need to take place from HUD's standpoint. He was hopeful that survivors should be receiving funding soon.

[Return to top](#)

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

CMS proposes disaster prep rules for senior care providers

Senior Housing News, January 7, 2014

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed a rule to improve staff emergency preparedness among its participating providers, including senior housing. The 120-page proposed rule would ensure that providers coordinate with federal, state, tribal, regional and local emergency preparedness systems. The rule includes four elements: risk assessment and planning; policies and procedures; a communications plan; and training and testing.

[Return to top](#)

COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING

Will Canarsie be ready for the next big storm?

Canarsie Courier, December 19, 2013

Residents of Canarsie, Mill Basin and Bergen Beach in Brooklyn expressed their concerns at a local meeting that their community was still at risk for extensive damage from future storms. Projects for strengthening the shoreline and repairing a faulty sewer system are partially funded. Further resiliency studies by the Army Corps of Engineers will examine vulnerable areas that require storm surge protection. Flood insurance and ways in which homeowners can reduce flood risk was also discussed.

[Return to top](#)

RECOVERY EVENTS

JANUARY 28: [Restore Your Economy.org](#)

Webinar: Disaster Preparedness and Economic Recovery

This webinar will contrast achievements of small business recovery programs in two communities, both of which have evolved to offer support and resources to local businesses after major disasters

JANUARY 29: [Enterprise Community Partners](#)

Workshop on preserving affordable housing

This workshop is geared toward owners of affordable housing, specifically for executive directors, directors of housing, asset managers and staff responsible for recapitalizing and/or restructuring properties. Presenters will review their experiences, best practices, lessons learned and thoughts for the future.

JANUARY 30: [Philanthropy New York](#)

Nonprofit Revitalization Act of 2013

The program will conclude with a panel featuring some of New York's most prominent nonprofit leaders discussing the impact of the legislation and the growing focus on nonprofit governance by funders, regulators, watchdogs and the media. Registration is required by January 28th.

JANUARY 31 & FEBRUARY 1: [North Star Fund](#)

Workshop on community organizing

This workshop is about teaching the importance of community organizing and how it leads to change. This training is intended for groups who want to strengthen their organization's commitment to organizing.

FEBRUARY 7 & 8: [North Star Fund](#)

Workshop on direct action campaigning

This workshop is intended for groups already working on an issue and want to explore whether they should start using direct action or are already using direct action in their campaign work.

[Return to top](#)

GRANT DEADLINES

JANUARY 31, 2014

FY 2015 Avenue NYC Grant applications now available

Grants are available for nonprofit economic development corporations in low to moderate income communities in New York City to implement commercial revitalization activities.

FEBRUARY 3, 2014

NYDIS volunteer group housing capital grants

Under a federal funding opportunity announced on Nov. 25, 2013, the Economic Development Administration is still soliciting applications from applicants in rural and urban areas to support construction, technical assistance and revolving loan fund projects under Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs.

[Return to top](#)

SANDY RECOVERY GRANTS AWARDED

Governor Cuomo announces at least \$730 Million for Nassau County to repair and mitigate Bay Park wastewater treatment plant

[Return to top](#)

JOB OPENINGS

Assistant General Counsel, NYS Office of Storm Recovery

Administrative Assistant, NYS Office of Storm Recovery

DCP Planning Intern Staten Island Office

Programmer Coder National Disaster Recovery Strategy, FEMA Region II

Staten Island Sandy Response Organizer

Superstorm Sandy Outreach Worker

Don't forget to check the [USAJobs.gov](#) website for Hurricane Sandy recovery employment. Enter "FEMA" and "New York" for FEMA's latest offerings.

[Return to top](#)