

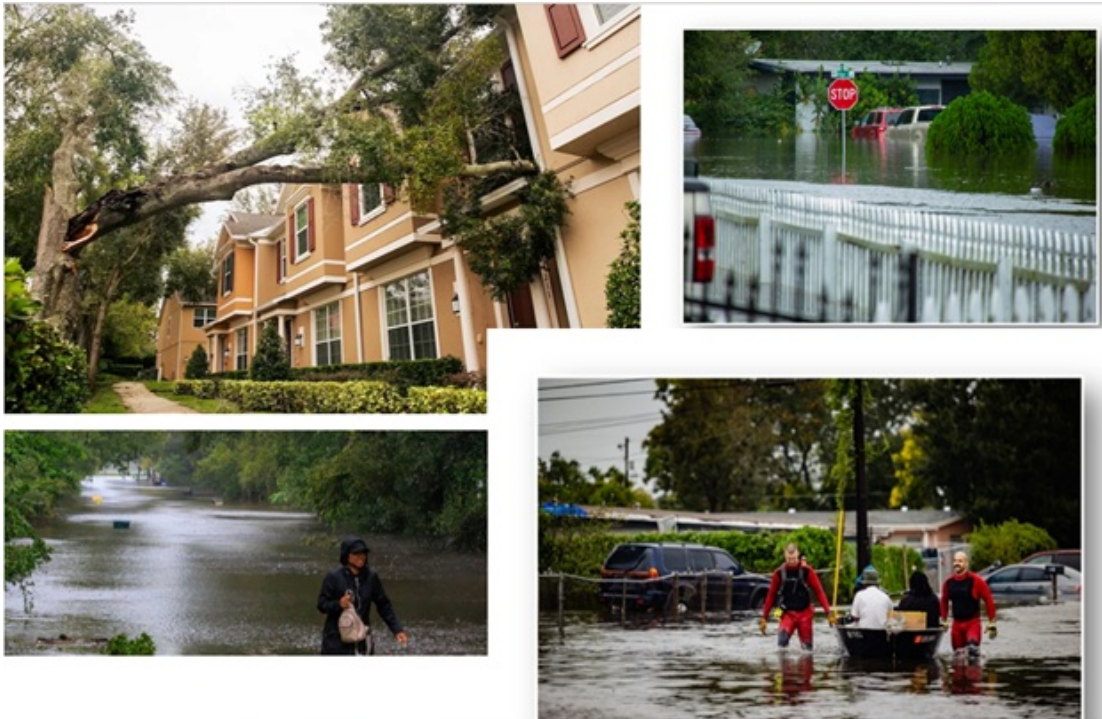


## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - MARCH 31, 2025

Orange County Government received \$219 million in federal disaster recovery funding (CDBG-DR funds) to help communities in hard-hit areas recover from **Hurricane Ian**. In January 2025, it was announced that the County will receive an additional allocation of \$33,357,000 to address remaining needs resulting from **Hurricane Milton** (more information provided below).

To provide our residents and community partners with the most up to date information, a monthly newsletter will be released on the last calendar day of each month. We encourage you to share it with your friends, family, colleagues, and anyone else who, you believe, might benefit from this information.

Please visit our website at [www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR](http://www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR) for more information about the CDBG-DR program, timeline, and other related information.



## Orange County Recovers

# NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

[OrangeCountyRecovers.com](https://www.OrangeCountyRecovers.com)



Orange County's CDBG-DR Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program, Orange County Recovers, is open and actively accepting applications. To date, over 100 applications have been received! Case managers are working tirelessly to review all applications and determine eligibility.

If you or someone you know experienced damage from Hurricane Ian and have remaining unmet needs, please apply at [OrangeCountyRecovers.com](https://www.OrangeCountyRecovers.com) or call 321-382-3514.

## Do you qualify for help?



You owned and occupied your property at the time of Hurricane Ian AND you still own the property



Your household is income qualified



Your home still has documented and unrepaired damage from Hurricane Ian



[OrangeCountyRecovers.com](https://www.OrangeCountyRecovers.com)



## General Contractor Solicitation

In April 2025, the County's vendor, HORNE LLP, will be requesting proposals from highly qualified construction contractors to perform rehabilitation, demolition and reconstruction, and/or elevation of single-family residential structures and replacement of Manufactured Housing Units (MHUs) in compliance with local, federal and state statutory requirements for grants under the CDBG-DR program for 2022 Hurricane Ian.

The Orange County Recovers Program intends to issue multiple contracts to create a pool of contractors to perform the services requested under this solicitation. General contractors across the state play a vital role in reaching households with the greatest unmet repair needs. Contractor partnerships are essential to ensuring that Orange County Recovers assists those eligible household still in need.

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### How can you help?

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If you know of any contractors who may qualify for the program, please encourage them to visit

the Orange County CDBG-DR website at <https://orangecountyrecovers.com/general-contractors/> to apply.

Additional information and resources are available on the site.

## Public Services Request for Applications (RFA)

The application period for Public Services under the CDBG-DR program ends this Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. for state-certified 501(c)(3) organizations. Applications must be submitted online via ZoomGrants at [www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR](http://www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR).

CDBG-DR activities must address disaster impacts, be CDBG-eligible, and meet national objectives. Public services must address unmet needs outlined in the CDBG-DR Action Plan, including:

- Self-sufficiency Services (e.g., financial literacy, housing counseling, legal assistance)
- Health/Mental Health Services
- Job Training/Placement
- Economic recovery services

## Hurricane Milton Action Plan

Orange County expects to receive a **\$33,357,000** allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) to assist with recovery and mitigation efforts related to Hurricane Milton. To receive these funds, the County must develop a new Action Plan.

To develop the Action Plan, the County analyzed data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Small Business Administration, and the National Flood Insurance Program. Additionally, the County conducted community engagement and outreach with County departments, local municipalities, public housing authorities, community partners, and County residents. Community events were held at the locations listed below to solicit input from residents.

- Orlo Vista Elementary School
- Barnett Park
- Bithlo Community Center
- Town of Eatonville
- Sadler Elementary School

The County expects to post the CDBG-DR Action Plan for Hurricane Milton in April for a 30-day public comment period.



## CDBG-DR Timeline

The full updated CDBG-DR timeline can be found here: [www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR](http://www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR).

- **January 9, 2024:** BCC public hearing for the CDBG-DR Action Plan. Please click [HERE](#) to view the public hearing recording.
- **January 17, 2024:** Orange County submitted the final CDBG-DR Action Plan to HUD for review and approval. Please click [HERE](#) for the final CDBG-DR Action Plan.
- **April 9, 2024:** Grant Agreement for CDBG-DR funds executed between Orange County and HUD.
- **June 17, 2024:** Orange County CDBG-DR Final Public and DRGR Action Plan was reviewed and approved by HUD.
- **Summer 2024:** Program policies and procedures are being developed for the Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.
- **December 5 & 8 2024:** Notice of Funding Availability was posted for the CDBG-DR Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.
- **December 10, 2024:** Request for Applications (RFA) for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs opened.
- **December 11, 2024:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance workshops held on the RFA process.
- **January 6, 2025:** The CDBG-DR General Grant Management Services contract was issued.
- **February 5, 2025:** RFAs for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning Studies programs to close.
- **March 4, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program opened for qualified non-profit organizations.
- **March 5, 2025:** Applications for the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program opened.
- **March 13, 2025:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance Workshop for Public Services RFA.
- **April 2, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program will close.
- **Mid-April 2025:** Request for Proposals for general contractors to open.
- **Spring-Summer 2025 (Tentative):** 2nd RFA under the Infrastructure & Public Facilities Program to open for non-profit organizations.

More information will be available in our next newsletter, coming soon!

Stay Tuned!

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Help us spread the word about CDBG-DR

[Sign Up for our Newsletter Here](#)

Connect with us on our social media



Questions? Thoughts? Suggestions?

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We are here to help! Contact us here:  
[Disaster.Recovery@ocfl.net](mailto:Disaster.Recovery@ocfl.net)



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