

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY – INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT  
TO ALL INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES AND PERSONS**

**FOR FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM:  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RECOVERY (B23-UC-12-0003) (CFDA 14.218)  
PUBLIC SERVICES PROGRAM**

Orange County, through its Housing and Community Development Division, is soliciting applications for the Public Services Program, to be implemented as part of the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. Following Hurricane Ian, Orange County received a total of \$219,712,000 in Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery funds (CDBG-DR), to include \$191,054,000 for unmet needs and \$28,658,000 for mitigation, to address community impacts and damages associated with Hurricane Ian. The County, with input from County Departments and Divisions, local municipalities, advocacy groups and community partners, as well as citizens, has completed an Action Plan for Disaster Recovery. The CDBG-DR Action Plan provides a high-level strategy for how the funding will be used to address eligible communities' long-term resiliency and mitigation needs.

To advance implementation of programs and strategies proposed in the approved CDBG-DR Action Plan, the County will make \$7,000,000 in funding available for eligible public services projects and activities, in accordance with the CDBG-DR Program budget, for state certified 501(c)(3) organizations.

A Request for Applications (RFA) process for CDBG-DR Public Services funds will begin on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025**, and it will end on **Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** Proposals will be reviewed by an evaluation committee for consistency with federal regulations, unmet needs and priorities detailed in the CDBG-DR Action Plan, feasibility of the project(s), and other criteria outlined in the RFA.

As required by federal guidelines, Orange County has in place a framework for evaluating the risks posed by the projects before they receive federal awards. This evaluation process incorporates criteria related to project description and need, agency's organizational experience and capacity, fiscal management practices, program approach, and implementation plan and outcomes.

All CDBG-DR funded activities must address the impact of the disaster for which funding was allocated, be a CDBG-eligible activity, and meet a national objective of the CDBG program. Additionally, public services activities funded under the CDBG-DR Program must address the unmet needs identified in the approved CDBG-DR Action Plan, which are listed below:

- € Self-sufficiency Services (i.e. financial literacy, housing search and counseling, legal assistance);
- € Health Services/Mental Health Services;
- € Job Training/Job Placement Services; and
- € Other economic recovery related services.

**The mandatory pre-award technical assistance workshop will be conducted in person on Thursday, March 13, 2025, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Orange County Administration Building (Commission Chambers, 1st Floor) located at 201 S. Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801. The workshop will provide technical assistance and information about the program requirements, funding criteria for project submissions, and details about the application process. Organizations interested in submitting proposals are required to attend the workshop(s). To confirm attendance, please e-mail [Victoria.Colon@ocfl.net](mailto:Victoria.Colon@ocfl.net).**

The link to access the Application is: [www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR](http://www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR)

The application must be completed and submitted online through ZoomGrants™. No paper copies will be accepted. If you experience difficulty finding the RFA in ZoomGrants, please contact: [Inabert.Ramos@ocfl.net](mailto:Inabert.Ramos@ocfl.net) for additional information and assistance.

