



**Department of  
Housing Preservation  
& Development**

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**Contact:**  
Eric Bederman (HPD) 212-863-5176  
Peter Spencer (HRO) 212-615-8085

**CITY ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$3 MILLION IN GRANTS FROM PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS TO AID  
IN NEW YORK'S LONG-TERM STORM RECOVERY EFFORTS**

*The NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative Will Focus Grant Funding on  
Needs of Neighborhoods Affected by Hurricane Sandy*

New York City Housing Preservation and Development Commissioner (HPD) Mathew M. Wambua, New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC) President Marc Jahr, the Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations (HRO) Director Brad Gair, and the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City President Megan Sheekey announced that a consortium of 16 foundations and financial institutions has come together to provide more than \$2.6 million in private funding to support the recovery and future of neighborhoods affected by Hurricane Sandy. Collectively known as the NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative, the 16 institutions have worked in close partnership with HPD, HDC, HRO and the Mayor's Fund which is providing \$637,500 in matching Hurricane Sandy relief funds; bringing the total funding to more than \$3.2 million. Funds from the Collaborative are targeted to help with medium- and long-term planning and rebuilding efforts of housing and neighborhoods currently in the City's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Action Plan.

The Donors Collaborative was formed in the aftermath of storm as many private institutions sought advice from the City on ways to not only help with immediate relief but to help strengthen the resiliency of families and neighborhoods in the event of future weather-related disasters. The Donors Collaborative is facilitated by the City and Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation and comprised of the AARP Foundation, Altman Foundation, Bank of America, the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Capital One, Citi Foundation, Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, Goldman Sachs Bank USA, Hearst Foundations, HSBC Bank USA, JP Morgan Chase, The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, New York Community Trust, Robin Hood Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Rockefeller Foundation and the Toyota Foundation.

"The storm may be in the past, but it has given us lessons that we can apply to the future so that we are a more prepared and resilient city," **said HPD Commissioner Mathew M. Wambua**. "We have learned first-hand where we are vulnerable and what priorities we should be addressing as we rebuild. The funds provided by the Collaborative will be put to good use by community based organizations that have experience working with the residents and who best understand the affected neighborhoods. I thank the Collaborative for their commitment and investment in our communities, and the Mayor's Fund for its leadership in contributing to a stronger and more resilient New York City."

"Hurricane Sandy devastated areas of our city and left thousands with the task of picking up the pieces of their lives, but we were committed to ensuring that they would not face this challenge alone," **said HDC President Marc Jahr**. "The City has responded with an unprecedented effort, and just as important we have seen the martialing of resources from across private industry, philanthropy, and other institutions with the common goal of helping our fellow New Yorkers rebuild and recover. The Donor Collaborative exemplifies this ideal, and their investment in our communities will help fill gaps and strengthen our overall recovery efforts. I applaud the Collaborative members and the Mayor's Fund for their generosity and commitment to strengthening the resiliency of our neighborhoods."

"These generous funds are a wise investment in the future of these communities, and will help these communities and humanitarian groups fill in the gaps when government programs have run their course," **said Brad Gair, Director of the Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations**.

"We are grateful to the Collaborative members and their commitment to housing recovery programs in the wake of Hurricane Sandy," **said Megan Sheekey, President of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City.** "The initiatives funded by the Collaborative provide critical support as New Yorkers continue to rebuild and recover."

"As individual New Yorkers responded with an outpouring of donations and volunteer time to help their neighbors most harmed by Super Storm Sandy, the City's philanthropic community recognized the important role we could play to help our most vulnerable neighborhoods to build back from the disaster and to prepare for possible future crises. The collective response from our 16 bank and foundation donors was only possible because of the enormous leadership provided by City Hall, the Mayor's Recovery Fund, HPD and HDC" **said, Gary Hattem, president of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation.** "The remarkable level of trust, good will and working relationships, amongst diverse stakeholders, is the best evidence of our City's enduring resilience."

"Since the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Citi and the Citi Foundation have worked with our partners in the public and nonprofit sectors to support residents and small business owners in the region's hardest hit communities," **said Pamela Flaherty, President and CEO of the Citi Foundation.** "As the long-term rebuilding and recovery process continues, the Citi Foundation is pleased to reinforce our ongoing commitment by providing lead funding for the NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative. In addition to speeding the deployment of resources into neighborhoods still reeling from the storm's destruction, this initiative will dedicate significant attention to understanding how to mitigate the impacts of future large-scale disasters."

The City's immediate response to Hurricane Sandy was one of the largest mobilizations of services in the City's history. Rebuilding the homes and neighborhoods that were severely damaged by the hurricane, and returning those households to stability is essential to the ongoing recovery process. The government-sponsored programs, including the recently launched 'Build it Back' program, have spent and will continue to spend significant resources on the physical rebuilding and recovery of the City. The funding provided by the NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative is focused on supporting the government's efforts and will focus on three critical areas:

**Accelerating the Deployment of Recovery Programs for Low- and Moderate-Income People:** A total of \$1,385,000 in grant funding, including the \$673,500 matching funding from the Mayor's Fund, is being provided to 16 organizations to help increase the capacity of non-profit organizations providing housing and legal counseling to homeowners, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that low- and moderate-income homeowners can access recovery resources. These grants align closely with and create pipelines to City 'Build it Back' programs administered by HRO, HPD and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

**Fostering Best Practices in Climate Resiliency:** A total of \$885,000 in grant funding is being provided to six organizations to support projects and innovative proposals to increase the climate resiliency of the City's housing and neighborhoods, with a focus on low- and moderate-income households. Areas of focus include improving the ability of the City's affordable housing stock in coastal communities to withstand storms, protecting coastal communities at risk of storm surge or floods, and improving systems to support the resiliency of affordable housing. All projects will align with local and state priorities and recommendations such as the City's CDBG-DR Action Plan and the State's NYS 2100 Commission.

**Building Social Capital for High Risk Communities and Vulnerable Populations:** A total of \$884,000 in grant funding is being awarded to 11 organizations with a presence in impacted neighborhoods to help build their capacity to increase community preparedness and manage relief efforts in the face of future disasters. Targeted communities include large housing developments, neighborhoods of small homes or mixed building types, and particular vulnerable populations such as the elderly and tenants with special needs residing in supportive housing developments.

The grant funding provided by the Donors Collaborative under each of the three program areas was determined via a competitive Requests for Proposals (RFP) process. A list of grantees and projects/activities is available, [on the HPD website](#).

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**The NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative:**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, 16 foundations and financial institutions came together as the NYC Housing and Neighborhood Recovery Donors Collaborative. The Collaborative is supporting medium and long term planning and rebuilding of New York City's low and moderate-income housing and neighborhoods in close partnership with the New York City Office of Housing Recovery Operations, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, and the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City.

**The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City:**

The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City is a nonprofit organization dedicated to innovative public-private partnerships. One hundred percent of donations in response to Hurricane Sandy are being dispersed to relief efforts and organizations. In the immediate aftermath of the storm, contributions helped to support the supply and transport of emergency needs including hot food, toiletries, baby supplies, cleaning materials, warm clothing and medications for New Yorkers. The Mayor's Fund is now focused on longer-term rebuilding and restoration efforts, including sponsoring a network of housing counselors and legal service providers to help residents, mold awareness and treatment, and loans and grants for affected nonprofit organizations and local businesses. For more information go to [www.nyc.gov/fund](http://www.nyc.gov/fund) and follow the Fund on Twitter @NYCMayorsFund

**The NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD):**

HPD is the nation's largest municipal housing preservation and development agency. Its mission is to promote quality housing and viable neighborhoods for New Yorkers through education, outreach, loan and development programs and enforcement of housing quality standards. It is responsible for implementing Mayor Bloomberg's New Housing Marketplace Plan to finance the construction or preservation of 165,000 units of affordable housing by the close of the 2014 fiscal year. Since the plan's inception, more than 157,320 affordable homes have been created or preserved. For regular updates on news and services, connect with us via [www.facebook.com/nychpd](http://www.facebook.com/nychpd) and [www.twitter.com/nychousing](http://www.twitter.com/nychousing). For more information, visit our website at [www.nyc.gov/hpd](http://www.nyc.gov/hpd)

**The NYC Housing Development Corporation (HDC):**

Since 2000, HDC has issued roughly 10% of all the multi-family housing revenue bonds in the U.S. and since 2003, when Mayor Bloomberg's New Housing Marketplace Plan was launched, HDC has raised more than \$6.7 billion in financing for affordable housing developments, including providing in excess of \$1 billion in subsidy from corporate reserves. In Affordable Housing Finance magazine's annual listing of the nation's top ten funders of multifamily housing, HDC is the only municipal entity on the list. In 2013, HDC was the third largest affordable housing lender in the U.S. after Citi and Wells Fargo, beating out Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase and Capital One. To date, under the Mayor's plan, HDC has financed the creation or preservation of more than 70,628 of the total 147,890 affordable units. Multifamily buildings financed by HDC contain more than 1.7 million square feet of commercial space. For additional information, visit: [www.nychdc.com](http://www.nychdc.com)

**The Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations:**

The Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations is committed to planning and implementing innovative and effective solutions to the housing needs caused by Hurricane Sandy. To this end, the Mayor's Office of Recovery Operations created and will administer NYC Build it Back, a program to assist residents in the five boroughs whose primary homes were damaged by the storm. Homeowners, landlords and tenants affected by Sandy who still have unmet housing needs are urged to register for NYC Build it Back by calling 311 and ask for NYC Build it Back or going to [www.nyc.gov/builditback](http://www.nyc.gov/builditback).