



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DCA BROADCAST
May 24, 2013

General Information for Constituents about Sandy Recovery Housing Grants

The Department of Community Affairs today launched the “reNew Jersey Stronger” housing assistance grants program to assist homeowners impacted by Superstorm Sandy. If you field phone calls from members of the public about the grants, please provide the following information to those who inquire:

- The housing assistance grants online application is at www.renewjerseystronger.org. Please direct constituents to this website.
- The call center number is **1-855-SANDYHM (1-855-726-3946)**.
- Housing assistance grants are NOT first-come, first-served. Rather, those applications which are received on or before June 30 will be randomly processed (and then prioritized focusing on factors such as level of damage, income, and areas highest impact). Because of this, there is no advantage to applying early during this period.
- Applications received on or after July 1 will be processed on a first-received, first-processed basis. However, priority will continue to be given to those homes that were substantially damaged and to homeowners of low- to moderate-income.
- Residents are strongly encouraged to submit an application prior to July 1.
- There is no formal deadline for accepting applications.
- There are two housing assistance grants and homeowners are encouraged to apply for both of them:
 - **The Homeowner Resettlement Program (Resettlement)** -- This program will provide \$10,000 grants to eligible homeowners to encourage them to resettle in their existing home or resettle in the same county.
 - **The Homeowner Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Elevation and Mitigation Program (RREM)** -- This program will provide eligible homeowners up to \$150,000 in grant funds to aid the reconstruction, rehabilitation, elevation and mitigation of damaged primary homes.
- Beginning June 8, 2013, customers will be able to apply in-person at one of the nine Sandy Housing Assistance Centers (Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union). A complete list of centers, center hours, and locations will be available online in the coming days.

- A Small Rental Properties Program application, which will help existing and new owners of rental housing restore their properties (properties must have 25 units or less), will be launched shortly. Interested applicants should register to receive a notification at www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery.

Thank you for your assistance.