Hurricane Irma Impact & Success Stories

$65 Billion in ESTIMATED LOSSES (Source: CoreLogic)

40% of small businesses DO NOT REOPEN (Source: FEMA)

76% of Florida’s counties (51/67) WERE IN A FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTER AREA

93% of Florida’s small businesses WERE IN A DISASTER DECLARED COUNTY

Each success story is a small win that represents the thousands around the state who share a similar story thanks to loan programs like the bridge loan and statewide partners working together.

“This loan is really a godsend from the State of Florida to help us continue our operations and salvage what we can until the insurance helps recover with the rebuilding and replanting. We needed help right away and the Florida SBDC was on top of it and able to provide me the assistance I needed.” – Milan Perlly, Pecketts, Inc., Apopka

“The Bridge Loan is incredibly helpful. Not only did we sustain physical damage, but we had loss of income due to temporary closure. It will help me make payroll – we have 19 employees... The SBDC, especially Bill McKown, made me aware of the process, explained the application requirements and assisted me through every step of the loan process.” – Anne Lang, Busy Kids Creative Learning Center, Sebring

“The bridge loan will allow us time to recover from a $10,000 + loss of revenue and potentially longer-term effects due to the hurricane, which has significant impacts on a small business. The [Florida SBDC at FGCU] provided great communication and quick turnaround. (They were) very accommodating [and provided] good education on options.” – Laura Baltodano, Lighthouse Pet Clinic, Lehigh Acres

FloridaSBDC.org

Hurricane Irma
Small Business Recovery Report | As of December 31, 2017

The Florida SBDC Network partnered with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and Florida First Capital Finance Corporation to administer the state-funded Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan and Citrus Emergency Loan programs.

896 Bridge & Citrus LOANS APPROVED

$35.2 Million

2,344 SBA LOANS CLOSED

$150.3 Million

State Designated as Florida’s Principal Provider of Business Assistance (§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.)
The Florida SBDC Network is a statewide partnership program nationally accredited by the Association of America’s SBDCs and funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida, and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the network’s lead host institution. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency.

896 Bridge & Citrus LOANS APPROVED

$35.2 Million

2,344 SBA LOANS CLOSED

$150.3 Million

State Designated as Florida’s Principal Provider of Business Assistance (§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.)
The Florida SBDC Network is a statewide partnership program nationally accredited by the Association of America’s SBDCs and funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida, and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the network’s lead host institution. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency.

$65 Billion in ESTIMATED LOSSES (Source: CoreLogic)

40% of small businesses DO NOT REOPEN (Source: FEMA)

76% of Florida’s counties (51/67) WERE IN A FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTER AREA

93% of Florida’s small businesses WERE IN A DISASTER DECLARED COUNTY

Each success story is a small win that represents the thousands around the state who share a similar story thanks to loan programs like the bridge loan and statewide partners working together.

“This loan is really a godsend from the State of Florida to help us continue our operations and salvage what we can until the insurance helps recover with the rebuilding and replanting. We needed help right away and the Florida SBDC was on top of it and able to provide me the assistance I needed.” – Milan Perlly, Pecketts, Inc., Apopka

“The Bridge Loan is incredibly helpful. Not only did we sustain physical damage, but we had loss of income due to temporary closure. It will help me make payroll – we have 19 employees... The SBDC, especially Bill McKown, made me aware of the process, explained the application requirements and assisted me through every step of the loan process.” – Anne Lang, Busy Kids Creative Learning Center, Sebring

“The bridge loan will allow us time to recover from a $10,000 + loss of revenue and potentially longer-term effects due to the hurricane, which has significant impacts on a small business. The [Florida SBDC at FGCU] provided great communication and quick turnaround. (They were) very accommodating [and provided] good education on options.” – Laura Baltodano, Lighthouse Pet Clinic, Lehigh Acres

Florida SBDC Network Investment
As of December 31, 2017

$4 Million

Estimated Response & Recovery Cost

7,000 HOURS OF ASSISTANCE to small businesses following Hurricane Irma

To learn more, please visit www.FloridaSBDC.org

State Designated as Florida’s Principal Provider of Business Assistance (§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.)
The Florida SBDC Network is a statewide partnership program nationally accredited by the Association of America’s SBDCs and funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida, and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the network’s lead host institution. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency.

$65 Billion in ESTIMATED LOSSES (Source: CoreLogic)

40% of small businesses DO NOT REOPEN (Source: FEMA)

76% of Florida’s counties (51/67) WERE IN A FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTER AREA

93% of Florida’s small businesses WERE IN A DISASTER DECLARED COUNTY

Each success story is a small win that represents the thousands around the state who share a similar story thanks to loan programs like the bridge loan and statewide partners working together.

“This loan is really a godsend from the State of Florida to help us continue our operations and salvage what we can until the insurance helps recover with the rebuilding and replanting. We needed help right away and the Florida SBDC was on top of it and able to provide me the assistance I needed.” – Milan Perlly, Pecketts, Inc., Apopka

“The Bridge Loan is incredibly helpful. Not only did we sustain physical damage, but we had loss of income due to temporary closure. It will help me make payroll – we have 19 employees... The SBDC, especially Bill McKown, made me aware of the process, explained the application requirements and assisted me through every step of the loan process.” – Anne Lang, Busy Kids Creative Learning Center, Sebring

“The bridge loan will allow us time to recover from a $10,000 + loss of revenue and potentially longer-term effects due to the hurricane, which has significant impacts on a small business. The [Florida SBDC at FGCU] provided great communication and quick turnaround. (They were) very accommodating [and provided] good education on options.” – Laura Baltodano, Lighthouse Pet Clinic, Lehigh Acres

Florida SBDC Network Investment
As of December 31, 2017

$4 Million

Estimated Response & Recovery Cost

7,000 HOURS OF ASSISTANCE to small businesses following Hurricane Irma

To learn more, please visit www.FloridaSBDC.org

State Designated as Florida’s Principal Provider of Business Assistance (§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.)
The Florida SBDC Network is a statewide partnership program nationally accredited by the Association of America’s SBDCs and funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida, and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the network’s lead host institution. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency.

$65 Billion in ESTIMATED LOSSES (Source: CoreLogic)

40% of small businesses DO NOT REOPEN (Source: FEMA)

76% of Florida’s counties (51/67) WERE IN A FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTER AREA

93% of Florida’s small businesses WERE IN A DISASTER DECLARED COUNTY

Each success story is a small win that represents the thousands around the state who share a similar story thanks to loan programs like the bridge loan and statewide partners working together.

“This loan is really a godsend from the State of Florida to help us continue our operations and salvage what we can until the insurance helps recover with the rebuilding and replanting. We needed help right away and the Florida SBDC was on top of it and able to provide me the assistance I needed.” – Milan Perlly, Pecketts, Inc., Apopka

“The Bridge Loan is incredibly helpful. Not only did we sustain physical damage, but we had loss of income due to temporary closure. It will help me make payroll – we have 19 employees... The SBDC, especially Bill McKown, made me aware of the process, explained the application requirements and assisted me through every step of the loan process.” – Anne Lang, Busy Kids Creative Learning Center, Sebring

“The bridge loan will allow us time to recover from a $10,000 + loss of revenue and potentially longer-term effects due to the hurricane, which has significant impacts on a small business. The [Florida SBDC at FGCU] provided great communication and quick turnaround. (They were) very accommodating [and provided] good education on options.” – Laura Baltodano, Lighthouse Pet Clinic, Lehigh Acres

Florida SBDC Network Investment
As of December 31, 2017

$4 Million

Estimated Response & Recovery Cost

7,000 HOURS OF ASSISTANCE to small businesses following Hurricane Irma

To learn more, please visit www.FloridaSBDC.org

State Designated as Florida’s Principal Provider of Business Assistance (§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.)
The Florida SBDC Network is a statewide partnership program nationally accredited by the Association of America’s SBDCs and funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida, and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the network’s lead host institution. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency.
As a member of the State’s Emergency Response Team (ESF-18) for Business & Industry, the Florida SBDC Network plays an integral role in ensuring small businesses have the resources and education to mitigate losses and increase survivability when affected by a natural and man-made disaster. Prior to the storm, the Florida SBDC:

- Offered no-cost consulting & training to help small businesses prepare business continuity plans to be more resilient when faced by a disaster.
- Offered resources including business checklists, other preparedness resources, and Bizaster, a free mobile disaster preparedness app.
- Distributed press releases and leveraged social media, and other platforms to educate businesses on the importance of preparation and the resources available through the Florida SBDC Network and other resource providers.
- Organized bridge loan committees comprised of area bankers and local economic developers to review and approve Florida bridge and citrus loan applications.

As a principal agency partner for the SERT ESF-18, Florida SBDC leadership and staff traveled to Tallahassee to staff the State Emergency Operations Center to coordinate recovery efforts with federal and state agency partners.

The Florida SBDC employs designated disaster professionals. Much like emergency personnel provide immediate assistance to residents in need, the Florida SBDC Network served as the “first responders” for small businesses following Hurricane Irma. Immediately before, during, and after the storm, the Florida SBDC:

- Staffed state emergency operations center as a principal agency partner for the SERT ESF-18, Florida SBDC leadership and staff traveled to Tallahassee to staff the State Emergency Operations Center to coordinate recovery efforts with federal and state agency partners.
- Organized business recovery centers (BRCs) comprised of SBA and Florida SBDC business recovery specialists to provide direct, onsite assistance to impacted businesses.
- Prepared mobile assistance centers (MACs) ensured Florida SBDC mobile offices were operational and ready for immediate deployment.

"Water got underneath our dining room and our floors buckled. With no power for seven days, we also lost our entire food inventory." - Andy and Helen Viola

Viola’s Pizza Pasta & Seafood

In addition to helping small businesses secure an immediate source of capital to retain employees, pay for repairs, and other expenses, a core focus of the Florida SBDC Network is to help small businesses secure the necessary long-term resources to recover. The Florida SBDC:

- Provided ongoing recovery support: The network has already provided thousands of hours of direct consulting assistance to small businesses to help navigate state and federal disaster loans and expects to provide thousands more.
- Provided on-the-scene assistance: Upon activation of the loan programs, the network deployed its MACs—two RVs equipped as mobile offices—to some of the hardest hit areas of the state to provide an on-the-scene workspace for consultants to provide loan application assistance.
- Reviewed loan applications: As part of the loan process, businesses submitted applications to their local Florida SBDC office to review eligibility and ensure completion. The Florida SBDC has provided thousands of hours of direct assistance to applicants.
- Participated in recovery events: The network participated in a series of recovery events led by U.S. Senator Marco Rubio and Governor Rick Scott to inform impacted businesses of resources available and provide loan application assistance.

With help from Marge Crillo, a certified professional business consultant and disaster recovery specialist for the Florida SBDC at UNF, the Violas were able to secure a bridge loan to replace their floor, order new food inventory, and retain their employees. "As soon as Irma hit, we called Marge with the Florida SBDC at UNF. The process was seamless."

Viola’s Pizza Pasta & Seafood

The Florida SBDC has not diminished. The network will continue to help small businesses impacted by Hurricane Irma apply for SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans and other debt and equity capital to support recovery and growth plans.

The Florida SBDC employed certified disaster professionals. Much like emergency personnel provide immediate assistance to residents in need, the Florida SBDC Network served as the “first responders” for small businesses following Hurricane Irma. Immediately before, during, and after the storm, the Florida SBDC:

Following the storm, Governor Scott activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan and Citrus Emergency Loan programs, which offered an immediate source of capital to small businesses and citrus producers for physical and economic injury from the storm. The Florida SBDC:

- Activated business disaster hotline: Following the storm, the Florida SBDC immediately activated its Business Disaster Line to answer questions about disaster loans and direct businesses to their local Florida SBDC for assistance. To date, the network has received over 700 inquiries from businesses.
- Provided on-the-scene assistance: Upon activation of the loan programs, the network deployed its MACs—two RVs equipped as mobile offices—to some of the hardest hit areas of the state to provide an on-the-scene workspace for consultants to provide loan application assistance.
- Reviewed loan applications: As part of the loan process, businesses submitted applications to their local Florida SBDC office to review eligibility and ensure completion. The Florida SBDC has provided thousands of hours of direct assistance to applicants.
- Participated in recovery events: The network participated in a series of recovery events led by U.S. Senator Marco Rubio and Governor Rick Scott to inform impacted businesses of resources available and provide loan application assistance.

In addition to helping small businesses secure an immediate source of capital to retain employees, pay for repairs, and other expenses, a core focus of the Florida SBDC Network is to help small businesses secure the necessary long-term resources to recover. The Florida SBDC:

- Provided ongoing recovery support: The network has already provided thousands of hours of direct consulting assistance to small businesses to help navigate state and federal disaster loans and expects to provide thousands more.
- Provided on-the-scene assistance: Upon activation of the loan programs, the network deployed its MACs—two RVs equipped as mobile offices—to some of the hardest hit areas of the state to provide an on-the-scene workspace for consultants to provide loan application assistance.
- Reviewed loan applications: As part of the loan process, businesses submitted applications to their local Florida SBDC office to review eligibility and ensure completion. The Florida SBDC has provided thousands of hours of direct assistance to applicants.
- Participated in recovery events: The network participated in a series of recovery events led by U.S. Senator Marco Rubio and Governor Rick Scott to inform impacted businesses of resources available and provide loan application assistance.

With help from Marge Crillo, a certified professional business consultant and disaster recovery specialist for the Florida SBDC at UNF, the Violas were able to secure a bridge loan to replace their floor, order new food inventory, and retain their employees. "As soon as Irma hit, we called Marge with the Florida SBDC at UNF. The process was seamless."

Viola’s Pizza Pasta & Seafood

The Florida SBDC Network will continue to help small businesses plan for long-term success and growth. Florida SBDC certified professional business consultants continue to provide ongoing assistance in educating and directly assisting small businesses on how to mitigate man-made and natural disasters.

The Florida SBDC Network will continue to help small businesses plan for long-term success and growth. Florida SBDC certified professional business consultants continue to provide ongoing assistance in educating and directly assisting small businesses on how to mitigate man-made and natural disasters.

The Florida SBDC Network will continue to help small businesses plan for long-term success and growth. Florida SBDC certified professional business consultants continue to provide ongoing assistance in educating and directly assisting small businesses on how to mitigate man-made and natural disasters.