

Business and Workforce Disaster Recovery: Dealing with Double Hurricanes and COVID-19

Businesses, workers, and families have been impacted in Louisiana by COVID-19 and by double hurricanes in Southwest Louisiana. This initiative is much needed for Business and Workforce Disaster Recovery. The Business Disaster Recovery Initiative that will be highlighted is unique and one of a kind. The program will assist small businesses, sole proprietors, working single moms, independent contractors, displaced workers, and their families that have been impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta and by COVID-19. The main professional services will include Business Disaster Recovery Case Management, Business Counseling, Coaching, Training, Mentoring, and Support groups. In addition to business technical assistance, focus will be on assisting those impacted to improve and to heal emotionally, mentally, physically, spiritually - in mind, body, and spirit. Community collaboration will take place with multiple agencies to assist with recovery, healing, and life transformation in a holistic and comprehensive way without duplication of services.

In the hurricane recovery regions, those impacted in nearly every area of Southwest LA should be able to benefit from this Business Disaster Recovery Initiative. This initiative will help to fill the gaps and to assist with immediate and longer-term recovery efforts. In the first seven months since Hurricane Laura, much help has been focused on initial relief efforts for the general population. Some grants have been awarded to small businesses. While these completed programs have been wonderful and were very necessary, this Business Disaster Recovery Initiative project will help fill gaps that are extremely noticeable and critically important. Southwest LA can benefit from the services of this initiative for a more comprehensive and holistic recovery and revitalization process. Throughout Louisiana, small businesses impacted by COVID-19 can also benefit from this outstanding program.

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