

Grantee: Richland County, SC

Grant: B-16-UH-45-0002

July 1, 2024 thru September 30, 2024 Performance

Grant Number: B-16-UH-45-0002	Obligation Date:	Award Date:
Grantee Name: Richland County, SC	Contract End Date: 11/16/2026	Review by HUD: Reviewed and Approved
Grant Award Amount: \$30,770,000.00	Grant Status: Active	QPR Contact: No QPR Contact Found
LOCCS Authorized Amount: \$30,770,000.00	Estimated PI/RL Funds:	
Total Budget: \$30,770,000.00		

Disasters:

Declaration Number
FEMA-4241-SC

Narratives

Disaster Damage:

\$30 million in CDBG-DR Funding has been awarded to Richland County, South Carolina to "...help to meet remaining unmet housing, economic development, and infrastructure needs that resulted from thousands of homes and small businesses being damaged or destroyed" On September 27, 2015, Hurricane Joaquin (Joaquin) developed over the Atlantic Ocean and strengthened into a Category 4 hurricane over the following several days. One of the largest storms to ever strike South Carolina, Joaquin brought historical rainfall and freshwater flooding throughout Richland County before dissipating on October 7, 2015. Unprecedented rainfall and the resulting 1,000 year flood event created major public safety threats and wrought considerable damage throughout the County including the destruction of homes, businesses, infrastructure, public facilities, and the impairment of the local and regional economy. On October 5, 2015, in response to these impacts, the President issued a major disaster declaration under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 5121 et seq. (the "Stafford Act"). In the wake of this historical flood event, Richland County immediately began the long and arduous process of rebuilding. Over the weeks and months that followed, Richland County departments, with support from numerous organizations and volunteers, undertook a series of critical emergency response and recovery efforts. Vast quantities of debris were removed from roads, streams, and property throughout the County while essential infrastructure including roads, utilities, and municipal facilities were repaired. Concurrently, public health and safety issues were identified and addressed including emergency sheltering, temporary housing, medical attention, provision of household necessities, drinking water protection, housing repairs, and counselling among many others. Despite these efforts, the road to full recovery is long and many of the storm's impacts remain unaddressed throughout the County. In response to the magnitude of remaining recovery needs, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated a total of \$30.7 million to Richland County. These resources provide a critically important opportunity to continue recovery efforts in Richland County, and are intended to "...help to meet remaining unmet housing, economic development, and infrastructure needs that resulted from thousands of homes and small businesses being damaged or destroyed." Richland County, South Carolina has prepared this Action Plan as required by HUD to guide the expenditure of \$23,516,000 in CDBG-DR funding to assist the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from the presidentially declared flooding disaster of October 2015. This Action Plan assesses remaining unmet housing, infrastructure, and economic needs, and presents a series of programs and projects to maximize the recovery and resilience potential of this important resource. The CDBG-DRrogram is considered a "gap" funding source and is intended to assist with recovery needs not covered by other public and private fundingsources. While recovery efforts have continued without interruption since October, many impacts remain unaddressed due to several primary factors including: the profound extent and diversity of the damages to housing, infrastructure, and the economy; the unique conditions and vulnerabilities of Richland County's residents and businesses; and the limitations of available funding assistance. This unmet need assessment provides essential information to better understand the most impacted area

Recovery Needs:

Through the review of best available data and information, Richland County identified a total of \$251,934,883.81 in unmet recovery needs. Of these needs, housing assistance was identified as the largest area of unmet need followed by infrastructure, and then economic development. It is critical to understand that these figures should only be considered as initial estimates based on the available information at the time this plan was developed. Many impacts are very difficult or impossible to quantify and others cannot be identified at this time due to missing data. As such, the figures presented in this section are to be considered only as preliminary estimates and not as definitive facts regarding the true unmet needs in the County. Table 1 provides a summary of estimated unmet needs in Richland County across the core areas of housing, infrastructure, and economic development.

- Housing Unmet Need:\$194,111,866.94
- Infrastructure Unmet Need:\$46,132,611.50
- Economic Development Unmet Need: \$11,690,405.37
- Total Unmet Need: \$251,934,883.81

Recovery Goals

The community’s overarching hazard mitigation goals provide the foundation for identifying and implementing appropriate recovery programs. The series of goals presented in this Action Plan have been developed to reflect community values, existing conditions, identified damages, and vulnerabilities. Richland County established the following goals to guide development of the CDBG-DR Action Plan:

- Goal: Address the unique recovery needs and challenges of all residents of Richland County so that no one “falls through the cracks.”
- Goal: Provide safe housing for all residents.
- Goal: Achieve a comprehensive understanding of the root causes of flooding in Richland County.
- Goal: Position the County to better prepare for, respond to, and minimize impacts of future flood events.
- Goal: Ensure continuity of operations and the provision of essential services before, during, and after a disaster or hazardous event.
- Goal: Provide tailored solutions that are most appropriate for urban, rural, and all areas of the County.
- Goal: Achieve post-flood economic revitalization and long-term economic health.
- Goal: Address restoration of critical infrastructure. This includes schools but is not limited to schools.
- Goal: Ensure the Action Plan goals are consistent with other adopted planning documents.
- Goal: Provide accountability through financial oversight.

Overall	This Report Period	To Date
Total Projected Budget from All Sources	\$0.00	\$30,706,282.50
Total Budget	\$0.00	\$30,706,282.50
Total Obligated	\$0.00	\$27,271,601.91
Total Funds Drawdown	\$0.00	\$24,433,314.11
Program Funds Drawdown	\$0.00	\$24,433,314.11
Program Income Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Received	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Funds Expended	\$0.00	\$24,433,314.11
HUD Identified Most Impacted and Distressed	\$0.00	\$24,433,314.11
Other Funds	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Match Funds	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Non-Match Funds	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Funds Expended

Overall	This Period	To Date
Richland County	\$ 0.00	\$ 24,433,314.11

Progress Toward Required Numeric Targets

Requirement	Target	Projected	Actual
Overall Benefit Percentage	70.00%	93.11%	76.97%
Minimum Non Federal Match	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
Overall Benefit Amount	\$18,012,610.00	\$23,900,645.13	\$19,806,735.05
Limit on Public Services	\$4,615,500.00	\$.00	\$.00
Limit on Admin/Planning	\$6,154,000.00	\$5,037,700.00	\$4,557,958.73
Limit on Admin	\$1,538,500.00	\$1,537,700.00	\$1,107,973.22
Most Impacted and Distressed	\$30,770,000.00	\$30,706,282.50	\$24,433,314.11

Overall Progress Narrative:

Progress Narrative for the CDBG-DR Program
Richland County has achieved significant milestones in the reconciliation of the CDBG-DR program within both the Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) system and the County’s financial accounting system, Central Square. This intensive reconciliation process represents a critical step toward enhancing program transparency and accountability. A key accomplishment in this effort will be the successful completion of an administrative draw for staff time and effort dedicated to the CDBG-DR program (Forthcoming 12.11.2024). This administrative draw establish the foundation for a

series of critical next steps, including:

- 1. Voucher Adjustments: Ensuring accurate alignment between program expenditures and funding allocations.
- 2. Future Draws: Streamlining the process for upcoming Disaster Recovery draws to address program needs effectively.
- 3. QPR Revisions: Revising past Quarterly Performance Reports (QPRs) to include vital details such as addresses, household characteristics, and other reporting identifiers, thereby enhancing compliance with HUD's reporting requirements.
- 4. Substantial Amendment: Preparing a Substantial Amendment to the CDBG-DR Action Plan. This amendment will update unmet needs data, reallocate unused program funds to areas of critical need, and include a comprehensive public posting and comment period before submission to HUD for review and approval.

These actions demonstrate Richland County's commitment to addressing unmet recovery needs, optimizing the use of CDBG-DR funds, and ensuring compliance with HUD regulations. Moving forward, these efforts will significantly contribute to the program's overall effectiveness and impact on the community.

****1/17/2025: Tried to "re-validate and resubmit" and it still won't go past the "validate" stage.****

Project Summary

Project #, Project Title	This Report	To Date	
	Program Funds Drawdown	Project Funds Budgeted	Program Funds Drawdown
9999, Restricted Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Admin, Administration	\$0.00	\$1,537,700.00	\$1,107,973.22
DELETED-ACTIVITIES, DELETED-ACTIVITIES (Temporary)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RC1000, Housing	\$0.00	\$21,782,300.00	\$18,894,994.09
RC2000, Infrastructure	\$0.00	\$2,936,282.50	\$911,740.96
RC3000, Economic Development	\$0.00	\$950,000.00	\$68,620.33
RC4000, Recovery and Resiliency Planning	\$0.00	\$3,500,000.00	\$3,449,985.51

Monitoring, Audit, and Technical Assistance

Event Type	This Report Period	To Date
Monitoring, Audits, and Technical Assistance	0	12
Monitoring Visits	0	9
Audit Visits	0	3
Technical Assistance Visits	0	0
Monitoring/Technical Assistance Visits	0	0
Report/Letter Issued	0	12