

What is Resilient SRQ?

Resilient SRQ is a program created by Sarasota County, originally funded by a \$201.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) for Hurricane Ian recovery. This program aims to rebuild and strengthen disaster-impacted areas where a president has declared a major disaster and there are significant unmet needs for long-term recovery in the community. Sarasota County received an additional allocation of \$210 million for 2024 storms Tropical Storm Debby, Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. These funds will support the long-term recovery efforts from these storms, focusing on low-to moderate-income persons.

Where did these funds come from?

Funding comes from the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program, an allocation directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist in the long-term recovery efforts of declared disasters.

What is CDBG-DR?

In response to extraordinary impacts from disasters, Congress may appropriate additional funding to the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding. Unlike other recovery assistance programs administered by the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), CDBG-DR assistance is not permanently authorized. After Congress appropriates funding to the CDBG-DR program, HUD formally announces the CDBG-DR awards and publishes rules for the awards in a Federal Register notice.

Which disasters apply to this funding?

Tropical Storm Debby 4806 (August 2024), Hurricane Helene 4828 (September 2024) and Hurricane Milton 4834 (October 2024).

What areas in Sarasota County may be able to receive funding?

All of Sarasota County may benefit from this funding because it has been designated as one of the areas most impacted by the disaster. This funding will support recovery efforts across the entire county.

What can CDBG-DR funds be used for?

CDBG-DR funds can be used for activities that address the impact of the disaster(s), provided they meet specific criteria:

- **Tie-back to the disaster:** The activity must directly or indirectly address damage caused by the disaster, and in this instance, either storms Debby, Helene and/or Milton.
- **Eligible activity:** The activity must fall under HUD's guidelines for eligible uses.
- **Meet a national objective:** The activity must benefit low- and moderate-income individuals, eliminate slum or blight, or address an urgent community need.

Examples of eligible uses include housing repairs and reconstruction for homes damaged by the disaster, public infrastructure improvements, economic recovery efforts, multifamily affordable housing developments for low- and moderate-income families and/or rental assistance.

Who manages Resilient SRQ?

Sarasota County is the grantee for the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program is being managed by the Program Management Division in the Office of Financial Management at Sarasota County. You can contact the program staff directly by emailing ResilientSRQ@scgov.net.

Who can I contact for more information?

You can contact Resilient SRQ by calling 941-861-5309 or by emailing ResilientSRQ@scgov.net.

Will the program accommodate special needs, such as disabilities?

Yes. Sarasota County Resilient SRQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation, including auxiliary aids and services, to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs, and activities.



What is the process and timeline for Resilient SRQ to develop programs the public can apply for?

The following steps must be completed before Resilient SRQ launches its specific recovery programs:

- 1. Community Input:** We anticipate sending out a survey for individuals and organizations to share their unmet needs related to these storms. We will also host public input meetings to gather feedback on how the funds can best serve our community.
- 2. Draft Action Plan:** Using a variety of data, to include input from a survey and public meetings, we will develop an unmet needs analysis and draft action plan to propose how the funding will be used to address recovery and resilience needs across the county.
- 3. Public Comment Period:** Following the Sarasota County Commission's direction and approval, the draft action plan will be posted for a 30-day public comment period. We will use a variety of methods to solicit input on this from the community.
- 4. Review and Submit Action Plan:** After reviewing public comments, we will finalize the action plan and present it to the county commission for direction and approval. The finalized plan will then be submitted to HUD for approval.
- 5. Action Plan Review by HUD:** HUD will review and comment and/or approve the action plan within 45 days.
- 6. Program Launches:** After HUD approval of the action plan and execution of the Grant Award Agreement by Sarasota County, the programs contained in the action plan will launch and applicants can apply for funding. As needs change, Sarasota County will have the ability to add or remove programs throughout the over six-year duration of this grant.

How can I provide feedback or get involved in the planning process?

You can get involved by:

- Attending public engagement events to learn more about the program and share your thoughts.
- Submitting comments during the public comment period via email, mail or an online form.
- Staying informed by visiting the Resilient SRQ website and signing up for email updates.

For more details on upcoming hearings or to provide feedback, visit ResilientSRQ.net or email ResilientSRQ@scgov.net.

What is a public action plan and why is it important?

A public action plan is an outline which states how allocated funds will be used to address housing, economic development, infrastructure, and mitigation programs. The action plan must also address how these programs serve an unmet need in the community. Prior to receiving the funds, HUD must approve how the county plans on using the funds. Public participation is strongly encouraged during the formation of the public action plan and during a formal public comment period.

Can CDBG-DR funds be combined with other federal assistance?

Resilient SRQ funding supplements other federal recovery assistance programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Resilient SRQ funds cannot duplicate funding available from federal, state, or local governments, private and nonprofit organizations, insurance proceeds, or any other source of assistance.

Where can I go if I need assistance now?

If you need assistance now, please visit scgov.net/government/emergency-services/hurricane-recovery-7270 for a list of hurricane-recovery resources.

Where can I find more information?

You can visit the program website at ResilientSRQ.net. Updates to the program will be posted regularly. Sign up for the newsletter on the website to receive email updates.

Can someone assist me in a language other than English?

Yes, translation services are available. Please inform Resilient SRQ staff of your language preference, and we will arrange for assistance.

This program is supported, in whole or in part, from an allocation of funds from 2024 storms, Federal Docket No. FR-6512-N-01, Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grants, awarded to Sarasota County by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

