



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

*The Power of Knowledge and Leadership*

## Is Your Community Facing Economic Recovery Challenges After Hurricane Harvey?

### IEDC Has Economic Development Experts Available to Help!

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the world's largest membership organization serving the economic development profession. Since Hurricane Katrina, IEDC has been working in disaster-impacted communities and has developed expertise in economic resiliency and disaster economic recovery.

In the wake of hurricanes Harvey and Irma, offers of volunteer assistance have poured into IEDC from member economic development professionals across the United States. Thanks to support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, IEDC will deploy these volunteers to provide immediate economic development recovery assistance in impacted regions in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands – at no cost to communities.

Economic Recovery Assistance volunteers are IEDC members in senior-level and executive economic development positions. Many have hands-on experience with disaster economic recovery and have provided advisory services to other communities.

#### How Does It Work?

- A volunteer expert will work on-site in your community for one week to increase capacity for local economic recovery.
- The local economic development organization (or similar partner) identifies a specific need. IEDC drafts a scope of work and identifies an IEDC volunteer with matching skills.
- The volunteer expert can help with such activities as:
  - Setting up and staffing business recovery centers
  - Conducting site visits and in-person interviews with businesses
  - Performing office tasks and other assignments to leverage the efforts of local EDOs whose own operations may still be recovering after the hurricane
  - Developing public outreach processes, doing business case management, providing training on-site, or other duties as assigned
- **Help is available immediately! Complete this brief form to apply: [Access Texas Assistance](#)**

#### Is Assistance Available for Longer-Term Challenges?

Yes! IEDC anticipates being able to send volunteer advisory teams into communities to provide assistance for specific economic revitalization challenges. IEDC can support communities by providing research, advice, on-site collaborative problem-solving, and follow-up.

In a past advisory project, for example, IEDC provided technical services to help set up the New Orleans Business Alliance, including drafting articles of incorporation and setting up funding mechanisms. IEDC teams also have helped economic development organizations design and execute strategies for business retention and expansion; financing and access to capital; business incubation; neighborhood redevelopment; marketing and branding; downtown revitalization; and an array of other economic development needs.