

NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 1

TRANSFORM386

STRENGTHENING VOLUSIA'S FUTURE



Transform386 is managed by Volusia County in the Office of Recovery and Resiliency. The County received a signed grant agreement from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in February 2024 to rebuild from the damage caused by Hurricane Ian in September 2022. The County spent its first quarter developing the foundations for its Homeowner Recovery, infrastructure, and mitigation programs with strategically designed policies, procedures, applications, checklists, and informational materials. Staff also began planning for all other programs outlined in the Action Plan.



In this Issue:

- Updates regarding the progression of the Homeowner Recovery Program
- Signing events are now underway
- Additional resources available in the community



www.transform386.org



386-943-7029



transform386@volusia.org

More than 1,200 Applications Received!

HOMEOWNER RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Homeowner Recovery Program continues to process applications for assistance to homeowners impacted by Hurricane Ian. This program offers repairs and potential reimbursements to help residents rebuild and recover. Since the application process opened in November 2023, our team has been dedicated to raising awareness through various channels. We've engaged the community with social media updates, numerous meetings across the county, direct mail postcards, and door-to-door outreach in the hardest-hit areas.

We are still accepting applications, which can be conveniently submitted online. For those needing personalized assistance, appointments are available to meet with a caseworker.

APPLY NOW >



THE NEXT STEP TO A RESILIENT FUTURE

Applicants of the Homeowner Recovery Program who have completed the eligibility and damage assessment phases are now advancing to the award determination and contract signing stages. This pivotal moment is celebrated with a special bell-ringing ceremony at our office, where applicants officially sign their grant agreements and related documents. Each ring of the bell symbolizes a fresh start and acknowledges the resilience and progress of every homeowner on their path to recovery.



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ADVOCACY & RESOURCES

Meet a Team Member

Transform386 Projects Coordinator Maria Edwards, pictured on the right, stands alongside an applicant she has supported since the initial intake stage. Maria remains a steadfast advocate, ensuring that each person she assists receives the full range of resources and support needed throughout the recovery process. The Transform386 team is dedicated to connecting individuals with all available community resources, extending their commitment beyond the assistance offered through the program to aid in comprehensive recovery efforts.



DISCOVER RESOURCES WITH THE VOLUSIA HELPS APP

Volusia Helps is a free app designed to connect residents, social service providers, law enforcement, and medical professionals with vital community resources. Users can quickly access up-to-date information by searching keywords or browsing through 13 categories. The app is available for download on both the App Store and Google Play. For those who prefer using a computer, the same comprehensive resources are also accessible through the [website](#).

Community Legal Services offers no-cost legal assistance to protect the families, health, and livelihoods of Central Florida's most vulnerable residents. Their support spans critical areas such as disaster recovery, housing, violence protection, and workers' rights, providing a vital lifeline for those in need. Assistance is available by appointment only, with services accessible online and through their helpline at 800-405-1417.



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