



[CDBG-DR & FEMA Key Personnel]

Nearly 400 years of combined experience in disaster recovery





We help communities recover quickly and efficiently. We advise communities on funding sources, provide citizens and officials with the highest level of customer service. We ensure projects are completed compliantly and within the funded budget. The end goal is to help citizens get back to their normal lives as soon as possible.

We assist both entitlement and non-entitlement communities secure and correctly manage grants to help in their recovery process.

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- 1** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) professionals
- 2** Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) experts
- 3** Team members average 15+ years of experience in the field



BLAKE RATCLIFF

Director

Mr. Ratcliff has more than 10 years of experience providing management oversight to disaster recovery programs and 30 years of experience leading projects and teams. He oversees the IBTS Economic Development and Disaster Recovery (EDDR) Division, and has managed projects in New York City, including the NYC Housing Recovery Office's Build it Back (BiB) Program, and the NY State Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) activities. He oversaw disaster recovery for IBTS operations during Hurricane Ike and Superstorm Sandy.



STEVE TRAINA

Deputy Director

Mr. Traina has nearly 35 years of experience in construction planning and oversight, procurement, quality control, training, documentation and reporting. As Deputy Director of IBTS's EDDR Division, Mr. Traina provides management and leadership to all IBTS Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDGB-DR) efforts, including active engagements in New York City and New York State. He managed the development and the complete local management of the Hurricane Ike Disaster Recovery Programs in Harris County, TX, utilizing \$1.7 billion in CDBG funds, and also managed CDBG-DR flood recovery in Minot, ND.



STEVE GREEN

Operations Director

Mr. Green has more than 25 years of experience in the design and oversight of financial operations for federally funded disaster recovery programs. As Operations Director for EDDR at IBTS, he assists in the selection, negotiation, contracting and oversight of subcontractors. He also assists in the development and implementation of project policies and procedures, especially in dealing with CDBG requirements, and the design of controls in software applications used on these projects. Prior to joining IBTS, he provided program oversight for a number of disaster recovery projects, including the projects in Galveston and Harris County, TX; Minot, ND; the State of Illinois; the State of New Jersey; and the New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery Housing Recovery Program after Superstorm Sandy.



MICHAEL SPLETTTO

Program Director, Disaster Recovery

Mr. Spletto has provided disaster recovery consulting services for over 10 years and has more than 30 years of experience in community development and administration of federal grants for local and state governments. He designs, develops, and drives community outreach efforts as Program Director to IBTS's Economic Development and Disaster Recovery Division. He has extensive knowledge of CDBG, CDBG-DR, Federal Emergency Agency (FEMA) and HOME programs and has played a key role in many of the largest disaster recovery programs in the country, having assisted in the oversight or management of over \$20 billion in Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster funding, supporting CDBG programs in 40 states.



SUZIE ELKINS

Project Manager, CDBG-DR SME

Ms. Elkins has worked with CDBG and CDBG-DR programs for over 35 years, including in the role as the director of Louisiana's Office of Community Development. She is a leader in the field of state community development programs and has a long history of working on housing and CDBG-DR buy-out projects including those in Louisiana, New Jersey and New York. Under her leadership she was responsible for Louisiana's state and local governments receiving billions of dollars of federal grant funds. For over thirty years she has worked closely with HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development.



YOLANDA ABRAM

Project Manager, CDBG-DR SME

Ms. Abram has over 20 years of program development and compliance management experience. As Deputy Program Director, she will provide senior subject matter expertise in policy review and design, program implementation and overall CDBG-DR compliance for the State of North Carolina's funds received for Hurricane Matthew recovery efforts. Prior to IBTS, Ms. Abram managed, provided technical assistance and conducted compliance reviews of grant allocations to local governments in the aftermath of Hurricanes Hugo, Floyd, Ivan, Francis, Irene and Matthew. Additionally, she coordinated recovery efforts of a lead agency responsible for reporting on the status of the \$836 million appropriation funded by the North Carolina General Assembly in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd.



ROBERT DENNIS

Project Manager, CDBG-DR Senior Specialist

Mr. Dennis has more than 25 years of supervisory experience in community development programs and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs. He has administered the state of Florida's growth management program and HUD CDBG programs.



PHUOC LAM

Project Manager, CDBG-DR Senior Specialist

Mr. Lam has over 8 years of experience in disaster recovery program management services, specifically with Housing Rehabilitation-Reconstruction, Public Assistance reimbursement, and Infrastructure programs. Prior to IBTS, Mr. Lam worked on six Presidentially-declared disasters with prior experience in FEMA's Individual Assistance Programs. He has worked in CDBG-DR programs as a Case Manager, Compliance Monitor, Grant Specialist and Program Specialist. Mr. Lam has reviewed over 1,500 homeowner rehabilitation files to ensure files are in compliance with federal and state requirements, and over 500 FEMA Project Worksheets (PWs) for the reimbursement program. He has been involved with recovery efforts in Galveston County, TX; Harris County, TX; Minot, ND; Springfield, IL; Boulder County, CO; and Cleveland County, OK.



RANDALL IRWIN

Project Manager, CDBG-DR SME

Mr. Irwin has over 40 years of grant management and program delivery expertise. As Project Manager at IBTS, he provides senior subject matter expertise in policy review and design, program implementation, and overall CDBG-DR compliance for the State of North Carolina's funds received for Hurricane Matthew recovery efforts. Prior to joining IBTS, Mr. Irwin had oversight responsibility of \$102M in CDBG-DR and \$74.3M Natural Disaster Resilience funds for a multi-year recovery project in Minot, ND. Additionally, he has administered numerous community improvement programs including CDBG, HOME, and FHLB for the City of Oskaloosa, IA.



SCOTT MYERS

Project Manager, CDBG-DR SME

Mr. Myers has over 30 years of experience in managing federal and state programs with extensive and comprehensive knowledge of planning and implementing federally-funded disaster recovery programs. At IBTS, he provides senior subject matter expertise in policy review and design, program implementation, and overall CDBG-DR compliance. Prior to joining IBTS, Mr. Myers managed the State of South Carolina's Housing Program funded by \$220M in CDBG-DR funds. His experience in grant management included developing policies and procedures, monitoring sub-contractors, providing technical assistance, training, duplication of benefits, processing invoices, reporting, and closing out projects.



VINCENT LINTZ

Project Manager, CDBG-DR SME

Mr. Lintz has 30 years of experience in CDBG-DR program development, oversight, and economic development expertise. Prior to joining IBTS, he provided program oversight for the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office's \$96 million 2015 Flood Recovery program. His team was responsible for working with the state and contractors to develop program policies and procedures for the rehabilitation and replacement of mobile homes and construction of stick-built homes damaged during the 2015 flood. He worked with the State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs to develop and provide technical assistance with the distribution of \$320 million in CDBG-DR funds.



KENNETH GARRETT

Construction QA/QC Manager

Mr. Garrett has more than 25 years of experience in construction management, quality management, and compliance, including over seven years of management experience in CDBG-DR housing projects. He is the Corporate QA/QC Manager for the New York City Architectural Services BiB Program and the Staten Island Land Services Project, which are both CDBG funded projects.



CLAIRE COLLINS

Program Director, FEMA


Ms. Collins has more than 12 years of experience providing management and oversight to declared disaster and emergency service programs at the local, state, and federal government level. Her first-hand experience in working declared disasters was for 1996 flooding, Virginia Derecho in 2012, and Hurricane Sandy includes disaster planning, response, and recovery performing public information, shelter management, local and preliminary damage assessments, FEMA public assistance project assistance and write-ups, justification, and closeout. Ms. Collins has over 22 years of experience as a local government manager for both a city and several counties in VA and served as member of elected county Board of Supervisors for six years. She currently oversees the IBTS FEMA Temporary Transportable Housing Unit program operations in response to Hurricane Harvey and Irma as well as ancillary projects to improve the health, safety, and welfare of disaster survivor housing.



ERIC CRUZ

Damage Assessment Manager

Mr. Cruz has over 10 years of experience in managing damage assessments and estimates for CDBG disaster relief projects in New York, Texas, North Dakota, Georgia and Illinois. He manages a wide range of construction and rehabilitation projects, for which he conducts and supervises damage assessments, develops property standards, provides quality control and monitoring, and administers the bidding process. In addition to his experience with building code compliance, onsite inspections, construction administration and management, and cost estimating, Mr. Cruz's architectural experience has proved especially valuable for major historic building restoration and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance projects.



“ It is not every day that you have an opportunity to partner with a group that is both thoughtful and responsive in addressing the complex issues that come with programs like this. ”

HENRY SAULS

Project Manager, NYC Build-it-Back








Who We Are

We are building resilient communities by reducing risk, enhancing public safety, providing quality assurance measures and improvements to quality of life.

As a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization built on government partnerships with the goal of strengthening communities, we place people over profits. We provide services to local, state, and federal governments that combine public sector credibility with private sector innovation.

- **40-year history of public service**
- **Specialize in building services; energy and sustainability; management and consulting services; municipal services; natural disaster management; and quality assurance and quality control**
- **Board of Directors consisting of five national associations representing city, county, and state-level governments**

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