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PRESS RELEASE

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Ocean County Long Term Recovery Group Launches New Site

The Ocean County Long Term Recovery Group (OCLTRG) recently launched a new website to reach residents affected by Superstorm Sandy. Ocean County was the most impacted County in the State with more than 54,800 homes requesting FEMA assistance. As of May 1, 2013, more than 1,500 maximum grants of \$31,900 were awarded by FEMA to NJ residents and of those, 1,060 have gone to Ocean County households.

Many residents need help in addition to insurance and FEMA aid but don't know where to turn. Those who have met the May 1 deadline for FEMA registration are invited to reach out for assistance. After contacting OCLTRG, residents will be assigned a skilled case manager who will help guide them through the necessary steps to receive the required assistance.

With an emphasis on streamlining time to recovery, OCLTRG provides grants, mental health services, housing, construction, volunteers, donations and more. The group also maintains a network within and on behalf of the faith-based, nonprofit, governmental, business and other organizations to provide a coordinated recovery effort to the victims of disasters affecting Ocean County. OCLTRG welcomes help in the form of monetary, in kind or goods/materials/food donations, or by volunteering your time to assist those in need.

In a letter posted on the new site, Chair Ted Gooding said "Long-term recovery is a complicated process that is best completed through cooperation and collaboration. It is the goal of the OCLTRG to cultivate effective long-term recovery efforts and return communities affected by Sandy to their 'new normal' as quickly as possible."

To that end, the organization is hosting free community assessments of Ocean County residents' unmet needs after Sandy throughout the month of June. Conducted in partnership with World Renew Disaster Response Services, the events will be held at six locations throughout the county, with extended hours available.

Visit the website <u>www.oceancountyltrg.org</u> for more information about the upcoming workshops and additional recovery resources.

About Ocean County Long Term Recovery Group

Formed in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, the mission of the Ocean County Long Term Recovery Group (OCLTRG) is to strengthen and streamline disaster coordination in Ocean County by sharing information, facilitating resident access to and dispersal of resources and services, coordinating recovery efforts with Federal, State and local authorities and agencies, coordinating volunteer activities and resources, and jointly resolving cases with disaster recovery needs. To learn more about the OCLTRG visit oceancountyltrg.org or call 732-569-3484.