

Hurricane Ian Response and Recovery

The Economic Development Office has focused on business outreach following Hurricane Ian. We have reached out to businesses to provide recovery resources and conduct the FloridaDisaster.Biz [Business Damage Assessment Survey](#). We partnered with CareerSource Southwest Florida to open a call center to reach out to Charlotte County businesses. As of December 9th:

- **2,492 outreach calls made to Charlotte County businesses.**
- **675 Business Assessment Surveys completed.**
- **\$239,421,375 million in business damages reported.**
- **7,599 resource emails sent.**

We are working hard to reach all Charlotte County businesses to offer recovery resources and support. If your business was impacted by Hurricane Ian please consider completing the [Florida Business Damage Assessment Survey](#). If you need information or assistance please visit our website: www.Cleared4Takeoff.com/Hurricane_Ian or call us at 941-764-4941.



Economic Development Staff with Governor Ron DeSantis

Global Entrepreneurs Week

We celebrated Global Entrepreneurs Week November 14th—20th. Thank you to the Board of County Commissioners for issuing the proclamation on their November 8th board meeting. Our local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Business Mentor, Patti Guerso was on hand to accept the proclamation. We featured two local entrepreneurs who worked with Patti and the SBDC to start their business in Charlotte County.

Crystal Bonora came to the Florida SBDC at FGCU for assistance with starting her business, Waggles in Port Charlotte. Check out Crystal's story on [YouTube](#).

Ron Morgan came to the SBDC at FGCU for assistance with starting his business, Complete Auto Repair in Port Charlotte. Check out Rons story on [YouTube](#).

Florida SBDCs offer access to confidential, no-cost professional business consulting for Floridians who want to grow their business. Their professionally certified business consultants have the knowledge and tools to help emerging and growing businesses design growth strategies and make better business decisions to realize their goals and growth.

Request no-cost business consulting today [HERE](#).

