



A Resource of the State of Florida

**HURRICANE LOSS REDUCTION
FOR
HOUSING IN FLORIDA**

**A Research Project Funded by
The State of Florida Department of Community Affairs
Through Contract # 05RC-11-13-00-05-001**

**QUARTERLY REPORT No. 1
For Quarter Ended September 30, 2004**

DUE BY October 15, 2004

PREPARED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE RESEARCH CENTER
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

HURRICANE LOSS REDUCTION FOR FLORIDA HOUSING
A RESEARCH PROJECT UNDERTAKEN BY
THE INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE RESEARCH CENTER
At Florida International University

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

SUMMARY

This report summarizes the activities of the International Hurricane Research Center (IHRC), at Florida International University (FIU), and its research team related to the project designated as *Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida* (hereinafter Project) being funded by the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) under contract # 05RC-11-13-00-05-001 executed on January 18, 2005.

This quarterly report covers activities of the IHRC research team from July 1, 2004 through September 30, 2004. This quarterly report is submitted in compliance with the reporting requirements of above referenced contract. There are no problems or circumstances currently affecting the completion date, milestones, scope of work, and cost of the project.

Stephen Leatherman, Director at the IHRC, is Principal Investigator (PI) and Project Director. Carolyn Robertson, Research Associate at the IHRC, is responsible for project management.

Major activities during this quarter include:

1. The Final Report for Year 4 was written and submitted to the Department of Community Affairs on July 31, 2004.
2. Stephen Leatherman participated in the HLMP/RCMP Advisory Council July 29, 2004 meeting in Tallahassee, made a presentation summarizing the research activities completed during 2003-2004, and provided an overview of the research agenda to be undertaken by the IHRC Research Team during the 2004-2005 period. Carolyn Robertson and Forrest Masters were also in attendance.
3. The Scope of Work and budget for Year 2004/2005 were approved by the HLMP/RCMP Advisory Council during the July 29, 2005 meeting.
4. The IHRC contacted various researchers to carry out the proposed 2004-2005 research agenda to discuss specific research tracks, timelines, schedule of deliverables and budget estimates.
5. IHRC social scientists interviewed Hurricane Charley (2004) victims in shelters and on assistance lines in the hardest hit areas of West Florida. Studies on population's affected and social systems dealing with helping people restore their lives were conducted. A final report was submitted by Betty Morrow and Dario Moreno in October 2004. This report will be included in the HLRP final report to be submitted to DCA September 2005.
6. The Wall of Wind testing apparatus continues to be constructed by Diamond Back Airboats.

ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

During this quarter, the initial research team for 2004-2005 was assembled at both the IHRC and participating universities. The assembled research team is as follows:

Principal Investigator: Stephen Leatherman FIU/IHRC
Project Manager: Carolyn Robertson FIU/IHRC

Principal Researchers:

Forrest Masters	FIU	Wind Engineering
Nicole Dash	UNT	Sociology
Betty Morrow	Consultant	Sociology
Dario Moreno	FIU	Sociology
David Prevatt	Clemson	Civil Engineering
Christian Resick	FIU	Psychology
Edmund Skellings	FAU	Electronic Communication
Keqi Zhang	FIU	Environmental Studies

Research Assistants:

Collette Blessing	FIU	Civil Engineering
Pat Houle	FIU	Environmental Studies
Frank Preto	FIU	Civil Engineering

Undergraduate Students:

Victor Camps	FIU	Architecture
Alex Cuesto	FIU	Computer Engineering
Brie Losego	FIU	Architecture

*** Other research assistants will include a minimum of 5 graduate and under graduate students located at participating universities.**

Support Staff:

Natalie Defraene	FIU	IHRC
Susana Enger	FIU	IHRC
Kathy-Ann Decle	FIU	IHRC