



# SECURE & PREPARED

November 25, 2008

## Volume 4, Issue 15

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## Important Resources

**2008 Flood Resource Center**  
[www.flood2008.iowa.gov](http://www.flood2008.iowa.gov)

**Donate**  
Embrace Iowa 515.447.4222

Safeguard Iowa Partnership  
[www.flood2008.iowa.gov](http://www.flood2008.iowa.gov)  
(*Donations* link in navigation box)

### Please note!

HSEMD offices will be closed **Thursday, Nov. 27** and **Friday, Nov. 28** for the Thanksgiving holiday. Iowa State Patrol Dispatch will be taking emergency calls that come in via the Division's main number, 515.725.3231.

## Iowans Have Received More Than \$838 Million in Disaster Assistance

Iowa residents and governments have received more than \$838 million in Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, and Small Business Administration disaster loans.

As of November 18, \$838.2 million in disaster assistance has been approved for homeowners, renters, businesses, and government and non-profit entities in the following categories:

### **Housing Assistance, \$118.1 million**

For rental assistance grants to homeowners and renters who cannot or should not live in their disaster-damaged homes and grants to homeowners to make an owner-occupied structure livable.

*Continued on Page 2...*



*June 29, 2008 – In an unsuccessful effort to stave off the flood, sandbags remain in downtown Cedar Rapids. Photo by Suse Shapira/FEMA.*

## Homeland Security Announces \$3 Billion in FEMA Preparedness Grants for Fiscal Year 2009

In Fiscal Year 2009, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will award more than \$3 billion in grants to states, urban areas and transportation authorities under 14 programs to bolster national preparedness capabilities and protect critical infrastructure. FY2009 grant programs provide \$24 million more than last year to enhance the nation's ability to prevent, protect

against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. This includes the department's two largest grant programs: the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) which totals more than \$1.7 billion, and multiple infrastructure protection programs, totaling more than \$845 million.

*Continued on Page 3...*

## Training Opportunities

### **Weapons of Mass Destruction: Terrorism Incident Defensive Operations for Emergency Responders (PER-212)**

In this course you will learn about the unique personal protection challenges that emergency responders face during a weapon of mass destruction (WMD)/terrorist incident or a hazardous materials incident. Major course topics include assessing WMD hazards, predicting the likely behavior of WMD materials, effectively operating and communicating in a unified command structure of the Incident Command System, determining detection equipment and personal protective equipment needs, performing emergency decontamination, and identifying defensive strategies for a WMD incident. This course provides the knowledge and skills needed to obtain certification through the National Professional Qualifications System (NPQS/ProBoard) as a Hazardous Materials Operations-level responder.

There is NO FEE for this course. Lodging, travel and meals are the responsibility of the course participant.

**When:** Dec. 8–10  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Where:** Iowa City Fire Dept.  
Training Academy  
1000 S. Clinton St.  
Iowa City, IA 52240

To register, visit [www.teex.com](http://www.teex.com) or contact Pamela Polozeck at 979.862.6773 or [Pamela.Polozeck@teexmail.tama.edu](mailto:Pamela.Polozeck@teexmail.tama.edu).

For more information, contact Dave Wilson at **319.356.6028** or [dwilson@co.johnson.ia.us](mailto:dwilson@co.johnson.ia.us).

### **Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS) for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders (ICS-300)**

This course is intended to serve as a vehicle to share proven Incident management strategies and practices as well as to enhance teamwork and coordination among the agency's "mid-level managers and command staff" directly responsible for emergency response to incidents of all types; "all hazards" in which the Incident Command System (ICS) will be employed. The course utilizes scenarios and application exercises to highlight key issues and facilitate discussion. The concluding tabletop exercise is intended to allow participants to apply the information provided during the course in a controlled environment.

Topics covered in this course include:

- Incident Command System Overview
- Unified Command
- Incident Response Management
- Incident/Event Agency Guidance
- Incident Action Planning with practical application

There is NO FEE for this course. Lodging, travel and meals are the responsibility of the course participant.

**When:** Jan. 20-21  
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Where:** Coralville Fire Dept.  
1501 Fifth St.  
Coralville, IA 52241

To register contact **Randy Frank** at **563.419.1474** or [randyfrank@csesma.com](mailto:randyfrank@csesma.com).

## Are You in Compliance?

As a reminder, FEMA/NPD/NIC/IMSI do not recognize any 300- or 400-level courses taken on-line, as they are now classroom only. Therefore, any personnel who have taken online ICS 300/400 courses in the past are not compliant in accordance with current guidance (i.e. five-year NIMS training plan). Ω

### **Iowans Have Received More Than \$813 Million in Disaster Assistance**

*...Continued from Page 1*

#### **Other Needs Assistance, \$15.8 million**

For grants to those affected with eligible, disaster-related funeral, dental and medical expenses.

#### **Small Business Administration, \$249.3 million**

For loans to renters, homeowners and businesses of all sizes.

#### **Public Assistance, \$455**

For reimbursement for government related, eligible expenses in the area of emergency response measures, debris removal and repair or restoration of disaster damaged public infrastructure. Certain non-profit organizations providing essential services also may be eligible for reimbursement under this program. Ω



## Homeland Security Announces \$3 Billion in FEMA Preparedness Grants for Fiscal Year 2009



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"Several years of investment have taken us largely from capability building to performance-based planning and investment," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "This year's funding priorities are consistent with last year, and reflect a mature and disciplined grants program. We are now in the position of being able to inform high threat urban areas of their target allocations ahead of time, which will go a long way in helping their applications."

Available Iowa Grants for FY2009:

### Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)

**Iowa share: \$4,087,148**

**Application Deadline: Dec. 19, 2008**

The purpose of the FY 2009 EMPG is to assist state and local governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities.

### Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP)

**Iowa share: \$600,000**

**Application Deadline: Jan. 13, 2009**

The BZPP provides funding to increase the preparedness capabilities of jurisdictions responsible for the safety and security of communities surrounding high-priority pre-designated Tier 1 and Tier 2 critical infrastructure and key resource (CIKR) assets, including chemical facilities, financial institutions, nuclear and electric power plants, dams, stadiums and other high-risk/high-consequence facilities, through allowable planning and equipment acquisition.

### Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP)

**Iowa share: \$410,885**

**Application Deadline: Jan. 13, 2009**

IECGP provides governance, planning, training and exercise and equipment funding to states, territories, and local and tribal governments to carry out initiatives to improve interoperable emergency communications, including communications in collective response to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters. According to the legislation that created IECGP, all proposed activities must be integral to interoperable emergency communications and must be aligned with the goals, objectives and initiatives identified in the grantee's approved statewide Communication Interoperability Plans (SCIP). IECGP will also advance DHS near-term priorities that are deemed critical to improving interoperable emergency communications and are consistent with goals and objectives of the National Emergency Communications Plan. For FY 2009, two priority groups have been identified that are deemed critical for advancing interoperable emergency communications in alignment with the criteria established for the SCIP process: 1) Gaps in Leadership and Governance and Common Operational Planning and Protocols; and 2) Emergency Responder Skills and Capabilities Development Through Training and Exercises.

IECGP has a 75 percent federal and 25 percent state cost share, cash or in-kind, requirement for equipment purchases only.

### State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)

**Iowa share: \$1,515,000**

**Application Deadline: March 20, 2009**

This core assistance program provides funds to build capabilities at the state and local levels and to implement the goals and objectives included in state homeland security strategies and initiatives in the State Preparedness Report.

### Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (MMRS)

**Iowa share: \$321,221**

**Application Deadline: March 20, 2009**

The MMRS program supports the integration of emergency management, health, and medical systems into a coordinated response to mass casualty incidents caused by any hazard. Successful MMRS grantees reduce the consequences of a mass casualty incident during the initial period of a response by having augmented existing local operational response systems before the incident occurs.

### Citizen Corps Program (CCP)

**Iowa share: \$194,673**

**Application Deadline: March 20, 2009**

The Citizen Corps mission is to bring community and government leaders together to coordinate community involvement in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery.

For complete information on grant funding in Iowa, visit [www.iowa-homeland security.org](http://www.iowa-homeland security.org). Ω



## The Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference

**Dec. 9-10, 2008**

**Coralville Marriott  
Coralville, Iowa**

Iowa communities were devastated this year by massive flooding and dangerous tornadoes. This two-day conference will cover a variety of issues in response to these natural disasters including basic health and safety issues, regulatory requirements and sustainable design and planning reconstruction considerations.

The conference will provide useful information and helpful resources to architects, engineers, contractors, small businesses, industries, city, county and community leaders, consultants and the general public who are rebuilding after a natural disaster, including overviews of recovery efforts, environmental regulations and requirements, and examples and practical applications of sustainable models and green concepts that can have economic, environmental and social advantages.

To register, visit

[www.iowalifechanging.com/register](http://www.iowalifechanging.com/register) and click on the "Iowa Disaster Recovery Conference" link. There is a \$100 registration fee. Online registration closes one week prior to the conference. Ω

## HSEMD to Write Five-Year Strategic Plan



Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management is coordinating the process to write the Iowa 2009-2014 Strategic Plan for Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This year's process will be a little bit different than the last. Since we are working to write a statewide strategy we will be involving our partners at the outset of the planning process to ensure that we are working towards outcomes in which we all can share.

In order to write the plan and to involve multiple agencies in the creation of the document, a request was sent out to the Iowa Emergency Management Association, the Homeland Security Executive Group, the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council, the Governor's office, the Safeguard Iowa Partnership and the First Responders Advisory Committee for volunteers to sit on the planning committee. This committee will do the bulk of the visioning, mission definition and establishment of goals of the plan. The members of the planning committee are:

Anne Koontz  
Dave Morlan  
Len Murray  
Mark English  
Marvin Shultz  
John Gillispie  
Mike Beaman  
Joyce Flinn  
Tom Baumgartner  
Kyle Karsjen  
Mike Stadie  
Matt Unger  
Jami Haberl

O'Brien County Emergency Management  
Boone County Emergency Management  
Des Moines Police Department  
Cedar Rapids Fire Department  
Iowa Department of Human Services  
Iowa Communications Network  
Iowa HSEMD  
Iowa HSEMD  
Iowa HSEMD  
Iowa HSEMD  
Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council  
Governor's Office  
Safeguard Iowa Partnership

The planning committee had its first meeting Nov. 14. The next meeting will be scheduled for mid-December. Once the planning committee has created a draft of the plan, it will be distributed across the state to partners for comment. The goal is to have a draft of the plan completed by Jan. 1, 2009.

HSEMD will also soon be rewriting our agency strategic plan. This will be a separate process, as we discuss how our agency builds into the State Strategy, and some agency-specific things we will do in the future.

Questions can be directed to **Kyle Karsjen** at **515.725.3231** or [kyle.karsjen@iowa.gov](mailto:kyle.karsjen@iowa.gov). Ω

## Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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[www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org)

Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond, 515.725.3271 or [stefanie.bond@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.bond@iowa.gov).

### News Team

Stefanie Bond  
Beth Gathercole  
David Johnston  
Kyle Karsjen  
Lucinda Robertson  
Kathy Stodola  
Bret Voorhees  
Lynda Wessel

### HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

## We're on the Web!

[www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org)

# Latest Personnel Notes from HSEMD

## Preparedness Bureau

**Beth Gathercole** has been hired as a program planner for the Exercise Team. Beth's job will be to assist counties with exercises and review and approve exercise reports, among other things.

Beth began working for HSEMD as a contract employee in 2003 and became a full-time state employee on June 17, 2005, as the administrative assistant to the training/exercise bureau chief (now part of the Preparedness Bureau).

Beth lives in Mingo. When she's not at work, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, including her children, new grandson Caleb and fiancé Kevin. She also likes to fish, walk and work on crafts.



## Grants Bureau

**Jim Berg** began working for HSEMD as a contract employee after the February 2007 ice storm. He was hired permanently on May 30, 2008.

Jim is an emergency management specialist in the Grants Bureau. He provides guidance, technical assistance and administrative support to various applicants and entities within Iowa. His main area of emphasis is to assist the rural electric cooperatives that have received heavy damages in the prior ice storm disasters and in this year's flood.

Before Jim worked at HSEMD, he was a project manager for Concrete Technologies, Inc., where he managed projects such as the Winterset streetscape project for the city square and the rebuild/widening of 100th street/Urbandale Ave. from Douglas Ave. to Meredith Ave. in Des Moines.



*Photos from top: Beth Gathercole, Jim Berg.*

Jim says he hasn't had a lot of free time in the last year and a half! When he does get a free moment he enjoys traveling with Ruby, his wife of 31 years. They took a trip to Europe in July, where they visited Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Jim and Ruby have lived in Windsor Heights for 22 years. They have four children who live all around the U.S., and three granddaughters in Charlotte, N.C. Ω