



SECURE & PREPARED

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Latest Community Disaster Grant Update

Of the 903 jurisdictions eligible for the Community Disaster Grant, 543 submitted applications. That means jurisdictions that submitted an application and received more than the base \$2,000 amount in the first round, will receive additional dollars based on the same damage formula used initially for the grant. Because of the legislative intent to provide this funding as quickly as possible, no additional application process will be required, the jurisdictions will simply receive a larger allocation.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management staff are in the final stages of reviewing applications and making the final adjust-

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June 25, 2008 – Debris piles up against the 1898 Union Pacific railroad bridge in Cedar Rapids. Photo: FEMA/G. Henshall

Important Information

For the latest in disaster funding information, visit the Rebuild Iowa Web site at www.rio.iowa.gov.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Governor's 6th Annual Homeland Security Conference will be **Oct. 5-7, 2009**, at the Sheraton West Des Moines. More information to follow as the date gets closer. See you there!

Joint Field Office Becomes Iowa Recovery Center

In the next few months, the traditional FEMA Joint Field Office (JFO) established to help with recovery efforts of Disaster 1763, will be making a transformation. Normally, the FEMA staff help through the initial surge of Individual Assistance and Public Assistance (PA) and when they reach a point where their work is nearly complete, the efforts are transferred to the regional office in Kansas City.

Meanwhile state HSEMD staff work through the process of closing out PA projects that normally takes several years.

While FEMA will be reducing staff levels and closing the JFO, because of the scope of the floods and the work involved, FEMA personnel will be transitioning to work with HSEMD

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New Web Site Assists Officials Involved in Flood Recovery Efforts

The Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) and the Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO) have created two online sites assisting program administrators and case workers helping Iowans impacted by the floods and tornadoes of 2008.

The sites were created in response to needs expressed by housing program representatives of the entitlement cities and designated councils of government attending a disaster recovery housing conference in Coralville in February to discuss the progress, challenges and improvements in the housing program process. The working session was hosted by RIO, IDED and the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA). The attendees said they wanted to be able to share information and application forms, as well as discuss challenges and solutions to problems in an ongoing interactive way.

In response to the discussions, a Web site page was created that contains documents for administrators and caseworkers of the Jumpstart Housing Program, a program implemented to get financial assistance into the hands of Iowans impacted by the tornadoes and floods.

People who visit the Web site can access documents they may need to use to administer the program, as well as guidelines and suggestions on how to complete various



program applications. That site is www.iowalifechanging.com/jumpstart/app/communityDocuments/index.asp.

In addition, the RIO has set up the Iowa Housing Recovery Blast Group, an online forum organized for use by councils of governments and entitlement cities involved in housing recovery from last year's disasters. The Blast group allows members to pose questions, discuss programs, share best practices and post template documents for others to review and use. The RIO, IFA and the IDED also use the group to communicate the latest developments in recovery programs to the councils of government and entitlement cities.

Anyone with questions or requests for additional content may contact **Tim Waddell** at IDED at **515.242.4780** or tim.waddell@iowalifechanging.com. Ω

Latest Community Disaster Grant Update

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ments on the allocations. A complete list of all the jurisdictions, their allocations and projects will be available at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org by mid-May. Checks are also scheduled to be distributed by mid-May.

A special thanks to all of the HSEMD staff who have helped with this grant: **John Benson, Barb Vos, Kathy Karn, Jon Paoli, Mary Stephens, Sue Moeller-Lomica, Paul Sadler, Dutch Geisinger, Kyle Karsjen, Erin Mullenix, Lucinda Robertson, Tracy Epps, Tara Dowd, Beth Gathercole, Terry Brown** and **Bret Voorhees**. Ω

FY2009 HSGP Update

The FY09 investments were submitted to the Department of Homeland Security on March 19, 2009. Iowa's investments will be peer reviewed during the first part of May, and the final allocation will be determined later in the summer. Iowa can expect to receive somewhere between \$5.4 and \$6.6 million. Our final allocation amount will be based on the federal perspective of risk in Iowa. Ω



HSEMD Hosts Training

Critical Infrastructure Workshop

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, along with the Safeguard Iowa Partnership, hosted a regional Critical Infrastructure Workshop April 15–17. Attendees from nine states gathered to share best practices and participate in discussions on various critical infrastructure and key resource topics including assessment methodologies, information sharing and public-private partnerships. Day three of the workshop featured a National Infrastructure Protection Program/ Critical Infrastructure – Key Resource Awareness Pilot Course. The course was developed and delivered by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). This is the second year HSEMD hosted the event.

The Critical Infrastructure Workshop was held at the Iowa Events Center April 15-17.



SEOC Training

The annual State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) training was held in Johnston on April 15. This session brought together more than 50 representatives from state agencies, volunteer organizations, and other various groups. Participants heard detailed presentations on the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REP), the State of Iowa Emergency Response Plan, Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), and Incident Command/Emergency Management interface. Ω



HSEMD's David Johnston addresses the attendees in the SEOC on April 15.

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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

Upcoming Training Opportunities



EOC Management and Operations (G775)

This course describes the interface between the on-scene Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC); how to encourage officials to respond to the EOC; and the role, design and functions of the EOC and their importance as a component of the multi-agency coordination system.

The following regions currently have this training scheduled:

Region 2 – May 20-21, Charles City
Ft. Dodge Animal Health Auditorium
To register, go to the HSEMD training Web site at <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar>.

Region 4 – June 11-12, Creston
Contact **Jo Duckworth** at
641.782.1622 to register.

CARVER Methodology

The nation's critical infrastructures face a myriad of physical and technical threats. These threats, whether natural or man-made, accidental or intentional, each carry a certain level of risk that could compromise national security, public safety and the economy. CARVER training (Critical Accessibility Recognizability Vulnerability Effect Recoverability) will offer participants an opportunity to learn how to plan and conduct a vulnerability assessment.

HSEMD will host two CARVER training sessions. The first training will be held May 27-29 at the State Emergency Operations Center in Johnston. The second training will take place June 1-3 at the Cerro Gordo Emergency Operations Center in Mason City. Travel and lodging are the responsibility of the participant. Interested parties can register via the HSEMD training Web site, <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar>. Questions should be directed to **Curt Sullivan** at Curt.Sullivan@iowa.gov or **Whitney Baethke** at Whitney.Baethke@iowa.gov.

Joint Field Office Becomes Iowa Recovery Center

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staff at something called an Iowa Recovery Center. There are about 60 full-time FEMA positions that will be filled and will remain in the state to help over the next two years. The site

will remain the same, in offices just west of I-80 on Douglas Ave.

This transition is scheduled for the end of May but will depend on the speed of the hiring process. □