



SECURE & PREPARED

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State/FEMA Assistance Reaches \$1 Billion

One year after the devastating tornadoes and floods struck the state, joint State and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) assistance approved for residents and governments in Iowa has reached \$1 billion.

FEMA Housing Assistance has approved 23,280 households in Iowa for \$121.8 million. Housing Assistance provides rental assistance and grants to make an owner-occupied structure livable.

The State Other Needs Assistance program has approved 8,514 households for \$16.3 million, providing grants for disaster-related funeral, dental and medical expenses.

The Small Business Administration has approved disaster loans totaling
Continued on Page 3...



The photo above from Parkersburg shows the recovery process in action as a home is rebuilt adjacent to debris that still covers the ground. Photo by FEMA.

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!

CERT Symposium Announced

There will be a statewide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) symposium held Saturday, Aug. 29 through Sunday, Aug. 30 at North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City.

Those who should consider attending: county emergency management coordinators, key CERT participants, volunteers involved with CERT, those who want to start a CERT program or who want more information. Cost of the two-day workshop is only \$10.

Specific times, locations and an agenda will be posted closer to the symposium date. Saturday will include a general session and several break-out sessions. Sunday will include a "rodeo" to show different types and capabilities of CERT equipment.

For more information about the event, contact **Blake DeRouchey** at **515.323.4232** or blake.derouchey@iowa.gov, or **Steve O'Neil** at **641.421.3665** or soneil@co.cerro-gordo.ia.us. Ω

HSEMD Grant Update

Changes in EMPG Procedure Will Speed Reimbursement

Tricia Boggs has been designated as HSEMD’s Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) pass-through program officer. Tricia will now be responsible for day-to-day operations and interaction with sub-grantees (county emergency management coordinators).

Homeland Security Grant Manager Lynda Wessel will retain state-side operations along with policy and process development for the EMPG program. These changes will help speed the reimbursement process and ensure that any EMPG submissions get to the correct project officer.

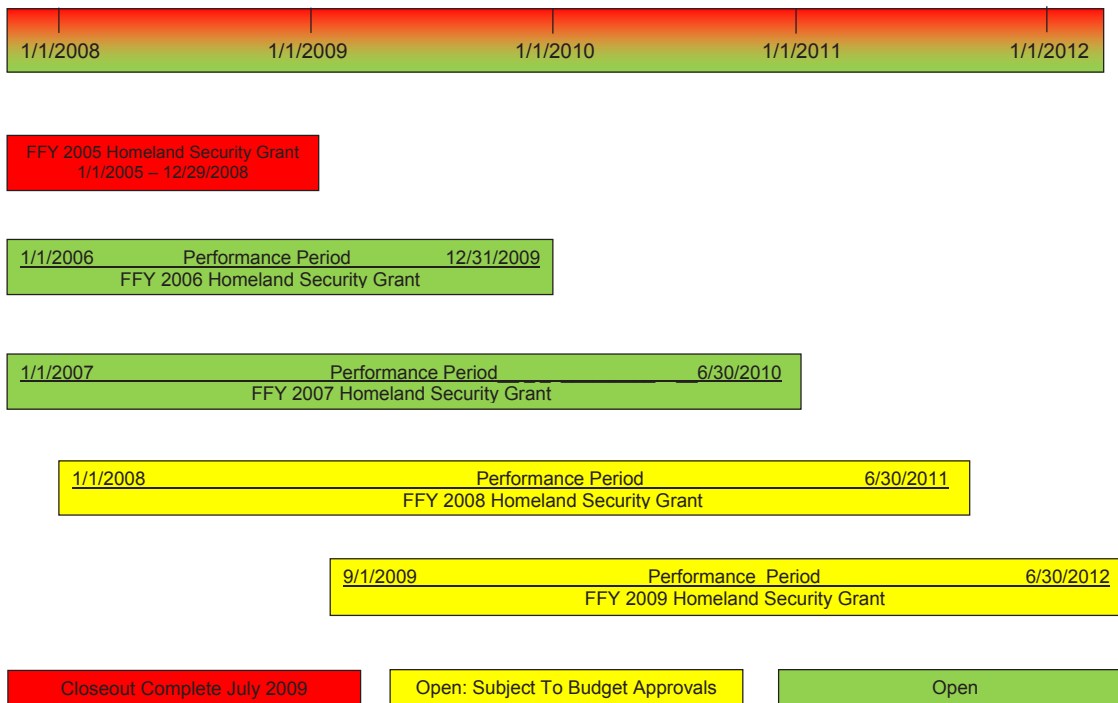
All EMPG submissions, both electronic and hard copy, should be sent to Tricia at tricia.boggs@iowa.gov or Iowa HSEMD, 7105 NW 70th Ave., Camp Dodge W4, Johnston, IA 50131-1824. All EMPG EMA/pass-through related calls should also go through Tricia at **515-725-3218**. Ω

Homeland Security Grant Program Snapshot

Below is a snapshot of Iowa’s Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) from FFY 2005 to 2009. The graphic includes the performance period and status of each grant. Ω

Homeland Security Grant Program

Grants Status FFY 2005 – 2009 (As of June 3, 2009)



Assistance Reaches \$1 Billion

...Continued from Page 1

\$264.6 million for homeowners, renters, businesses and private, non-profit organizations to repair or replace disaster-damaged property or to meet working capital needs to businesses and non-profits caused by the disaster.

The State/FEMA Public Assistance Program has obligated \$590 million for reimbursements of government-related eligible expenses for emergency response measures, debris removal and repair or restoration of disaster-damaged public infrastructure. Certain non-profits providing essential services also may be eligible for reimbursements under this program.

These assistance totals do not include additional state funds or other sources of federal dollars. Ω

Training News and Notes

Train the Trainer

A CERT train-the-trainer course will be offered at Camp Dodge on July 27-28. Sign up for the course at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click the “Training” link on the home page.

Training Survey Results

In late May, a survey was distributed to Iowa county emergency management coordinators to determine which courses they would like to see offered in the state. Each coordinator was allowed to vote for five of 18 courses. Thirty-one coordinators responded

to the survey. Because of the feedback that was received, four to six of the courses out of the top 10 will be offered over the next 18 months. Results of the survey are shown in the table below.

In addition, four of the courses on the list are scheduled for revision by FEMA:

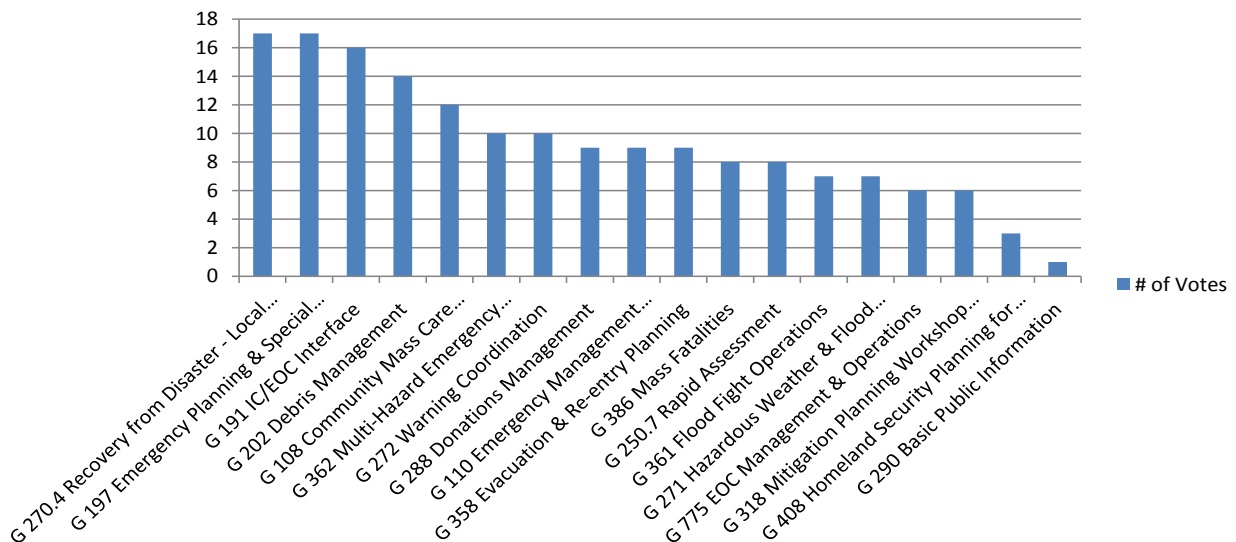
- **G 270.4** Recovery from Disaster – Local Government Role
- **G 197** Emergency Planning & Special Needs Population
- **G 288** Donations Management

- **G 110** Emergency Management Operations for Local Governments

Iowa HSEMD is currently in negotiations with FEMA to pilot the revamped courses in Iowa. That decision is expected to be made within the next few weeks.

To register for a course, go to www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click the “Training” link on the home page. Click on the specific course name for more details, including the length of the course. Ω

Course Survey: Number of Votes Per Course



New Fire Station Construction Grants Available Soon

As many of you are aware, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (a.k.a. "Stimulus Package", or Public Law 111-5) provided the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with \$510 million dollars in grant funds for the following programs:

- \$150M for the Port Security Grant Program;
- \$150M for the Transit Security Grant Program; and
- \$210M for Fire Station Construction.

The Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) of FEMA, which includes the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Office, has been working closely with a number of stakeholders over the last six weeks to solicit input on how these programs should look. A draft guidance has been developed and is currently going through leadership review. At present, FEMA plans on announcing these three guidance packages very soon.

Keep checking the AFG Web site at www.firegrantsupport.com for information on when the Fire Station Construction application becomes available.

If you have any questions, contact **1.866.274.0960** or firegrants@dhs.gov. Ω

HSEMD Administrator Thanks Departing FEMA Staff



HSEMD Administrator David Miller, above left, thanked FEMA External Affairs Lead Russ Edmonston for the work he had done while serving at Iowa's Joint Field Office. Edmonston had served as the external affairs lead for FEMA's Iowa operation from June of 2008 until his departure in May of 2009. Miller also presented Edmonston with an HSEMD coin, noting his dedication to providing affected Iowans with accurate and timely information. Photo by FEMA.

More ESFs Distributed to Counties

HSEMD recently distributed to all counties three more pieces of the Emergency Response Plan conversion. Emergency Support Functions (ESF) 1 Transportation, 2 Communications, and 3 Public Works and Engineering, was distributed to county emergency management coordinators on May 29. Counties are being asked to utilize these the new ESFs as they update their emergency response plans.

For more information on the ESF conversion, see the May 7, 2009 edition of "Secure & Prepared." Ω

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A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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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

HSEMD Welcomes New Employees

Dan Schmitz has joined HSEMD as lead project officer for acquisitions in the Grants Bureau. In this position, Dan prepares and reviews applications for property acquisitions following last year's disaster. Dan has been a permanent employee with HSEMD since May 2009 and prior to that was a contract hire for the disaster beginning in July 2008.

Before beginning his employment with HSEMD, Dan was the training officer for Army ROTC at the University of Texas-Arlington. He enjoys traveling, working on his house and watching football when he's not working. Welcome Dan!



Dan Schmitz



Larry Kloth

Larry Kloth has joined the HSEMD Grants Bureau as the lead Public Assistance coordinator for Area 1, which is roughly the northern third of the state. In this position, Larry leads a seven-person team that re-

views FEMA-prepared project worksheets, correcting inaccuracies and resolving issues. He also assembles the final financial recommendations and narratives and prepares the closeout documents for submittal. He has been a permanent employee with HSEMD since May 2009 and prior to that was a contract hire for the disaster beginning in July 2008.

Larry had served as the director of public works for the City of DeWitt where he managed multiple city departments and administered contracts and budgets. Prior to that he worked in heavy construction, site management and planning.

Larry currently lives in DeWitt and has a farmstead and vacation/hunting properties in Wisconsin. He is married, has four grown children, and enjoys automotive mechanics and hunting. Welcome Larry! Ω