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January 13, 2022

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Awards Nearly \$105 Million in Healthy Homes Production Grants

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>), announced that it has awarded \$104.7 million to 60 nonprofit organizations and state and local government agencies located in 29 states to protect children and families from home health hazards.

The funds, provided through the Healthy Homes Production Grant program, will help grantees identify health and safety hazards in low-income families' homes. The grants will protect children and families with incomes at or below 80 percent of the area median income level by targeting significant lead and health hazards in over 7,400 low-income homes for which other resources are not available. In the coming weeks, grantees will begin setting up and implementing their programs and will make applications available for families who are interested and eligible. You can see a complete list of the grantees and the amounts they were awarded at the bottom of the press release.

The Healthy Homes Production Grant program, part of HUD's overall <u>Healthy Homes Initiative</u>, takes a comprehensive approach to addressing multiple childhood diseases and injuries in the home by focusing on housing-related hazards in a coordinated fashion, rather than addressing a single hazard at a time.

HUD Announces Assistance for Missouri Disaster Survivors

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced the implementation of federal disaster assistance to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the areas of Missouri affected by severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes on December 10, 2021.

A presidential <u>major disaster declaration</u> issued on January 11, 2022, allows HUD to offer assistance to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of damaged facilities in impacted counties. Effective immediately, the Department will:

- Grant a <u>90-day moratorium</u> on foreclosures of FHA-insured homes
- Make mortgage insurance available under <u>HUD's Section 203(h)</u> program
- Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation under <u>HUD's</u> <u>Section 203(k) program</u>
- Make <u>information on housing providers</u> and HUD programs available
- Provide flexibility to Community Planning and Development Grantees, which can apply for needed administrative flexibility in response to natural disasters. For more information on applying for a waiver or suspension of requirements, <u>contact</u> your local CPD program
- Provide flexibility to PHAs, which can apply for needed waivers and flexibilities for disaster relief and recovery. To find detailed information on applying for a waiver, click here for the latest Federal Register disaster relief notice. The Department also released Notice PIH 2021-34, which advises the public of HUD's expedited process for waivers and flexibilities from HUD regulatory and administrative requirements for various public housing and voucher programs.
- Ensure <u>HUD-approved housing counseling agencies</u> are ready to assist
- Assist with housing discrimination

Federal funding, provided by FEMA, is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures statewide. Click <u>here</u> for more information about disaster resources.



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