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## GENERAL NEWS

### HUD and FEMA Partner to Increase Disaster Housing Capabilities

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced a partnership between HUD and the Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)) where over an eight-month period, both agencies will provide technical assistance and guidance to officials and emergency managers from Kentucky, Michigan, and Missouri on maximizing planning and mitigating housing shortfalls when disasters strike.

The partnership was formed after a summit held in November launched the Pre-Disaster Housing Initiative, which helps states develop plans to boost their post-disaster housing capabilities. The states of Kentucky, Michigan, and Missouri were selected because they provide a wide cross section of perspectives on the challenges of planning and executing post-disaster housing missions. Over the next few months, each state will set their priorities and expected outcomes, and engage with community partners to develop a disaster housing strategy that can be put into action when needed. HUD and FEMA's efforts will not only help build local capacity and adopt a proactive approach to housing recovery, but also address potential housing issues before disasters happen to aid in effective recovery when they do.

In 2023, HUD and FEMA concluded efforts with a first cohort of a joint housing initiative that focused on the importance of identifying and addressing housing recovery challenges in a non-disaster environment. The states participating in this first cohort—Louisiana, Montana, New Jersey, and Washington—encouraged HUD and FEMA to create a second round of the initiative and provide guidance to the new states. Further information can be found in the [press release](#).



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