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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces \$138 Million for 2023 Disaster Recovery

In a <u>press release</u> last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced the allocation of \$138 million in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (<u>CDBG-DR</u>) funds to provide additional help to communities in three states recovering from 2023 disasters.

The \$138 million in funding will help California, Alabama, and Georgia recover from severe thunderstorms and historic levels of rain and snow that flooded roads and homes earlier this year. According to HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge, "the CDBG-DR funds will provide critical assistance to rehabilitate impacted homes and improve infrastructure in the areas that need it the most without placing the sole burden of funding costly projects on state and local entities."

Three presidential major disaster declarations were issued in January 2023 announcing federal disaster assistance to <u>California</u>, <u>Alabama</u>, and <u>Georgia</u> to supplement state, Tribal, and local recovery efforts in the affected areas.

PD&R Publishes "Worst Case Housing Needs 2023" Executive Summary

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (<u>PD&R</u>) has published an <u>executive</u> <u>summary</u> highlighting the findings of the forthcoming "Worst Case Housing Needs: 2023 Report to Congress." As noted in the executive summary:

The Worst Case Housing Needs: 2023 Report to Congress primarily draws on data from the 2021 American Housing Survey (AHS). The report finds that, since 2019, worst case housing needs increased across demographic groups, household types, and regions throughout the United States. The unmet need for decent, safe, and affordable rental housing continued to outpace income growth and the ability of federal, state, and local governments to supply housing assistance and facilitate affordable housing production. As a result, the number of very low-income families with worst case housing needs in 2021 exceeded previous record levels resulting from the Great Recession of 2007–2009. The report captures housing needs in mid-2021, about a year and a half after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated brief recession early in 2020.

You'll find a link to the executive summary on this page at PD&R's website.

HUD Posts PH and HCV Resources

On the <u>HUD Exchange News webpage</u>, HUD <u>announced</u> that the following resources are available on the <u>HUD Exchange website</u> to support PHAs and their partners in developing and administering their public housing and voucher programs:

- <u>Disaster Preparedness Toolkit</u>: This toolkit is a user-friendly guide to help PHAs prepare for and respond to disasters. It is intended to ensure that PHAs can maintain operations and obligations to the families they serve as disasters occur more frequently.
- <u>Choice Neighborhoods Newsletters</u>: These monthly newsletters contain funding opportunities, relevant information and resources, and grantee best practice case studies.



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