



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



# Public Communications Corner: Addressing Disaster Recovery Timelines

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2021 CDBG-DR & CDBG-MIT Virtual  
Training Series

# Introduction

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# Overview



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# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Be at the table early and often:
  - Make connections across State Government – particularly with the state agency/office responsible for FEMA programs.
  - Participate in pre-disaster planning (exercising the State’s Recovery Support Functions).
  - Know the Disaster Response and Recovery programs and contacts.
  - Have a role in any special task force for disaster response.



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- When A Disaster Event Occurs:
  - Stay up-to-date on impact and damage.
  - If possible – participate at your state’s Emergency Operations Center, review daily briefings, or have at least one person with authorization to view the situation reports or portal.
  - Participate in joint-agency meetings, particularly to learn what FEMA programs are being requested and deployed.
  - CDBG funds may be allocated months or even years after the event - If you wait until CDBG-DR is allocated, you will not be up-to-speed on response and recovery efforts.



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Have a pulse on the Unmet Need
  - Know what disaster impacted survivors need:
    - Conduct a survey
    - Participate in outreach efforts
  - Know if other Federal or State Programs are meeting those needs.
  - Know the limitations of current programs and needs that will persist.



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Find the Right Fit for the Funds:
  - Fit the funding source with its best and highest use.
  - Consider all funding sources when designing your CDBG-DR programs.
  - Consider Federal Regulations limitations when generating programs (labor standards, environmental reviews, MID areas, LMI requirements, grant terms, etc.).



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Stay in touch with your State Partners
  - Talk to your state counterparts about the FEMA programs and their state and local match needs.
  - Get buy-in/concurrence from Leadership
    - Present program concepts to leadership
    - Indicate where choices can be made and where regulation dictates (floodplain, admin caps, income limits, etc.).
    - Be able to defend/justify why one funding source is a better fit than another.

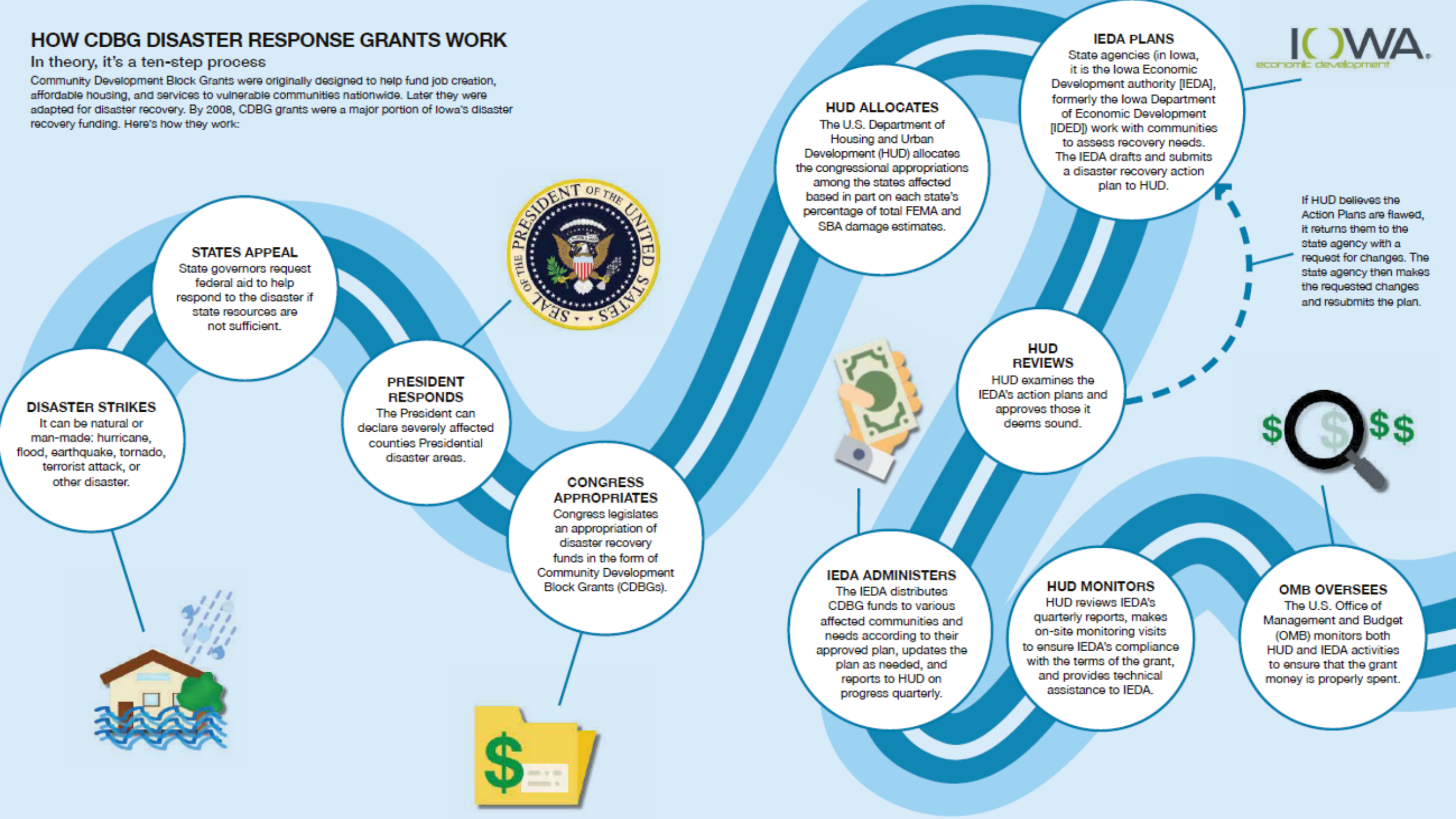




# HOW CDBG DISASTER RESPONSE GRANTS WORK

In theory, it's a ten-step process

Community Development Block Grants were originally designed to help fund job creation, affordable housing, and services to vulnerable communities nationwide. Later they were adapted for disaster recovery. By 2008, CDBG grants were a major portion of Iowa's disaster recovery funding. Here's how they work:



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Timing Reality
  - Disaster Event – March 2019
  - Congress Acts – June 2019 (this was very quick)
  - HUD allocated CDBG-DR – January 2020
  - Certifications of Financial Controls & Implementation Plan and Capacity Assessment due 60 days from notice date (March 2020)
  - Action Plan due 120 days from notice date (May 2020)
  - HUD Reviewed and Approved Action Plan (August 2020)
  - HUD Reviewed and Approved Certifications (November 2020)
  - HUD issued Grant Agreement December 2020



# Disaster Recovery Timelines

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- Getting up and running
  - Building Applications
  - Building Review and Approval processes
  - Building Contracts and Grant components
  - Making Awards
  - Managing Awards
  - Quarterly Reporting to HUD
  - Monitoring Awards
  - Closing Activities
  - Closing the Grant with HUD



# Highlights

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Participate  
early

Know the  
available  
resources &  
steps

Fit the right  
programs with  
the right needs



# Q & A



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# Resources



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# Resources

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- HUD Exchange CDBG-DR page:
  - <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dr/>
- HUD Exchange CDBG-MIT page:
  - <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-mit/>
- Iowa CDBG-DR site:
  - <https://www.iowaeda.com/disaster-recovery/>



THANK  
YOU

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