FLOODS! TORNADOES! EARTHQUAKES! COMMUNITY ACTION IS READY!?

Transforming Communities, Changing Lives
Role of Community Action?

- Referral source
- Active on Long Term Recovery Group
- Administer programs specific to disaster recovery
Iowa Community Action Network

2007 – State Individual Assistance Grant Program began

2010 – Presidential Declaration for Disaster Case Management (services contracted through Community Action)

2013 – Community Action Agencies Administer State Individual Assistance Grant Program

2015 – Iowa Disaster Case Management (IDCM) Legislation introduced

2016 – IDCM Legislation Signed

November 2016 – IDCM activated for the first time
Key Partners: Local

• Food
• Clothing
• Shelter
• Communication
• Child care
• Clean-up
• Medical treatment
• Personal hygiene kits

• Home clean-up kits
• Donations management
• Case management

Communication
Collaboration
Coordination
Cooperation
Key Partners: County

Emphasis:
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Coordination
- Cooperation
Key Partners: State

- Community Action Partnership
- IOWA LEGAL AID
- WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

Communication, Collaboration, Coordination, Cooperation
Key Partners: National/Federal

- American Red Cross
- The Salvation Army
- Samaritan's Purse
- Convoy of Hope
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- USDA

Communication
Collaboration
Coordination
Cooperation
Blackout Bingo

**Directions:**

Move around the room and have **someone different sign each box**.

The person signing the box must be able to tell you **what the acronym means**.

Once all boxes have a signature shout **Bingo**!

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Iowa Strategies for Administering Statewide Disaster Assistance Programs

- Managed by Iowa Community Action Association (ICAA) (State has one contract; ICAA has 17)
- Association designed standardized training; program materials; and reporting forms
- Statewide coverage – equitable access for all citizens
- Capacity of network (share staff, accessibility, trusted relationships)
- Respond with minimal delay
Iowa Community Action Agencies
Activation: Iowa Disaster Case Management (IDCM) & Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program (IIAGP)

1. Local Emergency Management Coordinator calls State Homeland Security to request Individual Assistance (and Disaster Case Management)
2. Homeland contacts Governors office if assistance is going to be requested
3. Governor decides to release proclamation or denies request
4. Contracted Entity (ICAA) is notified through DHS or the Governor’s proclamation (IIAGP runs for 120 days from declaration; IDCM provided for 180 days)
5. Contracted Entity notifies all subcontractors (CAAs) to begin – commence no later than the first business day following the declaration
6. DHS requests the release of funds for program from their Executive Council
Basics: Iowa Disaster Case Management (IDCM) & Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program (IIAGP)

**IDCM**
- No income eligibility requirements
- Disaster Case Manager is primary point of contact
- Client plays active/lead role in recovery
- Time-limited – address serious needs essential to prevent, mitigate, or overcome a disaster-related hardship, injury, or adverse condition
- Create Disaster Recovery Plan, providing guidance, advice, and referral in obtaining a service/resource

**IIAGP**
Eligibility – at or below 200% of federal poverty level
- Financial assistance available for Food, Home Repair, Personal Property and Temporary Housing
- Qualifying household may receive up to $5,000
Core Functions of Disaster Case Management

1. Engagement/Screening – establishing a mutual, trusting relationship
2. Intake & Assessment – determining needs, strengths, and resources
3. Recovery Planning – identifying goals, action steps, time table
4. Action & Advocacy – engaging in recovery tasks; advocacy by disaster case manager on behalf of client to secure services
5. Monitoring – ongoing review of disaster recovery plan and evaluation of progress
6. Closure - service completion
Imagine... It's March 6, 2017. It is not yet 10:00 pm, and outside the weather has turned to rain and strong winds. Suddenly, your windows blow in, and you scramble to seek shelter in the bathroom. You look up as the roof is lifted off of the home, and you crawl to the basement door... The duplex Charles had rented for the past 11 years is now a pile of fallen walls and cinder blocks.

Charles is fortunate to live in a caring community. People who heard his story came forward with donated clothing, household items, and gift cards.
Community Response to Disaster

Charles stayed with a relative while working to put his life back together. The Red Cross provided a voucher to use to replace items like sheets and dishes. Community Action of Eastern Iowa stepped in to provide disaster case management services and assistance through the Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance Grant Program (IIAGP). The Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine also provided assistance by helping Charles rent a new apartment.

Charles worked with his Community Action case manager to set goals and access services, such as applying for a Section 8 housing voucher, making a list of personal items needed, and marking off items he had received from community donations.
Community Response to Disaster

Charles lost his eyeglasses during the storm. His family found the glasses in the rubble, but the frames were bent. Working with his case manager, Charles was connected with the free eye clinic at Muscatine Center for Social Action. He was seen for an eye appointment, and was able to get his frames straightened at no cost.

While recovering from a disaster can extend for weeks, Charles was rehoused 24 days after the tornado. His experience during the storm was terrifying. The community's response is heartwarming.
Community Action Is Ready!
Start by contacting...

- Your FEMA Regional Office
- Your State VOAD
- Your County Emergency Management Coordinator(s)
- Any Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)/Long Term Recovery Groups

For Additional Information Contact:
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