

NLIHC's HoUSed Campaign for Long-Term Housing Solutions: DHR Edition

August 12, 2024

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- Andreanecia Morris, HousingNOLA

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- Noah Patton & Meghan Mertyrus, NLIHC

Welcome & Updates



Sarah Saadian

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Introduction to the DHR

Noah Patton

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Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition (DHRC)



- A group of over 900 local, state, and national organizations working to ensure that all disaster survivors receive the assistance they need to fully recover.
- We provide
 - Federal Advocacy
 - Info Sharing
 - Technical Assistance
 - Advocacy Support

Get Involved!



- Become a [DHRC Member](#) and see of list of [Current DHRC Members](#)
- Join a DHRC Working Group under the ["DHRC Working Groups"](#) tab.
- [Stay updated!](#)
- Learn more about the DHRC and its Policy Priorities under the ["DHRC Policy Priorities"](#) tab.
- Access DHRC Advocacy Materials under the ["DHRC Advocacy Materials"](#) tab above.

Short-Term Disaster Recovery & FEMA



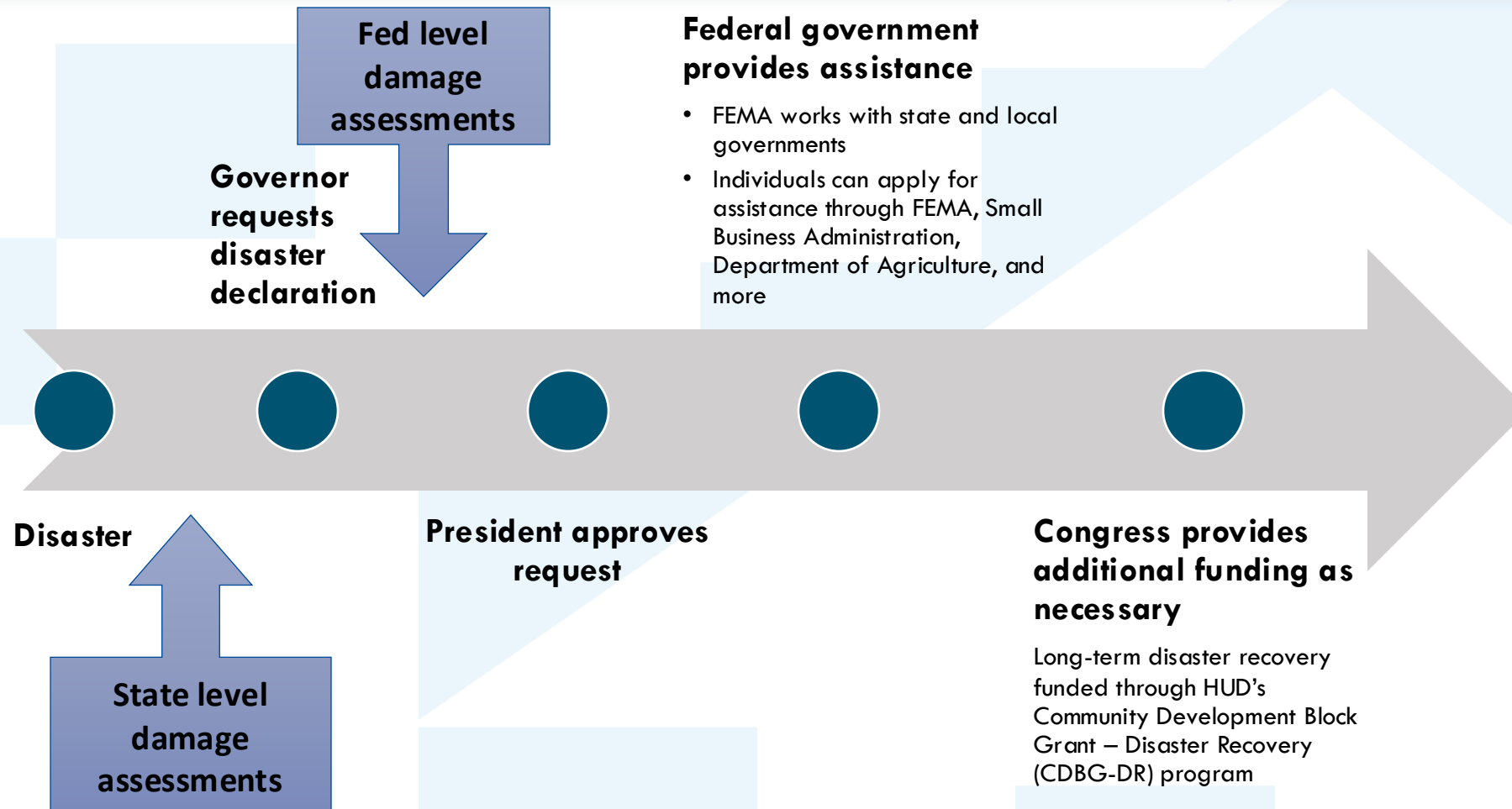
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Federal Response to Disasters



FEMA Assistance Provides Short-Term Recovery Aid



Individual Assistance

Individuals and Households Program Assistance

Mass
Care/Emergency
Assistance

Displacement
Assistance (?)

Serious Needs
Assistance

Housing Assistance

Other Needs Assistance

Emergency
Sheltering and
Food, etc...

Cash assistance
for
displacement
needs

\$750 for
emergency
needs

Financial: Rental
Assistance, Home
Repair
Assistance

Direct:
Temporary
Housing Units,
Direct Lease

Assistance for
medical costs,
child care, etc.

Critical Needs
Assistance

FEMA Eligibility for People Experiencing Homelessness

Homeless	• “FEMA does not provide Housing Assistance (Rental Assistance, direct assistance, Home Repair Assistance, or Home Replacement Assistance) to applicants experiencing homelessness because the need for housing was not caused by the disaster.” – FEMA IAPPG • “Applicants experiencing homelessness pre-disaster may be eligible for certain types of ONA (Transportation Assistance, Medical & Dental Assistance, Funeral Assistance, & Child Care Assistance).” – FEMA IAPPG
“Resident of Non-Traditional Housing” (e.g. tents, huts, lean-tos)	• If verified by a credible source and can verify occupancy – can get initial rental assistance (extremely high bar) • If not verified, only eligible for ONA

Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP)



- This is a short-term recovery program administered by FEMA
- Provides low-income, displaced families with safe, decent, and affordable rental homes while they rebuild their lives and get back on their feet.
- All families receiving DHAP rental assistance are provided wrap-around case management services to help them find permanent housing solutions, secure employment, and connect to public benefits.
- DHAP is designed to help those low income households that face significant barriers accessing FEMA's short-term recovery aid.

Impact of Disasters on Housing Stability



NATIONAL LOW INCOME
HOUSING COALITION

Whitney Bailey

Disaster Response Attorney

AppalReD Legal Aid

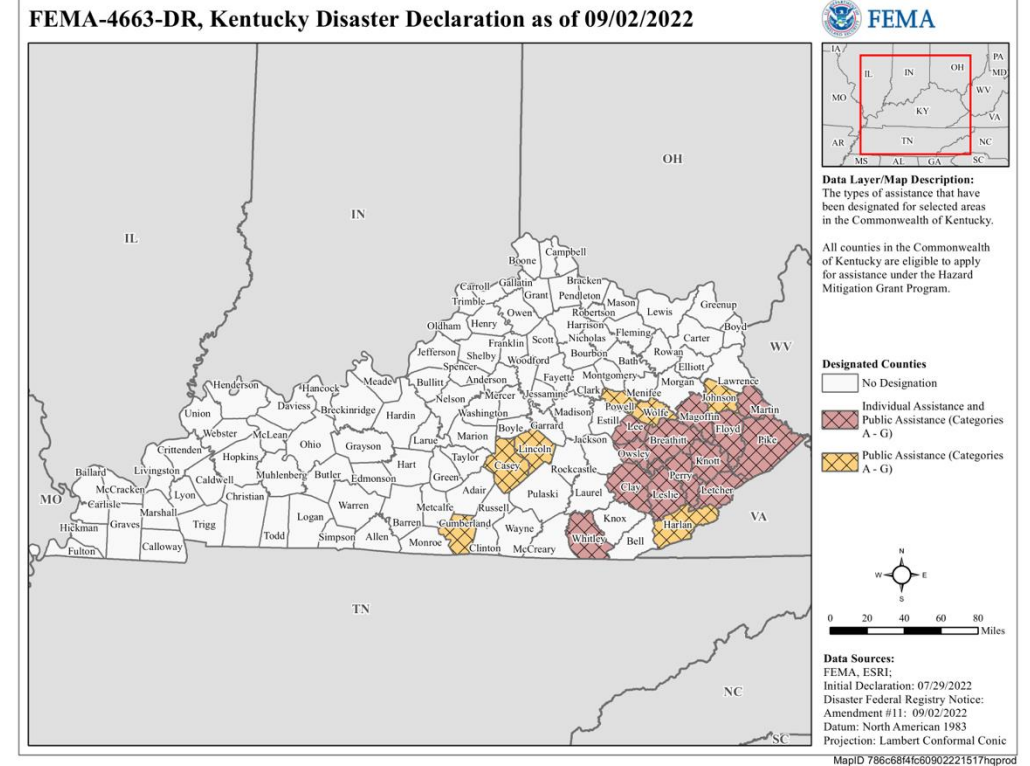
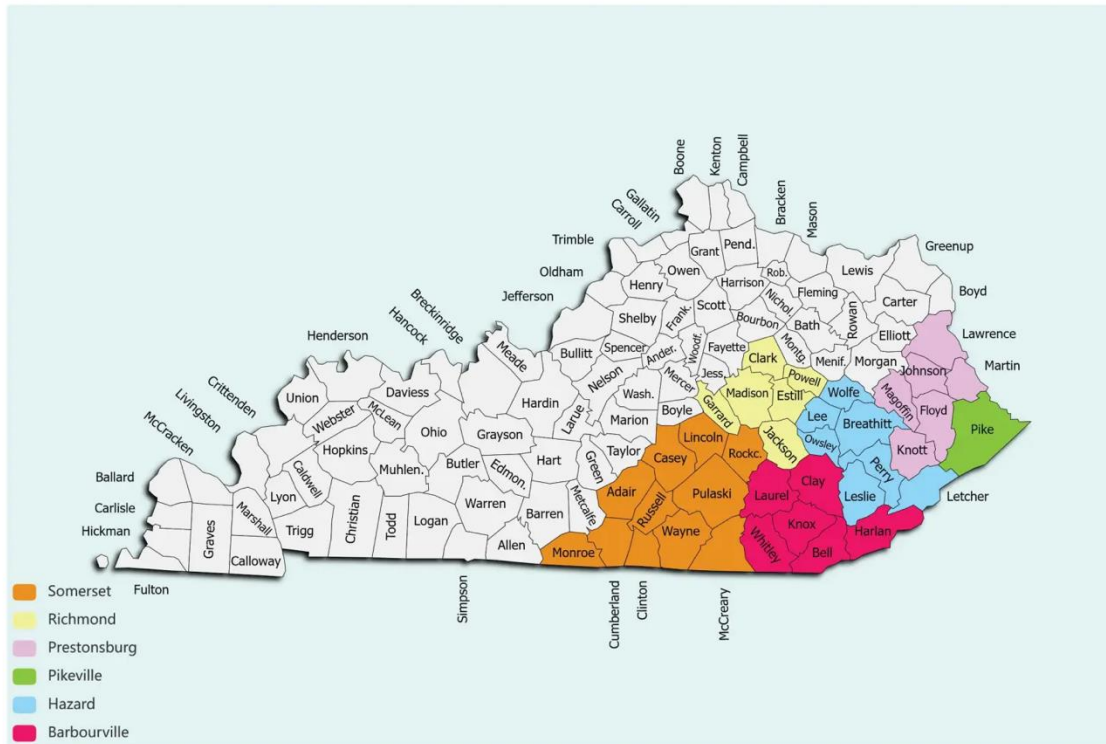
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Whitney Bailey
AppalReD Legal Aid



AppalReD Legal Aid Service Area and July 2022 Designated Counties



FEMA

- FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency
- The Stafford Act = Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act

<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/stafford-act>



FEMA's Period of Assistance

Federal assistance to individuals and households.
44 CFR 206.110(e)

Period of assistance. FEMA may provide assistance under this subpart for a period not to exceed 18 months from the date of declaration. The Assistant Administrator for the Recovery Directorate may extend the period of assistance if he/she determines that due to extraordinary circumstances an extension would be in the public interest.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-44/chapter-I/subchapter-D/part-206/subpart-D/section-206.110>





FEMA Appeals

- Appeal must be submitted within 60 days of the date on FEMA's eligibility determination letter.
- Provide explanation for late appeal letter.
- FEMA can take up to 90 days to make a decision

<https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-answers-appeals-process-qa>





FEMA Appeal Deadline: January 29, 2024

FEMA has reviewed your appeal for disaster assistance. FEMA Assistance is not a substitute for insurance and cannot cover all losses caused by a disaster; it is intended to help with emergency disaster recovery needs. This letter explains why you are not eligible for FEMA Assistance.

ASSISTANCE NOT APPROVED

You are **not eligible** for the following assistance because:

Ineligible – Additional Repair Assistance (INO – Appeal)

FEMA has determined you are not eligible for Home Repair Personal Property because you have received all eligible assistance for this type of loss.

IOR PP - Other Reason

Disaster is closed and no supporting documentation was submitted (estimate).



FEMA's hidden deadline for Kentucky flood survivors

Kentucky Public Radio | By [Justin Hicks](#)

Published April 24, 2024 at 12:18 PM EDT



<https://www.lpm.org/news/2024-04-24/femas-hidden-deadline-for-kentucky-flood-survivors>

Kentucky family gets FEMA aid after public radio investigation, but many more are still waiting

Kentucky Public Radio | By [Justin Hicks](#)

Published June 5, 2024 at 2:00 PM EDT



Justin Hicks / KPR

<https://www.lpm.org/news/2024-06-05/kentucky-family-gets-fema-aid-after-public-radio-investigation-but-many-more-are-still-waiting>



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Long-Term Disaster Recovery & HUD



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CDBG-DR Program



- The only long-term recovery funding available from the federal government
- FEMA assistance must end at 18 months after the day of the disaster by law

HUD Assistance Provides Long-Term Aid



CDBG-DR Requirements

- MUST address a Presidentially-declared disaster impact
- MUST be a CDBG eligible activity
- MUST meet a CDBG national objective
- 70% of total allocation MUST benefit low and moderate income households

Examples

- *Housing*
 - New construction
 - Rehab/reconstruction
 - Rental assistance
- *Infrastructure*
 - Road and bridge repair
 - Repair of water & wastewater Facilities
- *Economic Development*
 - Job training
 - Business loans
 - Commercial district improvement

CDBG-DR Program



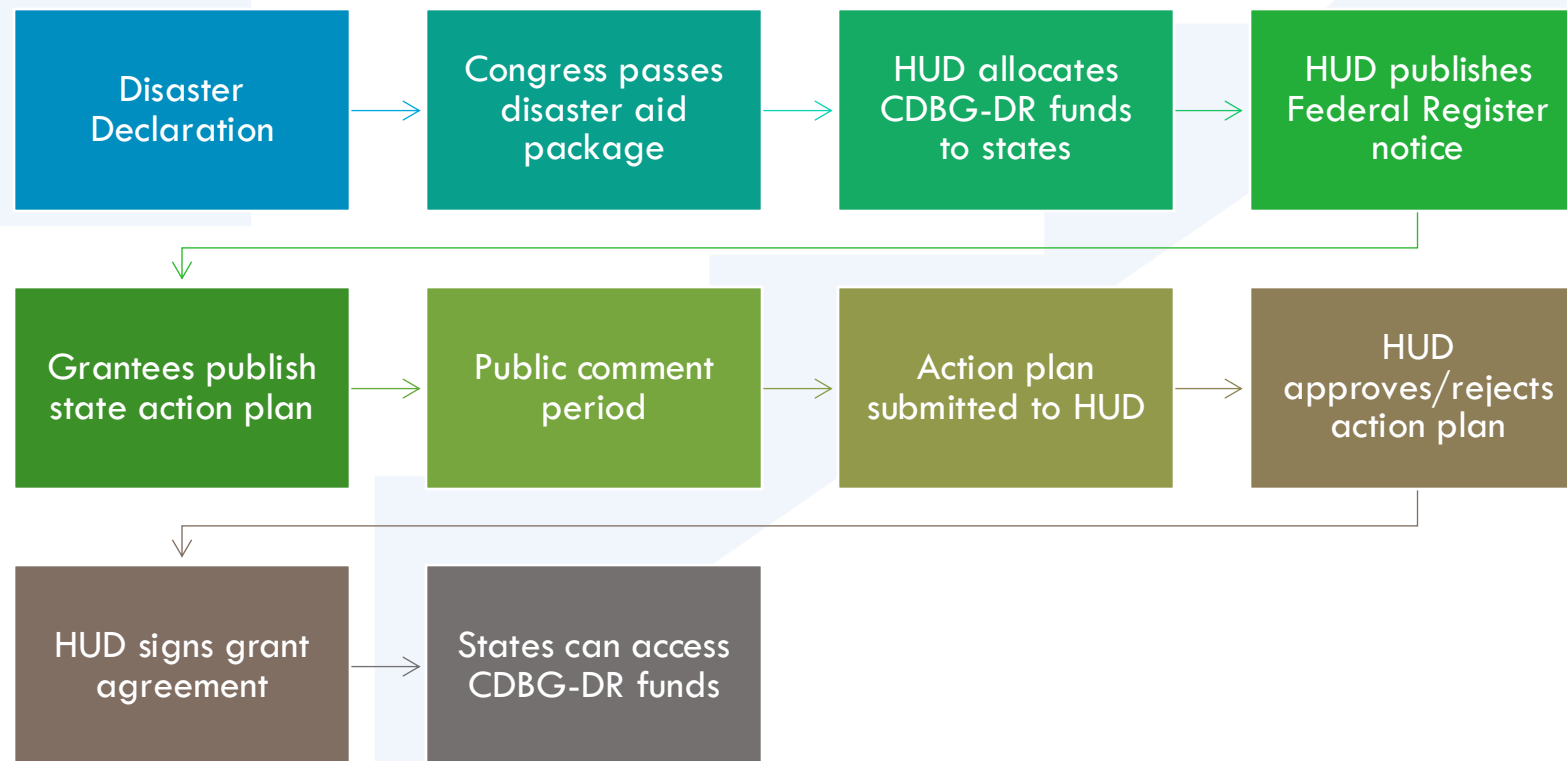
- A recovery is far from done after 18 months
- The CDBG-DR program isn't permanent
- We are left with inconsistent, haphazard, and non-transparent disaster aid supplementals

CDBG-DR Fails Those Who Need It Most



1. Lengthy process slows down recovery time
2. Requirements vary each time
3. Lack of oversight of grantees
4. Not enough money
5. Capacity issues for smaller grantees

CDBG-DR Timeline



Equity During Long-Term Recovery



- Slow pace of recovery and replacement of housing stock turns temporary displacement into permanent displacement
- Lack of sufficient funds for long term recovery increases already existing inequity
- While delays and insufficient aid hurt everyone, they hit Black, Latino, and Indigenous people, low-income communities, disabled folks, and immigrants with the fewest resources to rebuild the hardest

Grassroots Disaster Recovery Efforts



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Policy Solutions & Next Steps



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Authorize CDBG-DR Program: Reforming Disaster Recovery Act



Permanently authorizes the CDBG-DR program

Targets resources to those with greatest need

Balances recovery funding between infrastructure and housing

Protects civil rights and fair housing

Encourages mitigation and resiliency

Prioritizes data transparency and oversight

Authorize CDBG-DR Program: Reforming Disaster Recovery Act



Bipartisan support:

- S. 1686 Sponsors: Senators Schatz (D-HI), Collins (R-ME), Wicker (R-MS), Young (R-IN), Cassidy (R-LA), Wyden (D-OR), Van Hollen (D-MD), Tillis (R-NC), Tester (D-MT), Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Lujan (D-NM), Booker (D-NJ), Padilla (D-CA), Murkowski (R-AK), Collins (R-ME), Cortez Masto (D-NV), Ricketts (R-NE)
- H.R. 5940 Sponsors: Representatives Al Green (D-TX), Case (D-HI), Tlaib (D-MI), Moskowitz (D-FL), Bonamici (D-OR), Mullin (D-CA)

Support the RDRA



Sign onto our national support letter!
Tell your friends!



July 1, 2024

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
Chairman
United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Scott
Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

To Chairman Brown and Ranking Member Scott:

We – the National Low Income Housing Coalition, National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, Enterprise Community Partners, and the 137 additional national, state, and local organizations listed below – urge you to **include in any bipartisan housing package that advances in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee the “Reforming Disaster Recovery Act” (S.1686)**, as introduced by Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Patty Murray (D-WA), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Roger Wicker (R-MS), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Jon Tester (D-MT), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Todd Young (R-IN), Cory Booker (D-NJ), and Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Representative Al Green (D-TX). This bipartisan legislation will make

Oppose Attacks on RDRA



Call the House Transportation and
Infrastructure Committee!

Tell your friends!

Reach Out :)

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