Charles M. Palmer Director

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## More than \$1.2 million in grants help lowans following major storms

The Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance Grant Program, administered by the Iowa Department of Human Services, provided more than \$1.2 million to Iowans in need following major storms in State Fiscal Year 2014.

Grants up to \$5,000 were made available for expenses related to actual storm recovery such as home or car repairs, replacement of clothing or food, and for the expense of temporary housing.

The grant is launched with a governor's declaration and at the request of local officials. It provides reimbursements for damage incurred by families whose income is at or below twice the federal poverty level. http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/14poverty.cfm The Executive Council of lowa approves the funding, and local community action programs assist families through the application process.

In SFY14, more than 275 families from about three dozen lowa counties were eligible for the program following major storms and flooding last June.

"The grants help low-income lowans access more resources to get their household back on track following a weather disaster," said Laverne Armstrong, who administers the program for DHS. "It can make a big difference for families who may not otherwise be able to afford repairs or replace items destroyed by a storm."

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