

**2002**  
*Proposed*  
**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE**  
**REPORT**

*Nebraska*  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



*for the*  
**Nebraska**  
**Housing and Community Development Programs**  
**Consolidated Plan**

Including **Federal Programs:**  
Non-entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)  
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)  
Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)  
and the **State Programs:**  
Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF)  
Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF)

**July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003**

Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Community and Rural Development Division

# Nebraska Department of Economic Development

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## Action Plan Acronym List

Acronym	Full Name
<b>AAP</b>	<b>Annual Action Plan</b>
<b>AHP</b>	<b>Affordable Housing Program</b>
<b>AIDS</b>	<b>Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome</b>
<b>ANCHoR</b>	<b>Automated National Client-specific Homeless services Recording</b>
<b>APR</b>	<b>Annual Performance Report</b>
<b>CDBG</b>	<b>Community Development Block Grant</b>
<b>CFR</b>	<b>Code of Federal Regulation</b>
<b>CHAS</b>	<b>Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy</b>
<b>CHDO</b>	<b>Community Housing Development Organization</b>
<b>CNF</b>	<b>Community Need Factors</b>
<b>CR</b>	<b>Comprehensive Revitalization</b>
<b>CRD</b>	<b>Community and Rural Development</b>
<b>DED</b>	<b>Nebraska Department of Economic Development</b>
<b>DEQ</b>	<b>Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality</b>
<b>HHS</b>	<b>Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services</b>
<b>EPA</b>	<b>Environmental Policy Act</b>
<b>ESG</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter Grant</b>
<b>ESGP</b>	<b>Emergency Shelter Grant Program</b>
<b>FEMA</b>	<b>Federal Emergency Management Agency</b>
<b>FIC</b>	<b>Family Investment Centers</b>
<b>FNMA</b>	<b>Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae)</b>
<b>GNMA</b>	<b>Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae)</b>
<b>HCDCC</b>	<b>Holistic Community Development Consulting Committee</b>
<b>HIV</b>	<b>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</b>
<b>HOPE</b>	<b>Home Ownership for People Everywhere</b>
<b>HOPWA</b>	<b>Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS</b>
<b>HSATF</b>	<b>Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund</b>
<b>HUBS</b>	<b>Historically Underutilized Businesses</b>
<b>HUD</b>	<b>U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</b>
<b>LMI</b>	<b>Low to Moderate Income Persons</b>
<b>NAC</b>	<b>Nebraska Association of CHDOs</b>
<b>NAHC</b>	<b>Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission</b>
<b>NAHRO</b>	<b>Nebraska Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials</b>
<b>NAHTF</b>	<b>Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund</b>
<b>NCHH</b>	<b>Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness</b>
<b>NCIP</b>	<b>Nebraska Community Improvement Program</b>
<b>NHAP</b>	<b>Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program</b>
<b>NHHSS</b>	<b>Nebraska Health and Human Services System</b>
<b>NICH</b>	<b>Nebraska Interagency Council on Homelessness</b>
<b>NRC</b>	<b>Nebraska Natural Resources Commission</b>
<b>PHDEP</b>	<b>Public Housing Drug Elimination Program</b>
<b>PW</b>	<b>Public Works</b>
<b>RDC</b>	<b>Rural Development Commission</b>
<b>SRO</b>	<b>Single Room Occupancy Housing Program</b>
<b>TARP</b>	<b>Technical Assistance Review Team</b>
<b>TIF</b>	<b>Tax Increment Financing</b>
<b>TOP</b>	<b>Public Housing Tenant Opportunities Program</b>
<b>USDA - RD</b>	<b>U. S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development</b>
<b>WW</b>	<b>Water Wastewater</b>
<b>YSP</b>	<b>Youth Sport Program</b>

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# Section One: Introduction and Citizen Participation

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# Introduction

## Purpose

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) reports progress on the *Nebraska Community and Rural Development Consolidated Plan* (the *Consolidated Plan*), a five-year plan addressing the state's Community and Rural Development needs. The purpose of the CAPER is to:

1. **Show** the state's five-year priorities and strategies for housing, homelessness, non-housing community development and the community development delivery system;
2. **Summarize** the actions taken during the 2002 program year to meet the five-year strategies;
3. **Report** how funds received from these programs were used to meet the identified priorities;
4. **Describe** the state's method for distributing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG), Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF) funds, and Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF) funds. Activities funded from these programs must meet the priorities identified in the five-year *Consolidated Plan*;
5. **List** the resources that may be used by grantees and the state to further the five-year strategies;
6. **Report** actions taken by the state that are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), such as lead-based paint actions and removal of barriers to affordable housing; and
7. **Review** citizen comments about the APR and give a response from the Department of Economic Development (DED).

## Amount of Funds

This report summarizes the distribution of funds for two state programs and three federal programs for the 2002 program year. Funds received for these programs totaled over \$27 million:

- \$15,117,000 in CDBG funds
- \$5,318,000 in HOME funds
- \$526,000 in ESG funds
- \$1,510,000 in HSATF funds
- \$5,000,000 in NAHTF funds

The CAPER also describes program priorities, use of funds and any funds (1) remaining or recaptured from previous CDBG allocations, (2) reallocated by HUD to the state and (3) program income distributed by the state during the 2002 program year.

## **The 2002 CAPER**

The 2002 CAPER is the third of five annual performance reports. Each report describes the one-year actions and funding priorities used to carry out the five-year *Consolidated Plan*, a comprehensive planning document identifying the state's housing development, economic development and community development needs. As the lead state agency responsible for the five-year *Consolidated Plan*, DED must also complete the annual action plans and annual performance reports to receive federal funds for the HUD CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. Covering all areas of the state (except Omaha and Lincoln, which are required to submit and prepare their own Consolidated Plans), the *Consolidated Plan* establishes funding priorities for these programs, outlines strategies, and annually identifies a one-year action plan for program implementation and funding.

Specifically the purpose of this consolidated annual performance evaluation report is to demonstrate how activities undertaken during the 2002 program year address pertinent Strategic Plan strategies and priorities identified in the 2000 Consolidated Plan. Sections two, three and four of the CAPER give the three major priorities of the state and the strategies that were set in the Consolidated Plan. These sections go into more detail by stating the objectives and performance measurements that were set for each strategy for the 2002 program year. A progress report is given for each performance measurement, the progress reports summarize the activities that were taken during the 2002 program year so that citizens reviewing the report are able to assess the progress that has been made towards meeting the 5-year priorities and strategies that were established in the Consolidated Plan.

Strategies do not describe every activity to be undertaken by the state. Instead, the strategies provide direction in the form of a priority need with objectives, performance measures, and completion dates. Objectives serve as examples of the activities to be initiated during those five years. Strategies and objectives may be added, deleted, or modified in subsequent annual action plans.

## **Nebraska's Consolidated Planning Process**

In summary, Nebraska's Consolidated Planning Process serves the following functions:

- Provide a 5 year planning document for the State which builds on a comprehensive consultation and citizens participation process;
- Serve as an application for federal funds under HUD's formula grant programs;
- Provide a strategy for housing, homelessness, community and economic development;
- Develop an action plan that provides a basis for measuring and assessing performance; and
- Provide annual performance and evaluation reports.

The consolidated planning process is an opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context. The process brings local governments, community organizations, state and federal agencies, service providers, and citizens together to address the larger picture in which the programs operate. It also offers the state an opportunity to shape the various programs into an efficient continuum of service delivery.

Strategies and recommendations were developed with public input and consultation from advisory groups, local community leaders, concerned citizens, nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, the private sector and representatives of state and federal agencies.

HUD specifies a number of elements for a state Consolidated Plan including:

- an assessment of housing, homeless, community and economic development needs for the ensuing five-year period;
- an analysis of the state's housing market;
- a discussion of the state's priority needs, strategies, and objectives for housing and community development activities;
- an action plan that describes the state's method for distributing funds to carry out activities using funds that are expected to be received under formula allocations and other HUD assistance during the program year and;
- performance measures to assure that the delivery of these needed housing and community development products and services are provided.

# Citizen Participation

## Opportunities for Public Participation

Public participation with the 2002 Annual Performance Evaluation Report (APER) (including review by the advisory groups) is important to the state. Citizens and other interested parties are given access to information and records relating to the APER and programs it covers.

Copies of Annual Performance Evaluation Reports, Annual Action Plans, the *Consolidated Plan* and any other relevant information are all available by contacting anyone within the Department of Economic Development and also are on the Community and Rural Development Division's web-site at: <http://crd.neded.org/pubs.html>.

## Comment Period

A public comment period is open August 20, 2003 through September 4, 2003 for the 2002 Proposed APER.

## Public Notices and Press Coverage

- Public notices about the public comment period were placed in the Lincoln Journal Star, Scottsbluff Star-Herald, North Platte Telegraph, Norfolk Daily News, Kearney Daily Hub, Alliance Times-Herald, Ainsworth Star Journal, Chadron Record, Nebraska City New-Press and Grand Island Independent.
- A news release announcing the comment period was sent to media statewide.
- In order to increase the opportunities for public comment, the proposed 2001 APR was sent to 16 libraries throughout Nebraska: Alliance Public Library Library (**Alliance**), Auburn Memorial Library (**Auburn**), Garfield County Library (**Burwell**), Central City Public Library (**Central City**), Chadron Public Library (**Chadron**), Lexington Public Library (**Lexington**), Bennett Martin Library (**Lincoln**), McCook Public Library (**McCook**), Jensen Memorial Library (**Minden**), Goodall City Library (**Ogallala**), Omaha Public Library (**Omaha**), Scottsbluff Public Library (**Scottsbluff**), Sidney Public Library (**Sidney**), Thomas County Library (**Theftord**), Valentine Public Library (**Valentine**), and Wayne Public Library (**Wayne**).
- The APER is available on the Community and Rural Development Division web-site at: [crd.neded.org/pubs](http://crd.neded.org/pubs)

## Targeted Mailings

- Notices announcing the availability of the 2002 APER and soliciting comments were sent to official advisory groups, previous CDBG, ESG, and HOME grantees, Community Housing Development Organizations, Community Action Agencies, Development Districts, Nebraska Congressional Representatives, Nebraska State Senators, as well as other interested individuals and groups.
- The Proposed APER was mailed to members of the state's official advisory groups.

## Advisory Groups

Official advisory groups to the state on the 2002 APER are the CDBG Advisory Committee, Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness and the Nebraska Economic Development Commission.

## Criteria for Substantial Change

DED reserves the right to make non-substantive changes to the *Consolidated Plan* (including annual action plans and performance reports) without opening a public comment period. A change to the *Consolidated Plan*, which constitutes an amendment or a substantial change meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Addition or deletion of a priority.
- Addition of a strategy not consistent with an existing priority.
- Deletion of a strategy that was previously included.



## Section Two: Housing Development Priority

*Respond to regional needs for affordable, decent, safe and appropriate housing, shelter and services as part of balanced economic development in Nebraska.*

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## Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

The six (6) strategies developed to meet this priority are:

- + **Promote an adequate supply of quality, affordable, appropriate housing for low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and homeowners, including persons with special housing needs.**
- + **Overcome barriers to homeownership for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.**
- + **Promote an adequate supply of quality, affordable, appropriate rental housing as a choice when homeownership is not a feasible option for low- and moderate-income individuals, families, including persons with special housing needs.**
- + **Support and facilitate an active and effective regional continuum of care planning and delivery system focusing on a comprehensive approach to housing and service delivery to people who are homeless and near-homeless.**
- + **Identify and address the barriers of homeownership, rental housing, support services, and shelters due to violations of fair housing practices.**
- + **Identify and address a strategy for reduction of lead-based paint hazards in rural areas of the state.**

### **Background**

HUD requires the state to report the activities it plans to undertake during the next year to:

- Address obstacles to meeting under served needs;
- Foster and maintain affordable housing (including the coordination of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with the development of affordable housing);
- Remove barriers to affordable housing;
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
- Reduce the number of poverty level families;
- Develop an improved institutional structure; and
- Enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies and foster public housing resident initiatives.

These requirements are reflected in the housing strategies, objectives, and actions for the 2002 Program year.

As shown in the Housing Needs Assessment section (Part Four) of the state's *Consolidated Plan*, a great need exists in the non-metropolitan areas of the state for available housing stock that is affordable. Two primary issues exist: housing availability and affordability.

Available, affordable housing is an economic development issue. Future growth in Nebraska communities is directly linked to the provision of affordable housing. Many communities along the Interstate 80 corridor, and service centers in other areas have experienced tremendous economic growth in the 1990s, but have been unable to meet the demand for additional housing. For communities to survive in the global economy, they must address the need for available and affordable housing. Housing conditions and markets are not universal throughout Nebraska. Besides economic growth, housing needs often reflect the socioeconomic composition of the community, county and region. For citizens, housing needs vary by householder, tenure, age, income, and other special needs.

Housing availability must be addressed. 1990 US Census figures show that almost 25% of the state's non-metropolitan housing units are substandard. Areas experiencing economic growth are generally experiencing a critical shortage of affordable housing. The ability of the private sector to house new employees is severely hindered.

Affordability issues also must be addressed. The lower the income, the greater the need for housing assistance. The Housing Priority Needs Summary Table in the *Consolidated Plan* shows all income groups other than very low- and low-income households (up to 80% of median family income for the area) as medium priority. This ranking acknowledges the importance of all housing needs and allows applicants for federal funding to obtain certification of consistency with the state's housing strategy. Consequently, the state gives highest priority to assisting very low and low income households, targeting those earning less than 50% of median income when appropriate.

### **The Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness**

The Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH) was established by Executive Order in 1998. This commission consolidates the work of the Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission, the Nebraska Interagency Council on the Homeless, and the Affordable Housing Trust Advisory Committee, and recognizes the strong link among housing, homelessness, and near homeless issues.

The Commission's function is to make recommendations to DED and the Health and Human Services System Department of Services (HHSS) on the operation of the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund; serve as an advisory body on housing and homelessness; assist with education, advocacy, coordination and cooperation; and integrate recommendations from *Nebraska's Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan* and Annual Action Plan with other statewide strategic planning initiatives involved with affordable housing, homelessness/near homelessness, and other housing issues.

### **Actions for the 2002 Program Year**

The state views the provision of affordable housing as a high priority, especially for persons/families making 80% of median income or less. The state works with public, private and nonprofit organizations to identify needs, fill gaps in services, and provide technical assistance in the area of housing. Actions that were planned for 2002 to further this goal are a result of the priority for funding and strategies set by the state in 2000 in the *Consolidated Plan*.

The six housing strategies listed above each have objectives and measurements that were planned by the state for the 2002 Program Year. The objectives and performance measurements that were planned for the six housing strategies are listed below along with a progress report detailing the headway made under each performance measurement during the 2002 program year. The following rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

A → Activity Exceeded Measurement

P → Performance Satisfied Measurement

R → Reasonable Progress Made

N → No Progress Made

#### **+ Strategy One**

**Promote an adequate supply of quality affordable, appropriate housing for low- and moderate- income individuals, families and homeowners, including persons with special housing needs.**

**Objective #1:** Develop technical assistance tools for developers and administrators of Affordable Housing Program (AHP) funds.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program HOME administration manual will be developed and distributed to HOME program administrators. A corresponding workshop will be conducted.

**R Progress Report:** The Nebraska Affordable Housing Program HOME administration manual will be completed and available August 26, 2003 at the HOME/NAHTF administration training.

**Performance Measurement:** Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guides will be developed and available for distribution for developers of affordable housing in Nebraska. Examples of possible guides are: (1) determining the feasibility of and developing small (less than 12 units) rental projects, and (2) developing program guidelines for homeowner programs.

**R Progress Report:** Information was gathered on technical guides for homeownership rehabilitation programs and homebuyer assistance programs. The completed technical guides will be available by June 30, 2004. In addition, HUD has several model guides for the use of HOME funds available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/library/modelguides/index.cfm> That are also useful for AHP recipients.

**Objective #2:** Improve the AHP organizational operating grant process to focus on result-oriented and long-term investments in nonprofit housing organizations.

**Performance Measurement:** AHP organizational operating contracts will include benchmarks and performance measurements based on reasonable development and implementation of affordable housing projects and programs.

**A Progress Report:** The department awarded \$582,325 of Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Funds in organizational operating and non-profit capacity building funds to 18 non-profit housing organizations and 1 non-profit housing organization technical assistance provider. 13 of these organizations have a detailed Target Plan with detailed milestones (benchmarks) and workplans. The remaining 5 organizations also have Target Plans included as part of the contractual requirements.

**Performance Measurement:** AHP organizational operating grant fund payments will be based on acceptable documentation.

**P Progress Report:** All AHP request for organizational operating grant fund payments were processed only after acceptable source documentation for the expenses was submitted.

**Objective #3:** Invest in rehabilitation of existing housing for low- and moderate-income homeowners using a regional and community level service delivery system.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 20% of available AHP funds will be invested in housing rehabilitation activities. Approximately 250 homes will be rehabilitated as a result of 2002 DED AHP funds.

**A** **Progress Report:** \$7,457,209 DEDAHP funds were invested in purchase/rehabilitate/resell programs and owner-occupied rehabilitation programs that will rehabilitate 392 homes. HOME funds, specifically, will provide \$4,679,209 to assist 255 of these homeowners. CDBG, specifically, will provide \$2,778,000 to assist 137 of these homeowners.

**Performance Measurement:** A certification program will be developed and implemented for housing rehabilitation specialists for the CDBG Housing Program.

**R** **Progress Report:** The department began gathering information to format a certification program for housing rehabilitation specialists. The implementation date of the program was extended to August 31, 2004 in order to accommodate the time needed to consult with all applicable sources to ensure lead-based paint regulations and requirements are fully incorporated in the training.

#### + **Strategy Two**

**Overcome barriers to homeownership for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.**

**Objective #1:** Develop technical assistance tools to encourage development of homeowner programs for low- to moderate-income homebuyers.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guide on “Developing Program Guidelines for Homeowner Programs” will be created. The technical guide will include additional guidance on developing programs that assist families in moving out of poverty levels and address cost burdens that cause barriers to affordable housing.

**R** **Progress Report:** Information was gathered on technical guides for homeownership rehabilitation programs and homebuyer assistance programs. The completed technical guides will be available by June 30, 2004. In addition, HUD has several model guides for the use of HOME funds, available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/library/modelguides/index.cfm> That are also useful for AHP recipients.

**Objective #2:** Promote the access to existing and new homebuyer programs for people with disabilities.

**Performance Measurement:** AHP funded homebuyer programs will be required to have program guideline provisions for assisting persons referred by the Home of Your Own (HOYO) Coalition.

**R** **Progress Report:** Each recipient of homebuyer program resources was informed of the Home of Your Own (HOYO) Coalition services and purpose. Many homebuyer program guidelines included provisions to provide preference points for persons with disabilities, which included those referred by HOYO. Also,

during the 2002 Program Year NDED staff and partners actively worked with HOYO to develop a specific homebuyer program for their customers, where local programs may not be available or designed to the advantage of this unique population of homebuyers, who are often very low- or extremely low-income.

**Objective #3:** Invest DED AHP funds in assisting new homebuyers.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 40 homebuyers will benefit from 2002 DED AHP funds for homebuyer programs.

**A Progress Report:** \$4,963,200 DEDAHP funds were invested in purchase/rehabilitate/resell programs, down-payment assistance, developing new housing for ownership and lease/purchase programs that will result in 287 homebuyers. HOME funds, specifically, will provide \$3,593,400 to assist 212 homebuyers. NAHTF, specifically, will provide \$1,369,800 to assist 75 homebuyers.

#### + Strategy Three

**Promote an adequate supply of quality affordable, appropriate rental housing as a choice when homeownership is not a feasible option for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.**

The department will continue to work closely with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) in coordinating the use of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with Nebraska Affordable Housing Program funds to effectively fund rental development in the state. The NAHP rental housing applications will be provided to the Technical Assistance Review Process (TARP) team. TARP members consist of staff from NIFA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA RD), Nebraska Energy Office (NEO) and Nebraska State Historical Society. TARP members meet once a month. After a discussion with the TARP team, DED staff review and score applications for funding.

**Objective #1:** Provide a mechanism for funding rental project(s) that serve persons with disabilities.

**Performance Measurement:** At least one rental project will be funded with DED AHP funds to serve persons with disabilities.

**R Progress Report:** The DED AHP did not provide funding to a project for persons with disabilities in 2002. DED staff did work with potential projects through development that are anticipated to receive 2003 or 2004 DED AHP funding. In addition, the department began a project with the Mental Health/Substance Abuse staff at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to do long-term planning to provide adequate housing to persons with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness, including transitioning youth between the ages of 19-21. It is anticipated that affordable rental housing will be a critical

component of provide this housing. The department provided some input to the HIV/AIDS staff of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in submitting an application for Housing for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) funding for 2003 that includes assisting with rental housing costs.

**Objective #2:** Ensure the long-term viability of affordable rental projects.

**Performance Measurement:** All funded AHP rental projects will have a development team that includes an experienced, qualified nonprofit or for-profit affordable housing developer. (The eligible applicants and recipients will remain local governments, nonprofit housing providers and public housing authorities.)

**P Progress Report:** The department awarded 14 recipients for rental projects. All 14 of these projects had an experienced, qualified housing developer on the development team. 6 of these 14 projects were awarded NAHTF and the remaining 8 were awarded HOME funds.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Technical Guide for “determining the feasibility of, and developing small rental projects” (less than 12 units) will be created.

**R Progress Report:** It was determined that a NDED Technical Guide was not needed due to the fact that HUD has several model guides for the use of HOME funds available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/library/modelguides/index.cfm> They are also useful for AHP recipients. These model guides include information on the development and management of both small and large rental properties.

**Objective #3:** Invest in rental housing projects that promote increased local investment.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately one rental project requesting less than \$50,000 of DED AHP will be funded through the Community Housing Investment Partnership (CHIP).

**P Progress Report:** DED AHP funds were provided to one Community Housing Investment Partnership (CHIP) project. High Plains Community Development Corporation will acquire and rehabilitate two single-family homes for lease/purchase in Gordon and Chadron partially with HOME funding of \$50,000.

**Objective #4:** Invest in rental housing for families and individuals for whom homeownership is not feasible.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 75 rental units for persons who are low-income will be available due to the investment of 2002 DED AHP funds.

**A** **Progress Report:** \$3,280,805 DEDAHP funds were invested in rental projects that will result in 308 affordable rental units. HOME funds, specifically, will provide \$1,961,800 to assist 147 renters. NAHTF, specifically, will provide \$1,319,005 to assist 161 renters.

+ **Strategy Four**

**Support and facilitate an active and effective regional continuum of care planning and delivery system focusing on a comprehensive approach to housing and service delivery to people who are homeless and near homeless.**

**Objective #1:** The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (HHSS) assumed the responsibility of the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) on September 1, 2001. Eligible organizations that serve Nebraska's homeless and near homeless will submit applications to HHSS. A review panel will recommend funding levels to the governor up to the total amount of each regional allocation. HHSS will distribute the NHAP funds utilizing a formula based on population and identified homeless needs within the NHAP regions.

**Performance Measurement:** Homeless shelters and their programs, including homeless prevention, client services, shelter operations, renovation/rehabilitation of shelters and other homeless shelter programs will be enhanced and better coordinated by sharing information through the Regional Continuum of Care (C of C) groups. Regional C of C groups also will result in improved collaboration with other programs that serve the homeless and near homeless. C of C groups also will provide best practices for streamlined and improved reporting. Additionally, C of C groups will provide valuable input on regional needs of the homeless and near-homeless populations.

**P** **Progress Report:** A Continuum of Care Committee was established and is functioning. This advisory committee and HHS are working together to accomplish the establishment of criteria, priorities, and guidelines for eligibility requirements, application requirements and dates, public notification, and monitoring. The Department will have adopted and promulgated rules and regulations for providing grants from the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF). Grants for ESGP and HSATF will be distributed each year using established, reviewed, and when needed, improved upon processes. The results of the actions are improved collaboration between homeless and near homeless programs and a greater understanding of regional needs of the homeless and near-homeless populations.

**Objective #2:** To further improve and foster interagency cooperation and participation, DED regional housing specialists will continue to communicate with the Regional C of C groups.

**Performance Measurement:** The applicable DED regional housing specialist will participate in at least one Regional C of C group meeting for each Regional C of C group represented in their service area. This participation will include sharing applicable affordable housing program information and other involvement as appropriate in the groups.

**P Progress Report:** DED regional housing specialists attended five regional Continuum of Care meetings, two multi-community Continuum of Care meetings and two local Continuum of Care meetings.

#### + **Strategy Five**

**Identify and address the barriers of homeownership, rental housing, support services, and shelters due to violations of fair housing practices.**

**Objective #1:** Ensure Fair Housing Act Design Standards are met in previously-funded and currently-operating DED AHP rental projects.

**Performance Measurement:** A site visit, assessment and follow-up consultation will be conducted on 20 currently-operating DED AHP funded rental projects.

**P Progress Report:** Inspections were completed on 38 rental projects. All property standards requirements were inspected, including Fair Housing Design and Section 504 design requirements.

**Objective #2:** Educate DED AHP administrators and developers on strategies to serve populations that are vulnerable to discrimination in housing.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guide on “Developing Program Guidelines for Homeowner Programs” will be created, with input from the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission, the Nebraska Fair Housing Center, and other interested organizations. It will include strategies and guidelines that provide opportunities for underserved populations.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guide on “Developing and Implementing Affirmative Marketing Plans” will be created.

**R Progress Report:** DED contracted for the development of a guide to developing and implementing affirmative marketing plans. A draft guide was received and is under review. It is expected the guide will become available by December 31, 2003. In addition, Information was gathered on technical guides for homeownership rehabilitation programs and homebuyer assistance programs. The completed technical guides will be available by June 30, 2004. In addition, HUD has several model guides for the use of HOME funds, available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/library/modelguides/index.cfm> That are also useful for AHP recipients.

+ **Strategy Six**

**Identify and address a strategy for reduction of lead-based paint hazards in rural areas of the state.**

**Objective #1:** HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will implement a statewide Rural Lead-Based Paint Hazard Evaluation and Reduction Program.

**Performance Measurement:** HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will begin providing services in this program by January 1, 2003.

**P Progress Report:** HHSS begin providing services in the Lead Hazard and Reduction Program. By January 2003, one community based organization was under contract with the program. By the end of the 2002 program year, four community based organizations were under contract and lead hazards were addressed in three homes under the program.

**Objective #2:** Increase the number of Certified Risk Assessors and Paint Inspectors.

**Performance Measurement:** There will be 15 risk assessors and paint inspectors serving rural Nebraska. HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will track this with their certification list.

**A Progress Report:** As of June 30, 2003, there were 120 risk assessors and 28 paint inspectors on the list of lead professionals and workers available at <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/lis/lis.asp>. There are 25 certified risk assessors in the rural areas of the state.

**Objective #3:** Continue to educate and train DED AHP administrators and developers on lead-based paint hazards and responsibilities.

**Performance Measurement:** A certification program will be developed and implemented for housing rehabilitation specialists for the CDBG Housing Program. This will include training and strategies for addressing responsibilities related to lead-based paint hazards.

**R Progress Report:** The department began gathering information to format a certification program for housing rehabilitation specialists. The implementation date of the program was extended to August 31, 2004 in order to accommodate the time needed to consult with all applicable sources to ensure lead-based paint regulations and requirements are fully incorporated in the training.

**Performance Measurement:** A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guide on “Developing Program Guidelines for Homeowner Programs” will be created, including guidance on compliance and practices regarding lead-based paint regulations for CDBG and HOME.

**R** **Progress Report:** Information was gathered on technical guides for homeownership rehabilitation programs and homebuyer assistance programs. The completed technical guides will be available by June 30, 2004. In addition, HUD has several model guides for the use of HOME funds, available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/library/modelguides/index.cfm> That are also useful for AHP recipients.

**Performance Measurement:** The DED AHP website will include an interactive discussion area for lead paint issues.

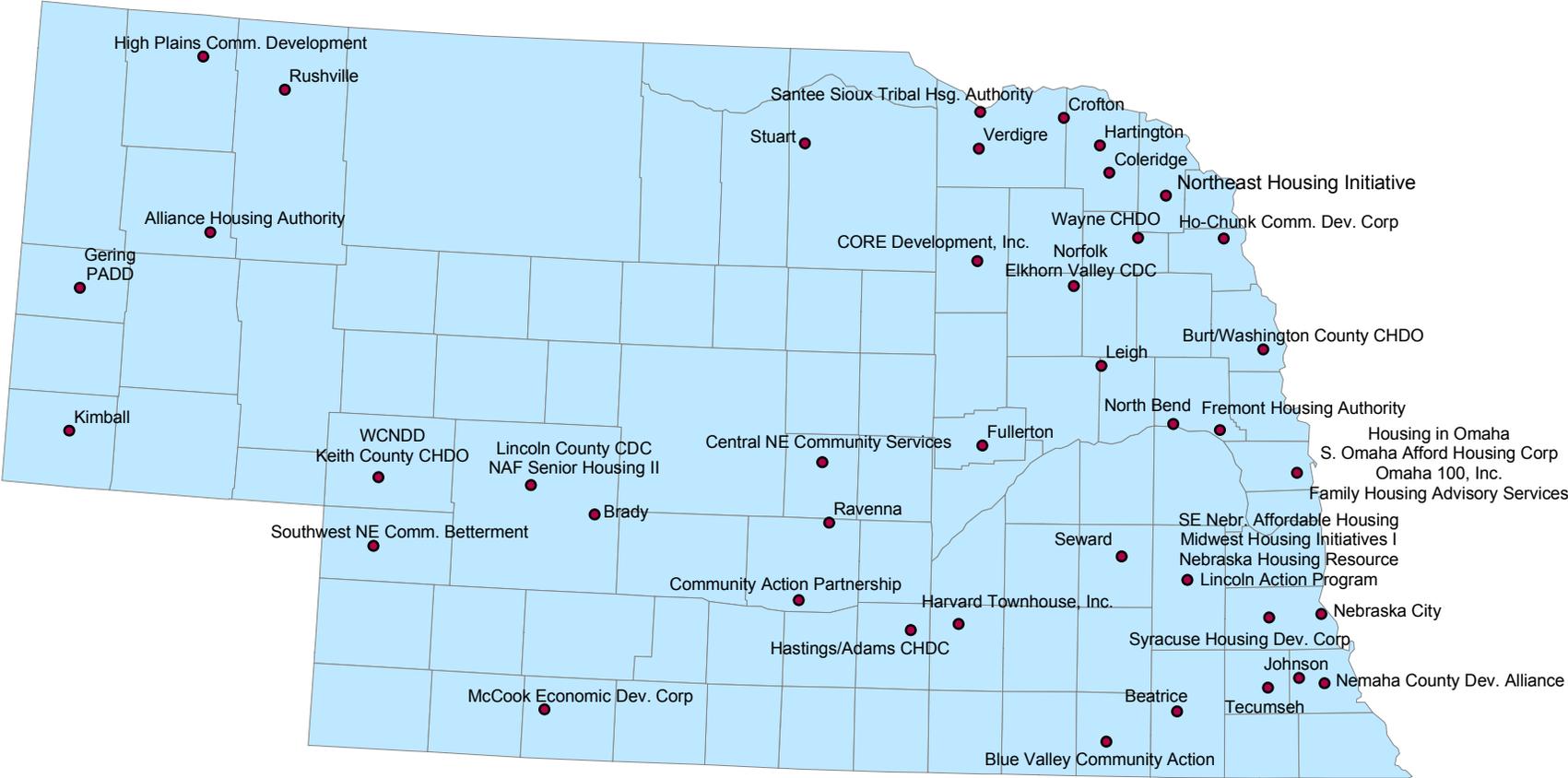
**P** **Progress Report:** DED has a lead-based paint question and answer section at <http://crd.neded.org/powerhouse/leadqa.htm>.

**Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Affordable Housing Program  
2002 Awards**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
02CH00602	Community Action Partnership	Construct 2 Single Family Rental Units	\$86,800
02CH01202	Elkhorn Valley CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$400,000
02CH01302	Hastings/Adams CHDC	Construct 11 Single Family Homes for Lease/Purchase	\$275,000
02CH01303	Hastings/Adams CHDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$209,000
02CH01502	High Plains Community Develop.	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$50,000
02CH02203	Lincoln County CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$280,000
02CH10102	Northeast Housing Initiative	Construct 8 New Homes	\$400,000
02CH10103	Northeast Housing Initiative	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$324,000
02OE00102	Blue Valley Community Action	Down Payment Assistance (DPA) to 60 Low-Income Persons	\$400,000
02OE00702	Central NE Community Services	Rehabilitate 25 Owner-Occupied Homes	\$399,890
02OE00802	SE Nebraska Affordable Housing	Down-payment Assistance to 30	\$400,000
02OE10202	Alliance Housing Authority	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$268,600
02OE10302	Panhandle Area Development Dis	Rehabilitate 27 Owner-occupied Homes	\$400,000
02OE20502	CORE Development, Inc.	Rehabilitate 23 Owner-occupied Homes	\$400,000
02OE30402	Southwest NE Comm. Betterment	Rehabilitate 30 Owner-occupied Homes	\$396,500
02OE40402	Harvard Townhouse, Inc	Construct 6 affordable duplexes	\$300,000
02OE50202	Midwest Housing Initiatives I	Construct 24 elderly rental units.	\$400,000
02OE60202	Nemaha County Devel. Alliance	Rehabilitate 22 Owner-occupied Homes	\$351,000
02OE70102	Housing in Omaha	Construct 37 Rental Units	\$100,000
02OE90102	Santee Sioux Tribal Hsg Author	Construct 10 Single Family Homes for Lease/Purchase	\$400,000
02SR10402	City of Rushville	Rehabilitate 15 Owner-occupied Homes	\$400,000
02SR10502	City of Gering	Construct 49 Rental Units	\$350,000
02SR20202	Village of Stuart	Improve the Housing of 32 Low-Income Persons	\$400,219
02SR50602	Village of Leigh	Improve the Housing of 27 Low-Income Persons	\$400,000
02HO101	City of Kimball	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO201	City of Fullerton	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO202	Village of Verdigre	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO203	City of Crofton	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO301	Village of Brady	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$168,000
02HO402	City of Ravenna	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO501	Village of Coleridge	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$180,000
02HO503	City of North Bend	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO505	City of Hartington	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$180,000
02HO601	Village of Johnson	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO603	City of Tecumseh	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02HO604	City of Nebraska City	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab	\$250,000
02TFHP302	WCNDD	Construct 3 New Homes	\$135,000
02TFHP306	Southwest NE Comm. Betterment	Down Payment Assistance for 20 Low-Income Persons	\$154,000
02TFHP308	Keith County CHDO	Emergency Down Payment Assistance	\$41,000
02TFHP507	City of Norfolk	Construct 17 Single Family Homes and Provide (DPA)	\$531,800
02TFHP601	City of Seward	Down Payment Assistance fo 20 Low-Income Persons	\$308,000
02TFHP801	Nebraska Housing Resource	Affordable Modular Housing Program	\$200,000
02TFRH301	Lincoln County CDC	Construct 49 Rental Units	\$400,000
02TFRH302	NAF Senior Housing II	Develop 8 Very-low Income Elderly Rental Units	\$50,000
02TFRH503	Fremont Housing Authority	Construct 32 Elderly Rental Units	\$400,000
02TFRH603	City of Beatrice	Rehabilitate 66 Rental Units	\$250,000
02TFRH608	Syracuse Housing Dev. Corp.	Construct 6 Elderly Rental Units	\$219,005

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
02TFTA103	High Plains Community Develop.	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA301	Keith County CHDO	Technical Assistance	\$10,325
02TFTA302	Southwest NE Comm. Betterment	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA303	Lincoln County CDC	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA306	McCook Econ Dev Corp	Technical Assistance	\$40,000
02TFTA401	Community Action Partnership	Technical Assistance	\$40,000
02TFTA402	Hastings/Adams CHDC	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA501	Wayne CHDO	Technical Assistance	\$20,000
02TFTA502	Northeast Housing Initiative	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA503	Ho-Chunk Comm Devel Corp	Technical Assistance	\$40,000
02TFTA504	Burt/Washington County CHDO	Technical Assistance	\$40,000
02TFTA505	Elkhorn Valley CDC	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA601	Blue Valley Community Action	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA602	SE Nebraska Affordable Housing	Technical Assistance	\$20,000
02TFTA702	S. Omaha Afford Housing Corp.	Technical Assistance	\$20,000
02TFTA703	Omaha 100, Incorporated	Technical Assistance	\$20,000
02TFTA704	Family Housing Advisory Srvs	Technical Assistance	\$20,000
02TFTA801	Nebraska Housing Resource	Technical Assistance	\$34,000
02TFTA802	Lincoln Action Program	Technical Assistance	\$40,000
		Total	\$13,840,139

# 2002 Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Awards



## Section Three: Community Development Priority

*Strengthen Nebraska communities through  
community development programs and services.*

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## Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

**The four (4) five-year strategies developed to meet this priority are:**

- + **Assist communities and counties with strategic planning that results in long-term development investments**
- + **Improve the quality of water and wastewater in Nebraska**
- + **Assist in developing and financing appropriate infrastructure and facilities for communities and counties that have planned and set priorities for long-term community economic development projects and initiatives**
- + **Strengthen technical assistance for community improvement**

### **Background**

The following is a report on the activities the state undertook during the past year to target non-housing community development problems in the four funding categories through which DED competitively allocates CDBG funds. Resources must be targeted to serious problems affecting the local economic base, public health, welfare, or safety. DED structures its community development CDBG allocations around four funding categories: water/wastewater, public works, tourism development, and planning. The types of projects funded, and the priorities and objectives for each category are listed in the state's Consolidated Plan.

For example, many rural Nebraska communities simply do not have facilities, such as community buildings, care centers, fire protection, and medical clinics. Because they are lacking in one or more of these facilities, the community is often in jeopardy of losing its economic base to nearby communities that can offer these services. Other communities may have these facilities, but have outgrown them, or the facilities have become economically obsolete. Another serious problem plaguing many rural communities involves water and sewer infrastructure, communities that lack public water/sewer systems or that have deteriorating facilities. Other communities have outgrown their water and wastewater systems. Some systems no longer meet the requirements set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency. Other equally serious problems with infrastructure exist. Communities also need to support their community attraction facilities that strengthen the economic development base.

State community development resources also must be directed toward problems that are resolvable.

- Applicants must show that work on their projects can be started promptly.

- Community development problems are serious compared with other problems identified in all the applications received.
- Projects will resolve community development problems in a reasonable period of time.

### **The CDBG Advisory Committee and the Economic Development Commission**

CDBG strategies have resulted from consultation with local communities and public comment. The selection criteria and priorities outlined in the CDBG section of this Action Plan also were developed with advice and consent of the CDBG Advisory Committee and the Nebraska Economic Development Commission. Priorities and strategies support the state's anti-poverty strategy of creating jobs with livable wages, and are directed toward both workers and employers. The efforts for workers include assuring that education, job training, and skill development programs adequately prepare them for the jobs that are available. The business efforts include providing economic assistance, tax credits, and loans that attract new firms; and retaining/expanding existing ones, especially businesses that hire low- and very low-income people.

Set up by state statute, the Nebraska Economic Development Commission provides leadership and advice to DED to strengthen Nebraska's position in the global economy. The commission consists of nine voting members (three each from Nebraska's three congressional districts) and the DED director (a non-voting member).

The CDBG Advisory Committee, created in 1986, regularly consults with DED regarding the state's CDBG Program. The committee helps determine community development objectives, state priorities, and fund distribution guidelines. Committee members are appointed by the Nebraska Economic Development Commission upon recommendation of DED.

### **Actions for the 2002 Program Year**

Objectives and measurable actions planned between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003 for the four strategies are listed below. The following Rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

**A → Activity Exceeded Measurement**

**P → Performance Satisfied Measurement**

**R → Reasonable Progress Made**

**N → No Progress**

+ **Strategy One**

**Assist communities and counties with strategic planning that results in long-term development investments.**

**Objective #1:** Invest CDBG funds in local and regional studies and plans that result in quality projects.

**Performance Measurement:** Up to \$436,905 of the 2002 annual CDBG allocation will be awarded for local and regional plans, of which \$100,000 is reserved for Planning for Capacity Building. The state will invest in 15 local and regional projects by June 30, 2003, that impact the implementation of economic development, community development and housing projects.

**P Progress Report:** The state awarded \$434,150 in CDBG funds to 25 local governments for the development and implementation of local and regional plans. These projects will impact economic development, community development and housing projects.

**Objective #2:** Invest CDBG funds in technical assistance and training to local government officials for building capacity in the management and implementation of community planning.

**Performance Measurement:** up to \$151,170 of the 2002 CDBG funds will be allocated to these activities. The number of training sessions offered and attendees will be tracked annually for program benefit. The state will provide technical assistance to local planning officials. This assistance will include the continuation of electronic and telecommunication tools with a web conference board and CD-ROM training implemented by June 30, 2003. The state will provide five technical assistance workshops during the program year to local grant administrators. The state also will establish on-line and CD-ROM tools for web site access and document submission and reporting by June 30, 2003.

**P Progress Report:** The Department independently continued implementation of the CDBG Certified Administrators Program. The Department contracted with the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association to provide training on planning issues for local officials statewide. The Department in collaboration with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the University Division of Continuing Studies is developing a distance-learning project built on the Planning Commission Fundamentals Handbook. The continued development of an on-line training through a web-site access is in preparation.

The Department provided 6 training sessions to 206 registrants that included environmental and CDBG administration for building the capacity of local officials and administrators in the implementation of the CDBG Program. The Nebraska Chapter APA in collaboration with the NE Planning and Zoning

Association conducted a 3-day statewide institute on land use management issues attended by more than 220 persons. Those in attendance represented several communities preparing and implementing planning projects funded through CDBG Program. The University of Nebraska Division of Continuing Studies demonstrated the Nebraska Planning Handbook site to those in attendance. The handbook is now available at <http://neplanning.unl.edu>. The online capabilities of the handbook allow for it to be continually updated and maintained.

**Objective #3:** Promote and implement NCIP to assist and recognize efforts in community organizing, leadership development and project implementation.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 70 communities will participate in the 2002 Nebraska Community Improvement Program.

**A Progress Report:** 82 communities participated in the 2002 Nebraska Community Improvement Program.

**Objective #4:** Encourage private sector involvement in the Community Development Assistance Act.

**Performance Measurement:** Track information to ensure that 100% of the CDAA tax credits allocated are used or claimed.

**R Progress Report:** \$240,520 of CDAA tax credits were awarded during the program year. A total of 11 projects were implemented utilizing CDAA tax credits.

#### + **Strategy Two**

#### **Improve the quality of water and wastewater in Nebraska.**

**Objective #1:** Use a coordinated application process to fund priority projects that leverage other available financial resources and are ready to promptly start and complete construction within 24 months. The coordinated application process is done between the following federal and state agencies: U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 50 pre-applications will be reviewed and up to eight projects will be funded by CDBG. It is estimated that \$2 million in CDBG funds will be invested in these water/wastewater projects leveraging \$2 million in other public and private funds. If deemed necessary, appropriate changes will be made to the coordinated application process.

**P Progress Report:** During the program year the multi-agency Water Wastewater Advisory Committee reviewed 37 pre-applications. Eight applicants were invited to submit CDBG applications, but only 5 were received and awarded during the year totaling \$1,138,000 in CDBG funds.

The CDBG program continues to use the State Revolving Fund Health and Environmental Criteria to determine need for projects; however, the user rate threshold will not be required to obtain CDBG funds after July 1, 2003.

+ **Strategy Three**

**Assist in developing and financing appropriate infrastructure for communities and counties that have planned and set priorities for long-term community economic development.**

**Objective #1:** Invest CDBG funds in quality projects that are identified in a formal community plan; compliment or support related community investments; leverage maximum private and/or other investment; have reasonable plans for long-term operation and maintenance; and are ready to start and complete construction within 24 months.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately eight projects will be funded annually leveraging up to \$2 million in other public and private funds.

**A Progress Report:** Nineteen public works projects were awarded totaling \$3,667,400 in CDBG funds and leveraging \$4.3 million in other public and private funds.

**Objective #2:** Evaluate the application, review, ranking and selection process and make necessary changes for improvement.

**Performance Measurement:** With local governments and nonprofits, determine the feasibility of putting application guidelines and forms on DED's web page. Determine the capacity of local governments to transmit applications electronically. Implement changes to the application process by June 30, 2003.

**P Progress Report:** DED staff worked with local government representatives and organizations to make improvements to application guidelines and forms. All necessary application guidelines and forms are located and kept current on DED's website. This accomplishment has made applying for and administering grants much more efficient. Due to the necessity of having signatures required on the application guidelines and many forms, the submittal of applications and forms are not done electronically at this time.

+ **Strategy Four**

**Strengthen technical assistance for community improvement.**

**Objective #1:** Identify and develop resources to assist communities in community organizing, leadership development, funding sources and project implementation.

**Performance Measurement:** Maintain partnerships with other funding providers to help leverage dollars for community projects. Develop or update a Project Networking Guide and a Foundation Resource Directory. Investigate the feasibility of an interactive web site and community level databases and issue a report by June 30, 2003. Provide up to 1% of annual CDBG allocation for training opportunities that will build capacity at the local level. Support NCIP, Certification Workshops and Modules, Community Planning Training, Technical Assistance Application Workshops, Nebraska Clerks School, Environmental and Lead-based Paint Training.

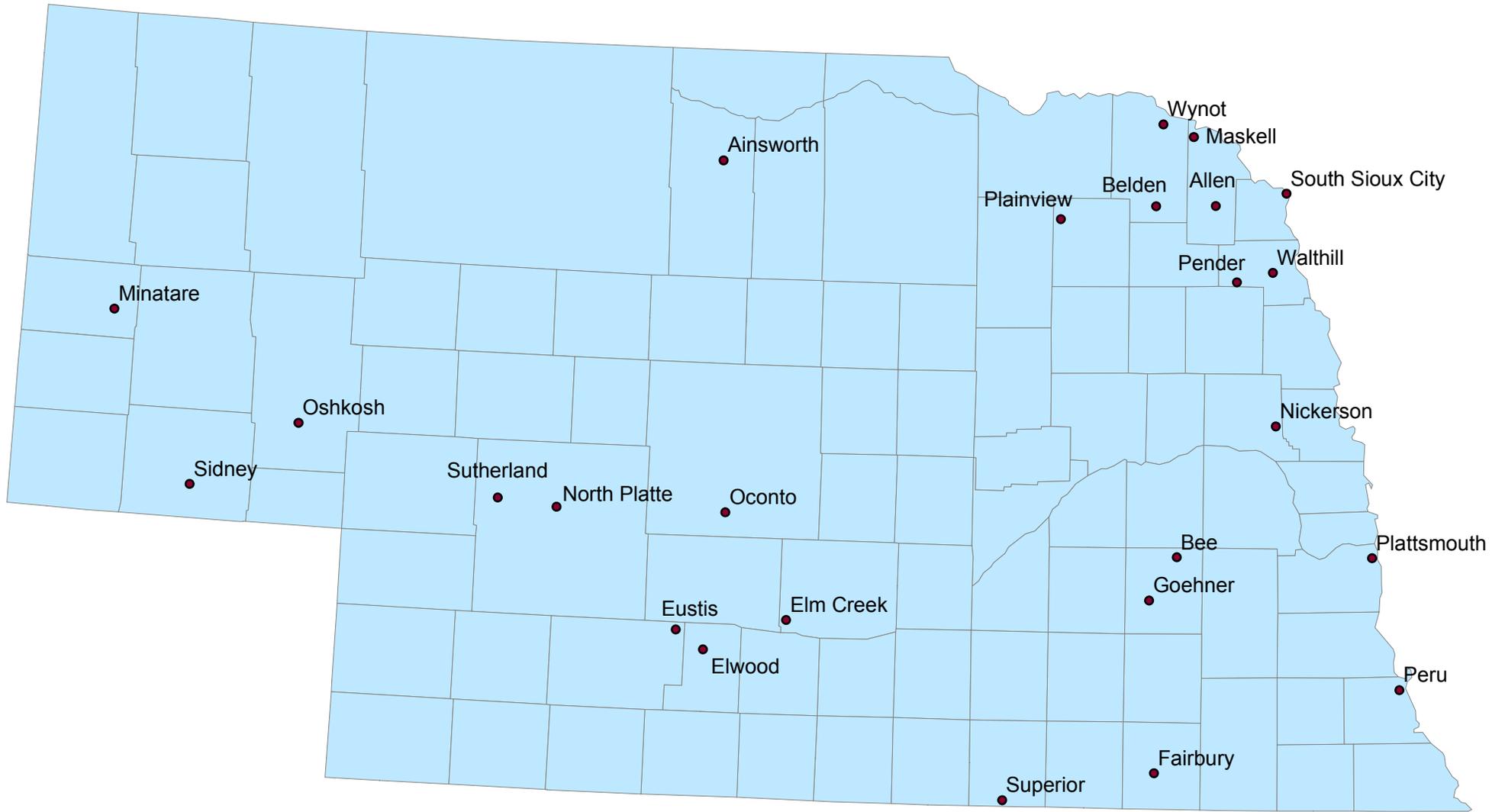
**A Progress Report:** The Project Networking Guide was developed and placed on the NCIP website. It was also distributed to communities statewide via mail and handouts at meetings. The Foundation Resource Directory was updated and was also place online at the Community and Rural Development website.

In 2002 NCIP hosted regional workshops and videoconferences in 32 communities and over 50 communities were represented. The workshops provided technical assistance to communities for the NCIP program and to assist communities in starting or continuing community development organizations with an emphasis in targeting grass roots volunteers.

6 certification trainings were held during the program year. Topics for the trainings included the all-inclusive certification and re-certification, environmental, construction/labor standards, and record keeping and preparation for a monitoring. Over 200 people attended these trainings and over 115 individual communities and organizations were represented.

Department Staff conducted 4 technical assistance application workshops during the 2002 program year. The workshops were conducted in Lincoln, Hastings, Sidney and Columbus.

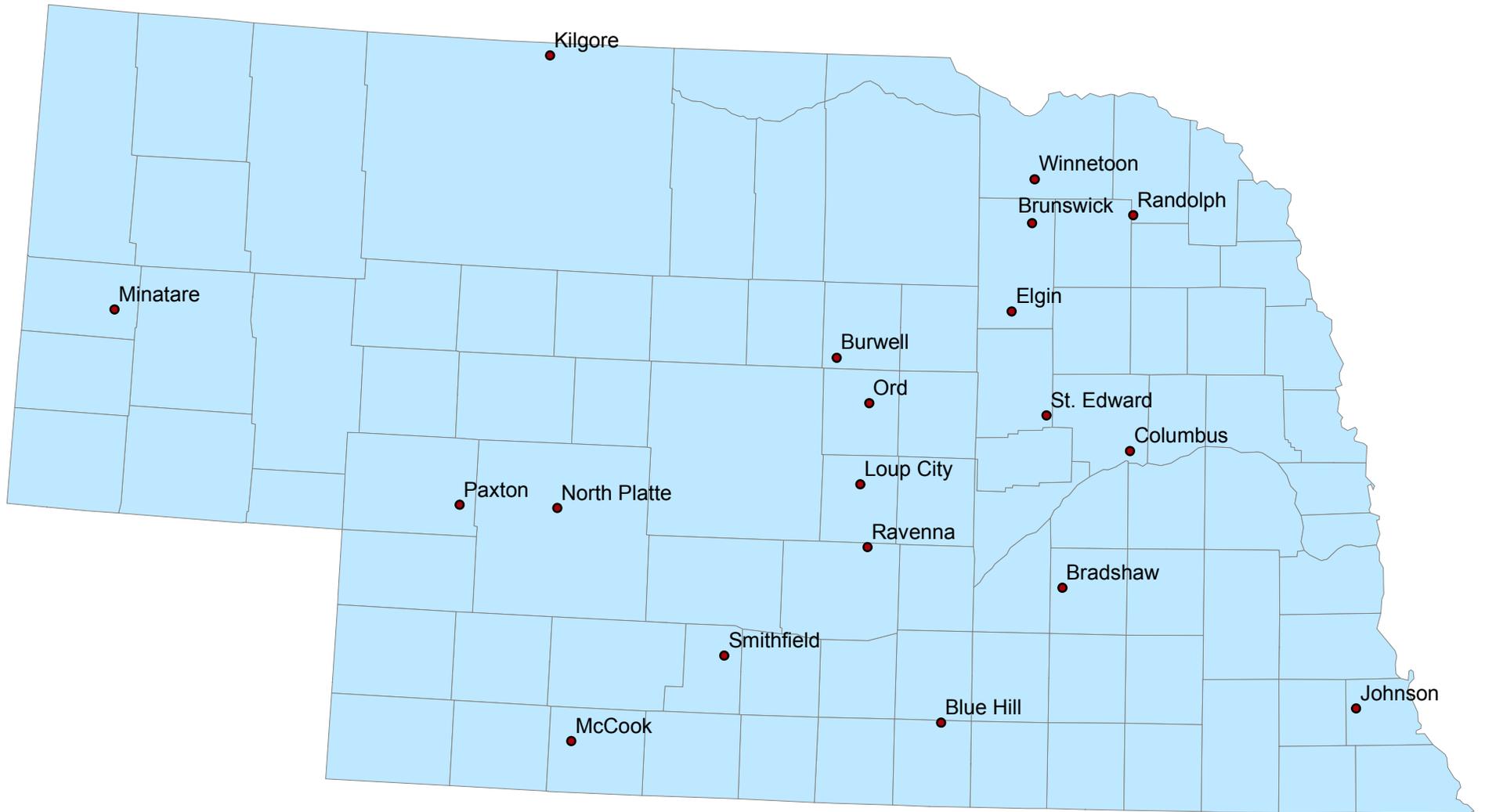
# 2002 CDBG Planning Awards



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
2002 Awards  
Planning Category**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
02PP001	City of South Sioux City	Housing Study	\$5,500
02PP002	City of Minatare	Comprehensive Plan Zoning	\$12,500
02PP003	City of North Platte	Central Business District Vision Plan	\$25,000
02PP004	Village of Nickerson	Wastewater Treatment Plan	\$15,300
02PP005	Village of Walthill	Water System Study	\$10,100
02PP006	City of Superior	Comprehensive Plan	\$25,000
02PP007	Village of Elwood	Rural Housing Needs Assessment	\$40,000
02PP008	Village of Sutherland	Elderly Special Needs Study	\$15,500
02PP009	City of Sidney	Flood & Drainage Control Study	\$25,000
02PP010	Village of Maskell	Strategic Development Plan	\$3,500
02PP011	Village of Pender	Independent Assisted Living Study	\$9,600
02PP012	Village of Eustis	Central Bus District & Community Redevelop. Plan	\$25,000
02PP013	City of Plainview	Comprehensive Plan Zoning	\$18,900
02PP014	Village of Belden	Water System Study	\$10,400
02PP017	City of Plattsmouth	Comprehensive Plan Zoning	\$25,000
02PP018	Village of Oconto	Water Wastewater Study	\$8,000
02PP019	Village of Wynot	Storm Sewer and Drainage System Study	\$15,800
02PP020	City of Oshkosh	Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations	\$15,500
02PP021	City of Peru	Feasibility Study Public School Bldg.	\$14,150
02PP022	Village of Bee	Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations	\$9,500
02PP023	Village of Goehner	Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations	\$9,500
02PP024	Village of Allen	Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations	\$17,300
02PP025	Village of Elm Creek	Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations	\$13,100
02PP026	City of Fairbury	Infrastructure Plan Review	\$25,000
02PP027	City of Ainsworth	Community Needs Assessments for Capacity Bldg.	\$40,000
		<b>TOTAL CDBG AWARDED</b>	<b>\$434,150</b>

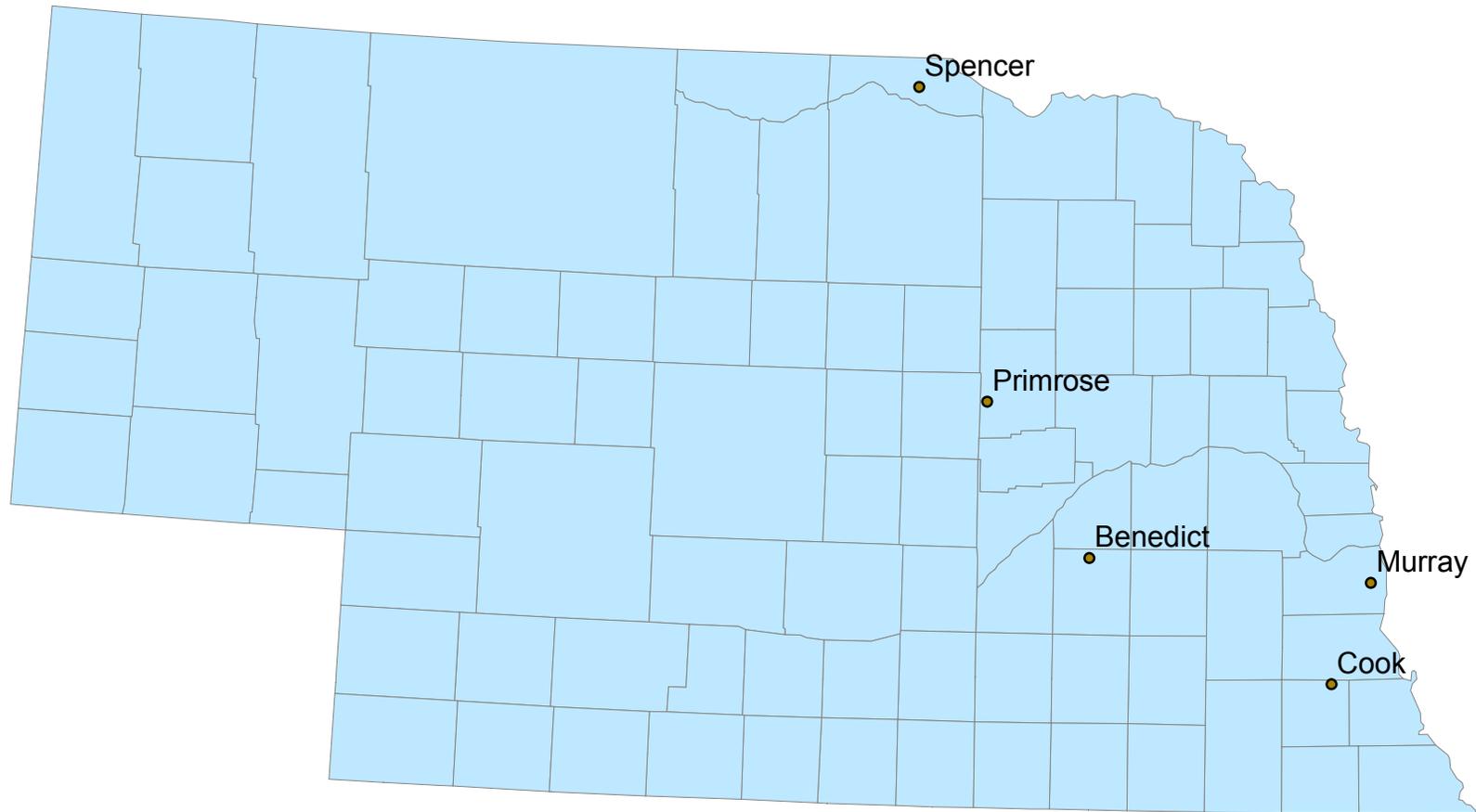
# 2002 CDBG Public Works Awards



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
2002 Awards  
Public Works Category**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
02PW001	City of Randolph	Streets & Flood Control	\$168,000
02PW002	City of McCook	Senior Center Addition	\$350,000
02PW004	City of Elgin	Storm Sewer Construction	\$214,000
02PW005	Village of Smithfield	Street Paving	\$127,600
02PW007	City of Loup City	Community Center	\$250,000
02PW008	City of Minatare	Streets & Drainage	\$140,100
02PW009	Village of Paxton	Pumper Rescue Rig	\$104,000
02PW011	City of Ravenna	Day Care Center	\$227,100
02PW013	Village of Johnson	Downtown Infrastructure	\$249,700
02PW015	City of Burwell	Street Sewer Water	\$250,000
02PW016	City of Blue Hill	Street Improvements	\$250,000
02PW017	City of North Platte	Barrier Removal	\$328,500
02PW018	Village of Brunswick	Street Surfacing	\$62,200
02PW019	Village of Winnetoon	Community Center	\$74,000
02PW021	City of Ord	Street Paving Assessments	\$245,100
02PW022	St. Edward	Library Construction	\$250,000
02PW023	City of Columbus	Senior Center	\$33,300
02PW024	Village of Bradshaw	Street Improvements	\$180,900
02PW025	Village of Kilgore	Community Center	\$162,900
		<b>TOTAL CDBG AWARDED</b>	<b>\$3,667,400</b>

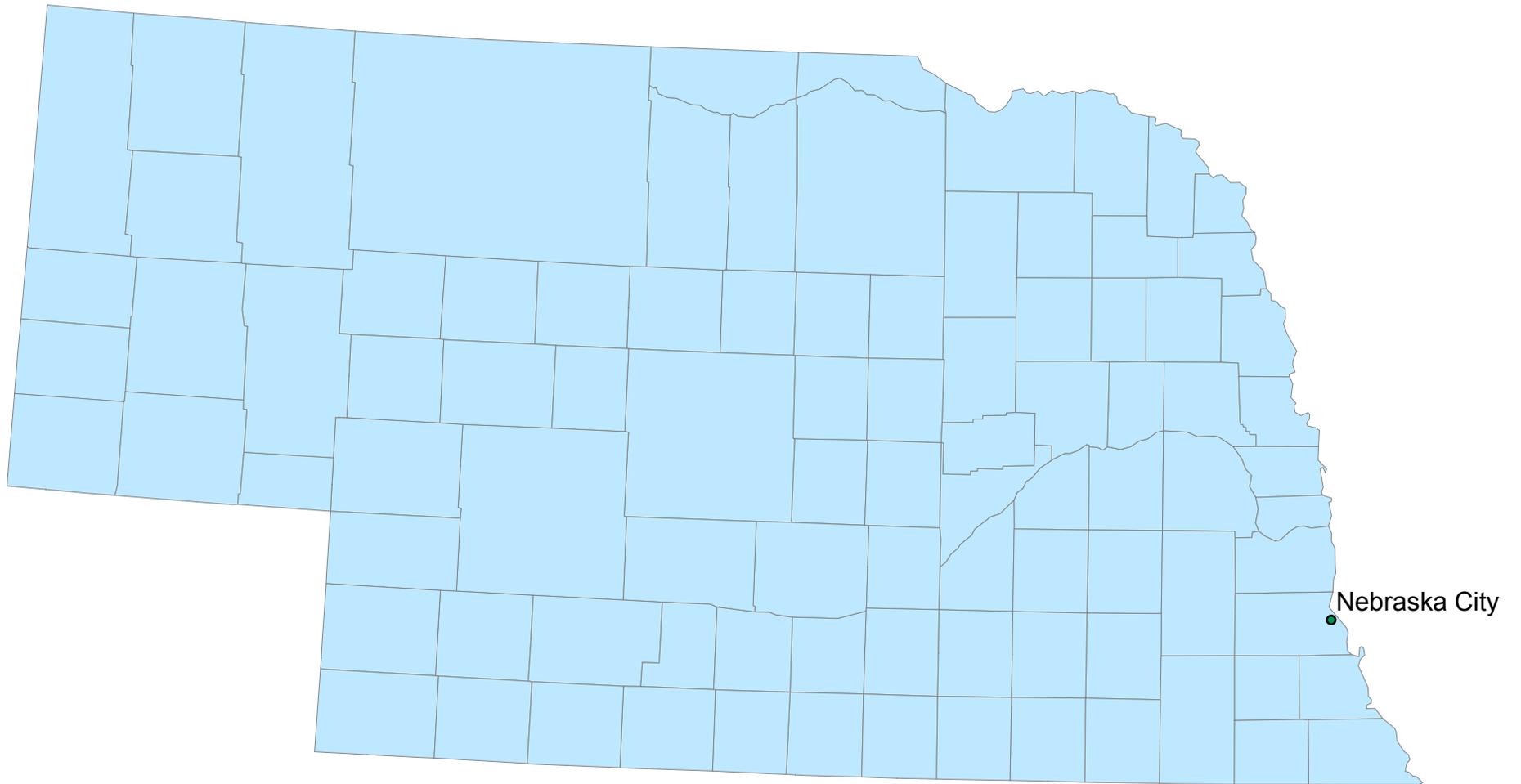
# 2002 CDBG Water/Wastewater Awards



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development**  
**Community Development Block Grant Program**  
**2002 Awards**  
**Water/Wastewater Category**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
02WW001	Village of Primrose	Water System Enhancement	\$138,000
02WW002	Village of Cook	Wastewater System Enhancement	\$250,000
02WW003	Village of Benedict	Water System Enhancement	\$250,000
02WW004	Village of Murray	Sewer System Enhancement	\$250,000
02WW005	Village of Spencer	Water System Enhancement	\$250,000
		<b>TOTAL CDBG AWARDED</b>	<b>\$1,138,000</b>

# 2002 CDBG Tourism Development Award



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
2002 Awards  
Tourism Development Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Project Activities	Amount Awarded
02TD006	City of Nebraska City	Tree House Trail System	\$150,000
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$150,000

## Section Four: Economic Development

*Develop economic opportunities by keeping  
Nebraska's industries, people and places competitive.*

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## Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

**The three (3) five-year strategies developed to meet this priority are:**

- + Keep Nebraska's Industries Competitive
- + Keep Nebraska's Places Competitive
- + Keep Nebraska's People Competitive

### **Background**

The primary objective of this priority is to develop viable communities and counties by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- to moderate-income (LMI) persons. The state CDBG objective of the Economic Development category is to support businesses, including cooperatives that expand the state's economic base and create quality jobs for persons in the low-and moderate-income levels.

The following is a report on the activities the state plans to undertake during the next year to target economic development activities for CDBG funds. The CDBG allocations for economic development are structured around economic and business development. Resources must be addressed to serious problems affecting the local economic base. These include loss of population in 70 of 93 counties, inequitable distribution of income in the metro and non-metro areas, and the need for increased subsidy for food and housing.

### **The Economic Development Commission and CDBG Advisory Committee**

CDBG strategies result from more than 15 years of consultation with local communities and public comment. The selection criteria and priorities outlined in the Economic Development section of this Action Plan also were developed with advice of the Nebraska Economic Development Commission, as well as the CDBG Advisory Committee. Priorities and strategies support the state's anti-poverty strategy of creating jobs with livable wages, and are directed toward both workers and employers. The efforts for workers include assuring that education, job training, and skill development programs adequately prepare them for the jobs that are available. The business efforts include providing economic assistance, tax credits, and loans that attract new firms; retain/expand existing firms - especially businesses that hire low- and very low-income people; and assistance for new businesses and entrepreneurs.

Set up by state statute, the Nebraska Economic Development Commission provides leadership and advice to DED to strengthen Nebraska's position in the global economy. The Commission consists of nine voting members (three each from Nebraska's three congressional districts) and the DED director (as non-voting member).

The CDBG Advisory Committee, created in 1986, regularly consults with DED regarding the state's CDBG Program. The committee helps determine community development objectives, state priorities, and fund distribution guidelines. Committee members are appointed by the Nebraska Economic Development Commission upon recommendation of DED. The committee uses a sub-committee on economic development for consultation and advice.

The Nebraska Manufacturing Extension Partnership is a statewide center established in 1994 and administered by DED. The Nebraska Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) was formed specifically to help manufacturers build on their strengths, identify and capitalize on opportunities, and increase competitiveness and profitability. The MEP organization is designed to capitalize on the geographic distribution of Nebraska's community colleges, supplementing the colleges' expertise in training with expertise from programs directed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Food Processing Center, the Nebraska Business Development Center and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

### **Actions for the 2002 Program Year**

The three economic development strategies listed above each have objectives and measurements that were planned by the state for the 2002 Program Year. The objectives and performance measurements that were planned for the three economic development strategies are listed below along with a progress report detailing the headway made under each performance measurement during the 2002 program year. The following rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

**A → Activity Exceeded Measurement**

**P → Performance Satisfied Measurement**

**R → Reasonable Progress Made**

**N → No Progress**

+ **Strategy One**  
**Keep Nebraska's Industries Competitive**

**Objective #1:** Expand value-added agriculture by providing technical services, job training opportunities, and financial assistance to existing and new businesses.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately four business loans will be made by June 30, 2003.

A **Progress Report:** During the program year nine loans were made to value-added agriculture businesses.

**Objective #2:** Diversify manufacturing companies through job training and providing technical and financial assistance to businesses statewide.

**Performance Measurement:** Businesses will be served annually with technical and financial assistance. Services will be provided to approximately 20 businesses by June 30, 2003.

A **Progress Report:** During the program year twenty-two (22) manufacturing businesses received technical and financial assistance from the Department.

**Objective #3:** Expand export-oriented services for businesses with national, international, and e-commerce trade by providing job training for low- and moderate-income individuals.

**Performance Measurement:** By June 30, 2003, approximately 30 individuals will have participated in the job training programs.

A **Progress Report:** During the program year sixty-five (65) individuals participated in job training programs for export-oriented businesses.

+ **Strategy Two**  
**Keep Nebraska's Places Competitive**

**Objective #1:** Invest in communities that support businesses and its citizens, especially low- and moderate-income persons and special needs populations, in entrepreneurial opportunities.

**Performance Measurement:** Technical assistance services and small business loans will be tracked annually. By June 30, 2003 the state will update the assessment of the number of new jobs created for low- and moderate-income individuals or persons with special needs.

P **Progress Report:** One micro-enterprise project was presented during the program year. It provided technical assistance to small businesses statewide. Technical assistance was provided to 146 small businesses.

**Objective #2:** Enhance workforce adaptability by providing job training and upgrading skills of Nebraska workers.

**Performance Measurement:** It is estimated that approximately 200 individuals will be served in the 2002 program year. Impact will be determined based on the businesses responding and actual individuals served by training.

**A Progress Report:** During the program year 536 Nebraska workers participated in job skill and enhancement training.

**Objective #3:** Target innovation and future workforces by providing job training to meet unfilled job positions.

**Performance Measurement:** The number of individuals served in job training programs will be assessed after the first year of implementation. It is estimated that approximately 600 individuals will be provided job training in the 2002 program year.

**A Progress Report:** During the program year 912 individuals participated in job training that was targeted for innovative skills and future workforce.

#### + Strategy Three

#### Keep Nebraska's People Competitive

**Objective #1:** Strengthen economic capacity of communities by funding economic development projects that benefit businesses. Businesses will use funds to invest capital in equipment and facilities and create or retain jobs.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately 400 jobs will be created or retained during the period July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003.

**A Progress Report:** During the program year nineteen (19) regular economic development projects were awarded CDBG funds totaling \$8,056,168. 843 jobs were created or retained as a result of these projects, which leveraged an additional \$178,065,331 in other funds. In addition to these 19 "regular" projects, three (3) entrepreneur development projects were awarded CDBG funds totaling \$230,950, which leveraged an additional \$466,950 in other funds.

**Objective #2:** Support businesses and economic development focused activities that use information and telecommunications technologies.

**Performance Measurement:** Approximately three communities will be targeted for investment by June 30, 2003.

**R Progress Report:** During the program year two communities received CDBG awards where the supported business was an information technology business or a telecommunications technology business. The award amounts, leveraged funds amounts,

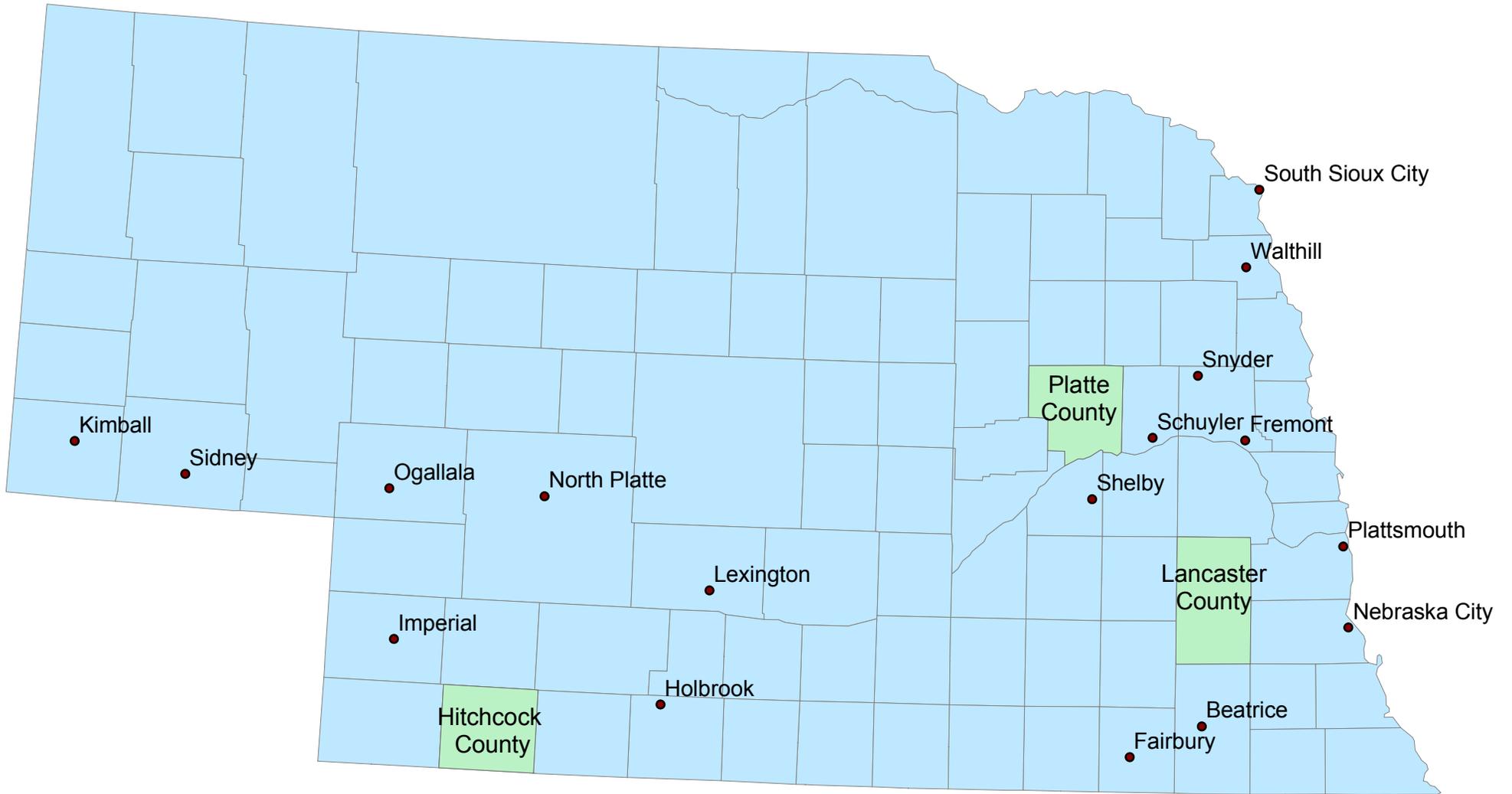
and job creation associated with these two projects are included within the totals in the progress report narrative for Objective #1 above.

**Objective #3:** Strengthen capacity of communities for business attraction through investment in speculative buildings.

**Performance Measurement:** By June 30, 2003, invest through the speculative building program with partners and Nebraska communities in funding a minimum \$1 million in constructing new or rehabilitating existing buildings to be used as speculative buildings.

**R Progress Report:** During the program year one speculative building project award was made, designed to create 13 jobs, utilizing \$255,000 in CDBG funds and leveraging \$278,000 in additional funds.

# 2002 CDBG Economic Development Awards



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
2002 Awards  
Economic Development Category**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Activities</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Amount Leveraged</b>
01ED014	City of Minden	KAAPA Ethanol LLC	\$455,668	\$53,174,332
01ED023	Village of Walthill	Business Incubator	\$105,000	\$300,000
01ED024	City of Kimball	Business Incubator	\$72,950	\$66,950
02ED001	City of South Sioux City	Beef Products, Inc.	\$505,000	\$900,000
02ED002	Village of Snyder	Danko Emergency Equipment	\$350,000	\$955,000
02ED003	Village of Holbrook	GROW Nebraska	\$53,000	\$100,000
02ED004	City of Plattsmouth	Pipe Products LLC	\$506,000	\$3,580,000
02ED005	City of Lexington	Cornhusker Energy Lexington	\$505,000	\$53,500,000
02ED007	City of Ogallala	Sypport, LLC	\$80,000	\$225,000
02ED008	City of Fremont	Chistensen Business Park	\$255,000	\$278,000
02ED010	City of Fairbury	Lambriar Animal Health Care	\$155,000	\$150,000
02ED011	Lancaster County	Archer Daniels Midland	\$505,000	\$2,500,000
02ED013	City of Nebraska City	Excel Corporation	\$1,005,000	\$1,000,000
02ED014	Hitchcock County	Trenton Agri Products LLC	\$608,000	\$44,400,000
02ED016	City of Kimball	Curley's Machine Works	\$205,000	\$200,000
02ED020	Village of Shelby	Callaway Inc Assembly Bldg	\$103,000	\$200,000
02ED021	City of Lexington	MidPlains Holdings LLC	\$355,000	\$650,000
02ED022	City of North Platte	Cabela Infrastructure	\$255,000	\$263,000
02ED023	Platte County	Shell Valley Companies	\$505,000	\$626,000
02ED026	City of Schuyler	NorAm Cold Storage	\$305,000	\$6,698,868
02ED027	City of Sidney	Cabela Distribution Center	\$1,010,000	\$4,160,631
02ED028	City of Imperial	Allo Communications LLC	\$138,500	\$132,500
02ED031	City of Beatrice	Store Kraft Manufacturing Co	\$505,000	\$4,750,000
		<b>TOTAL CDBG AWARDED</b>	<b>\$8,542,118</b>	
			<b>Total Leveraged</b>	<b>\$178,810,281</b>

*Section Five:*  
HOME PROGRAM REPORT

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# HOME Program Performance Report

## **Analysis of Consolidated Plan HOME Strategies**

HOME funds were distributed according to the different categories identified on pages 3-2 to 3-8 of the State of Nebraska 2002 approved Consolidated Annual Action Plan.

## **Results of On-Site Inspections of Affordable Rental Housing**

Thirty-eight inspections of affordable rental housing projects were conducted during the 2002 program year. One project did not meet minimum property standards at the time of the visit, however the project met property standards during a follow-up visit.

Twenty-nine rental projects met compliance with occupancy requirements. Department staff is working towards compliance with the other rental projects. Additional training and on-site visits are planned.

## **Affirmative Marketing and Minority Outreach**

We are continuing to pursue information and assistance in this area. DED Affordable Housing Program fund recipient program guidelines are reviewed to provide assistance on affirmative marketing strategies. All DED designated CHDOs are required to have an affirmative marketing plan. Finally, DED makes available the Directory to Historically Underutilized Businesses to all recipients and applicants for reference in soliciting minority and women owned businesses for work. This guide is also used when DED publishes a Request for Proposals when contracting special projects.

The outreach effort for Minority, Women and Disabled Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE/DBE) includes a requirement to solicit responses to Requests for Proposals and bids from such entities by state recipients as part of their procurement process. A state recipient must have an approved procurement process and monitoring is done by staff to insure that the recipient is following their approved process. Monitoring of recipients also reviews the characteristics of bidders, both accepted and denied. DED provides a directory by trades/services of MBE/WBE/DBE firms (which are historically underutilized businesses (HUB)). Each grantee can request a statewide HUB Directory, and is encouraged to use the directory for HOME projects and in non-HOME related procurement.

*Section Six:*

Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program Overview -  
Emergency Shelter Grant Program and Nebraska  
Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund

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## **Program Overview:**

The Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program has two funding sources: the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides funds through the Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP); the State of Nebraska provides funds through the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF). The state funds are created by a tax on transfer of property sales in the state. The combined funds are referred to as the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP). The Department of Health & Human Services – Office of Economic and Family Support administers the program. In July of 2002, organizational tasks were defined.

Organizational tasks for 2002 included: (1) development of state regulations for the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program; (2) increased collaboration and communication between regional Continuums of Care and the State; (3) development of an allocation formula for the NHAP grant funds; (4) provide technical assistance to regional continuums and apply for additional funding through HUD's Super NOFA process, and (5) facilitate a decision making process for reaching consensus about a HMIS and work toward implementation of a statewide HMIS.

## **2002-2003 Results:**

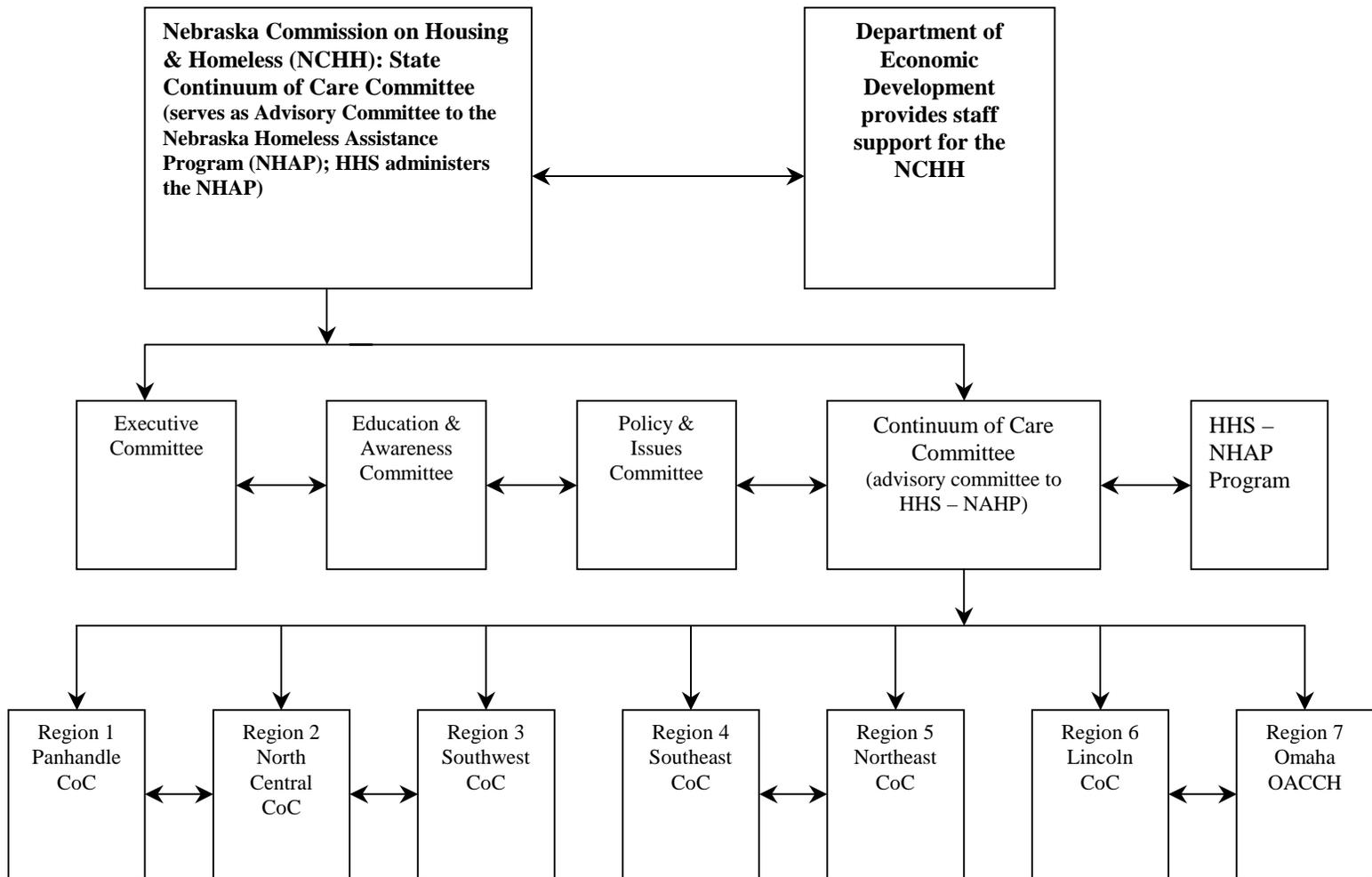
- 1) State regulations for the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) based on Federal regulations for HUD's Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) and the Nebraska Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF) were developed.

Drafts of ESGP and HSATF regulations were developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Copies of the drafts were sent to the NHAP advisory committee for review. Two videoconferences facilitated receiving input from the advisory committee. A public hearing was held; regulations are in the final stage of adoption.

- 2) Increased collaboration and communication between regional Continuums of Care and the State has occurred through video conferencing, participation in regional continuum meetings by the administrator of the NHAP and the NHAP specialist, and participation of the advisory committee members in the NHAP planning process. Meetings have been conducted via video conferencing in order to facilitate participation of members from regional continuums across the state.

The advisory committee to the NHAP was established November 2002. The advisory committee consists of 31 members composed of governor appointees to the Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH) and at-large members. The committee meets quarterly with the NCHH and on an as-needed basis to conduct business specific to the state's continuum of care activities. The advisory committee has reviewed and provided input on state regulations and a funding allocation formula for the NHAP, served as members of review teams making recommendations for funding for the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program, and provided input on other items of concern to the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program, such as revised monthly report forms.

Advisory committee members represent the seven Continuum of Care regions in Nebraska's Statewide Continuum of Care. Each representative reports back to their respective regional continuum. The organizational structure for the State Continuum of Care is diagramed on the following page:



A Continuum of Care system has the goal of moving all persons who are homeless to permanent housing. This means identifying all homeless populations in communities, understanding the need of people who are homeless and near homeless, and building a comprehensive system that responds to those needs. A Continuum of Care approach helps communities/regions strategically plan for and provide a balance of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and service resources to address the needs of people who are homeless so they can make the critical transition from homelessness to jobs, independent living, and/or permanent housing.

Regional and local Continuums of Care recognize the importance of all the components of a continuum of care, and work from common definitions of prevention, outreach, intake and assessment, emergency shelter, transitional programs, supportive housing, and permanent housing and all appropriate support services.

- (3) An allocation formula for use in distributing NHAP grant funds was developed and implemented. Criteria for developing an allocation formula included a base, population, persons living in poverty, and factors considered by HUD. The allocation formula, developed with input from the advisory committee, is based on a \$50,000 base, with the remaining allocation divided equally between population, poverty, and pro rata figures for each region.

The Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program distributes funds to agencies across the state through a competitive grant process. A Request for Proposals and Application was announced February 3, 2003 with Public Notices and a mailing to agencies and organizations serving people who are homeless and near homeless. Successful proposals needed to reflect the purpose of the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) of providing an overall "Continuum of Care" approach to address the needs of people who are homeless and near homeless in Nebraska, by:

- assisting in the alleviation of homelessness,
- providing temporary and/or permanent shelters for persons who are homeless,
- addressing the needs of the migrant farm workers,
- encouraging the development of projects that link housing assistance programs with efforts to promote self-sufficiency.

High Priority is given to funding programs that address any or all of the following:

- Strategies that promote self-sufficiency (e.g. case management, outreach, development of independent living skills, counseling services, basic skills instruction, high school completion) for persons who are homeless.
- Strategies that address a "Continuum of Care" approach to providing shelter and service through collaboration of services with other agencies.
- Expansion of operations, services, and programs that fill an identified gap in the regional/local continuum of care. This includes the rehabilitation of an existing building for emergency shelter and/or transitional program facility.
- Operations, services, and programs that, if they were discontinued, would create a substantial, recognizable gap in the regional/local continuum of care.
- Prevention activities that are a long-term solution to preventing homelessness in the region.

The goal of homeless programs in the State of Nebraska is to provide services to homeless people to help them reach self-sufficiency. It is widely recognized that homelessness is not due to just a lack of shelter; it also involves a variety of unmet needs and underlying economic, physical, and social challenges. To the extent that homelessness encompasses a wide range of conditions, the State strongly supports the "Continuum of Care" concept as an effective approach to addressing the needs of people who are homeless. Continuum of Care is a community and regional-based process that provides a comprehensive and coordinated housing and service delivery system. HUD initiated the

“Continuum of Care” process in 1994. The process promotes a coordinated, strategic planning approach for programs that assist families and individuals who are homeless and near homeless.

Grantees must participate in their regional continuum of care. If a service or housing provider is not currently involved in a Regional/Local Continuum of Care Group, they need to contact Jean Chicoine, [jean.chicoine@hss.state.ne.us](mailto:jean.chicoine@hss.state.ne.us) and/or (402) 471-9644, to identify a primary contact person in the area.

Funds are awarded through a regional and programmatic (i.e. activity specific) allocation process which emphasizes equitable distribution as well as quality projects and programs. In order to serve the needs of people who are homeless throughout the entire state, HHS strongly considers the geographic distribution of funds according to the regions. The intent of the grant is to supplement a homeless service provider's budget. Organizations are encouraged to seek other sources of funding and collaborate and coordinate programs and services with other organizations to be prepared for any budget cuts and to optimize the use of NHAP funds.

- (4) Technical assistance was provided to the Northeast Nebraska Continuum of Care (Region 5). Assistance facilitated the Continuum's development of an Exhibit 1 to submit in the Super NOFA process. Region 5 submitted an Exhibit 1 and two (2) Exhibit 2s. A transitional housing with supportive services project was submitted by CareCorps, Inc. for \$240,000; Goldenrod Hills Community Action, Inc. submitted an Exhibit 2 for implementation of an HMIS in the region. The request for funding for HMIS totaled \$23,632. The total funding request was for \$263,632.
- (5) To remain competitive for HUD funding, a HMIS must be implemented by October 2004. All Continuums that did not have a HMIS in place submitted a request for funding to implement a HMIS in the Super NOFA application. Two continuums have a HMIS. One asked for funding to expand the system. The other includes development of their HMIS for their continuum in annual budgets.

**Assessment of 2002 ESGP Activities as Supporting the Goals and Objectives of the Five-Year Plan**

**2002 ESGP Activities:**

Funding for the 2002-2003 NHAP grant cycle was:

Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP)	\$ 502,048.00
Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF)	\$ 847,654.00
TOTAL NHAP	\$1,349,702.00

During the 2002-2003 grant year, the ESGP activities of 63 grantees statewide supported the goals and objectives of the five-year plan by providing the fundamental components of continuum of care systems to people who were homeless and near homeless across the state. Grantees in each region conducted outreach activities to reach people in need. The intake process enabled staff of the various agencies to identify an individual's or family's service and housing needs and link them to appropriate housing and/or service resources.

Balance of State:

During the 2002-2003 grant year, 40 agencies in the five-region balance of state provided a total of 8,395 men, women, and children emergency shelter and appropriate services. An additional 16,237 men, women, and children who were near homeless were assisted with services to prevent them from becoming homeless. The following table shows the number of individuals and families assisted with Emergency Shelter Grant Program and Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund dollars from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Region 1: Panhandle (Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Box Butte, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, Deuel counties)

Region 2: North Central (Cherry, Keya Paha, Boyd, Brown, Rock, Holt, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Boone, Platte, Colfax, Custer, Valley, Greeley, Sherman Howard, Nance, Hall, Merrick, Hamilton counties)

Region 3: Southwest: Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Keith, Lincoln, Perkins, Dawson, Buffalo, Chase, Hayes, Frontier, Gosper, Phelps, Kearney, Dundy, Hitchcock, Redwillow, Furnas, Harlan, Franklin counties)

Region 4: Southeast: Polk, Butler, Saunders, Sarpy, York, Seward, Lancaster [Lincoln excluded], Cass, Otoe, Fillmore,

Saline, Adams, Clay, Webster, Nuckolls, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, Richardson counties)

Region 5: Northeast: Knox, Cedar, Dixon, Dakota, Antelope, Pierce, Wayne, Thurston, Madison, Stanton, Cuming, Burt, Dodge, Washington, Douglas counties [Omaha excluded]

CATEGORIES			OPERATIONS	CLIENT SERVICES	HOMELESS PREVENTION	REHABILITATION
1	Numbers should reflect those served by NHAP Funds ONLY	ESG	\$ 139,918.69	\$ 126,880.75	\$ 110,256.43	\$ 0
		HSATF	\$ 160,289.00	\$ 412,065.00	\$ 207,148.00	\$ 32,904.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 300,207.69</b>	<b>\$ 538,945.75</b>	<b>\$ 317,404.43</b>	<b>\$ 32,904.00</b>

Ethnicity		Homeless	Near Homeless
2	Hispanic or Latino	1562	1623
3	Not Hispanic or Latino	6833	14614

Racial Characteristics		Homeless	Near Homeless
4	White	6680	11838
5	Black/African American	326	400
6	Asian	39	26
7	American Indian/Alaskan Native	483	507
8	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3	4
9	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White	131	384
10	Black/African American and White	18	39
11	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American	2	9
12	Other Multi-Racial	713	3030
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8395</b>	<b>16237</b>
13	Disabled	304	552

Status			
14	Unaccompanied Men – Total Persons Served	1974	1460
15	Unaccompanied Women – Total Persons Served	1299	1602
16	Single Parent Families - # of Families	1161	1573
17	Single Parent Families – Total Persons Served	3461	6069
18	Two Parent Families - # of Families	282	915
19	Two Parent Families – Total Persons Served	950	3888
20	Adult Couple with No Children – Total Persons Served	239	562
21	Unaccompanied Youth/Under 18 (Excluding State Wards) – Total Persons Served	10	37
22	State Wards – Total Persons Served	2	4
23	Other	460	2615
<b>24</b>	<b>TOTAL PERSONS SERVED</b> (14+15+17+19+20+21+22+23)	8395	16237

### Lincoln and Omaha:

An additional 10,360 men, women, and children who were homeless were assisted by 23 grantees that received the Nebraska Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund in Lincoln and Omaha. Another 10,269 men, women and children who were near homeless also received services that allowed them to remain housed. The characteristics of the people served are shown in the following table.

Region 6: Lincoln  
Region 7: Omaha

CATEGORIES		OPERATIONS	CLIENT SERVICES	HOMELESS PREVENTION	REHABILITATION
1	Numbers should reflect those served by NHAP Funds ONLY	ESG	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	\$ n/a
		HSATF	\$ 146,745.00	\$ 428,759.00	\$ 41,000.00
		TOTAL	\$ 146,745.00	\$ 428,759.00	\$ 41,000.00

Ethnicity		Homeless	Near Homeless
2	Hispanic or Latino	1721	1742
3	Not Hispanic or Latino	8639	8527

<b>Racial Characteristics</b>		<b>Homeless</b>	<b>Near Homeless</b>
4	White	6057	5846
5	Black/African American	2373	1407
6	Asian	63	211
7	American Indian/Alaskan Native	533	544
8	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	49	15
9	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White	24	33
10	Black/African American and White	99	70
11	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American	20	24
12	Other Multi-Racial	1142	2119
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10360</b>	<b>10269</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Disabled</b>	<b>1093</b>	<b>1458</b>
<b>Status</b>			
14	Unaccompanied Men – Total Persons Served	4004	1760
15	Unaccompanied Women – Total Persons Served	2088	1400
16	Single Parent Families - # of Families	754	747
17	Single Parent Families – Total Persons Served	2308	2410
18	Two Parent Families - # of Families	154	530
19	Two Parent Families – Total Persons Served	621	2443
20	Adult Couple with No Children – Total Persons Served	191	705
21	Unaccompanied Youth/Under 18 (Excluding State Wards) – Total Persons Served	315	107
22	State Wards – Total Persons Served	542	0
23	Other	291	1444
<b>24</b>	<b>TOTAL PERSONS SERVED</b> (14+15+17+19+20+21+22+23)	<b>10360</b>	<b>10269</b>

## **ESGP Projects and the Continuum of Care Strategy**

The Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program utilized the Statewide Continuum of Care sub committee of the governors' appointed Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homeless in order to provide additional advisory capacity to the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program. The Continuum of Care at the statewide level was strengthened by widening the participation in the Continuum of Care to include at-large members that represent subpopulations of people who are homeless. The state's participation in regional continuums of care was increased via regular attendance at regional continuum of care meetings. Technical assistance was offered to one region to coordinate efforts within that region.

Fundamental components of all continuum of care systems are:

- Outreach, intake, and assessments to (1) identify an individual's or family's service and housing needs and (2) link them to appropriate housing and/or service resources.
- Emergency shelter and safe, decent alternatives to the streets.
- Transitional housing with supportive services to help people develop the skills necessary for permanent housing.
- Permanent housing and permanent supportive housing.

The Emergency Shelter Grant Program Projects are designed to be the first step in the continuum of assistance to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living (HUD, Program Desk Guide).

The 2002 ESGP activities assisted 8,395 individuals who were homeless and 16,237 who were near homeless. Emergency shelter in the form of a shelter facility or hotel-motel vouchers were provided to insure a safe alternative to the streets. Additional services such as case management, employment assistance, counseling, transportation, day care, food and meals, and medical services were provided to help individuals move to transitional, permanent, or permanent supportive shelter.

## **A Description of the State's Method of Distribution (of ESGP Funds); Rating and Selection of ESGP Local Government and Private Nonprofit Recipients.**

The 2002-2003 allocation process was a collaborative process between the Department of Economic Development (DED) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Because the program was transferring from DED to HHS, allocations were made based on prior year allocations. The proposals were jointly reviewed by DED and HHS. Applicants met the necessary criteria in (1) organization, programs, and services, (2) program funding request, (3) program data, (4) budget information, (5) effectiveness measures, and (6) continuum of care involvement. The same categories were used to rate and select projects for funding for the 2003-2004 grant cycle. Criteria were defined and points assigned to each category. A budget narrative was also added.

2003-2004 applications were reviewed and ranked by teams using the following criteria and point system:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Points</b>
I. Organization, Programs, Services	History of the organization's development, mission, focus of the organization's programs and services; adequacy of staffing, experience and competence of staff; demonstrated ability of project management. Relevant information on any subcontractor.	20
II. Program Funding Request	Purpose of program service. Description of how the proposed program addresses client need(s). Client need documented by the number of persons housed per night, the number of meals provided, or other verifiable units of service provided by the applicant. Organization exhibits a record of accurate tracking of needs and services.	25
III. Program Data	Requested data for type of project, services, population(s) served, characteristics of populations served, and racial/ethnic characteristics.	8
IV. Budget Information	Budget and audit reflect use of sound fiscal policy. Budget shows diversified budget funding sources. Budget and budget narrative provide a clear understanding of the financial aspect of the project.	7
V. Effectiveness Measures	Description of client needs, service(s) that meet needs, and how each is evaluated for effectiveness. Description of the method by which outcomes will be measured.	15
VI. Continuum of Care Involvement	Evidence throughout the application of coordination of services or providers implementing a continuum of care approach. Evidence that ongoing services are essential to the Regional/Local Continuum of Care and expanded services will fill a gap identified in the Regional/Local Continuum of Care.	25

The review of 2003-2004 grant cycle proposals was accomplished by five review teams. Review teams included members of the NHAP advisory committee and employees of the State. Teams were composed of individuals with agencies and organizations that represented populations of people who are homeless and near homeless.

Additionally, one of the organizational tasks for 2002-2003 was to develop a written allocation formula for use in distributing NHAP grant funds. An allocation formula helps insure an equitable distribution of NHAP funds throughout the entire state. Criteria for developing an allocation formula included a base, population, persons living in poverty, and factors considered by HUD. The allocation formula, developed with input from the advisory committee, is based on a \$50,000 base, with the remaining allocation divided equally between population, poverty, and pro rata figures for each region.