

# Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program for DR-4420

## Focus Group: Session 1

**Planning Programs**

*January 20, 2022*

**NEBRASKA**

Good Life. Great Strength.

# Zoom Overview



Utilize the **chat** during the conversation.



You will be **muted** at the beginning of the meeting. Please **unmute** yourself to ask questions and provide feedback during the discussion.



We are available via email at **[ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov](mailto:ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov)** for any additional thoughts or feedback.



# **INTRODUCTION**

OVERVIEW OF PLANNING PROGRAMS

RISK AWARENESS PLANNING PROGRAM

HOUSING RESILIENCY PLANNING PROGRAM

NEXT STEPS

# Introductions

**Planning Programs Lead:**

**Jenny B. Mason**  
*Disaster Recovery Director*

**Nebraska Department of  
Economic Development (DED)  
CDBG-DR Staff:**

**Aaron Rozanski**  
*Infrastructure Program Manager*

**Mackenzie Martin Waldron**  
*Disaster Recovery Manager*

**Christina Zink**  
*Housing Program Manager*

**Aaron Boucher**  
*Community Development Specialist*

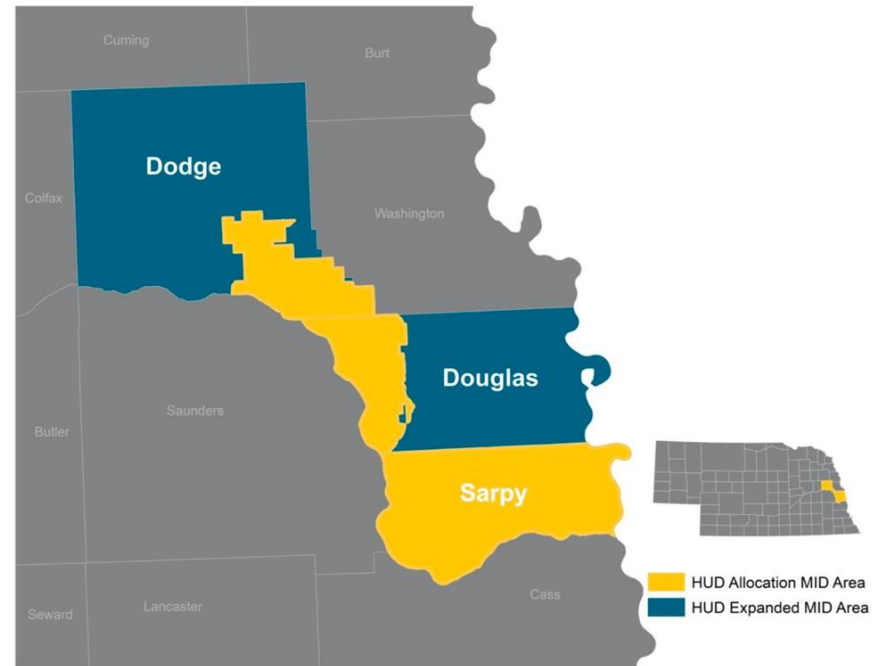
**Susan Nickerson**  
*Disaster Recovery Coordinator*

# Meeting Objectives

- **Describe** the purpose and structure of DED's Planning Programs.
- **Explain** how DED will manage the Risk Awareness Planning Program.
- **Provide** details regarding how Subrecipients will be selected to receive funds for the Housing Resiliency Planning Program.
- **Elicit** feedback, questions, and discussion from participants.
- **Incorporate** focus group outcomes and feedback into program implementation and design.

# Introduction to CDBG-DR

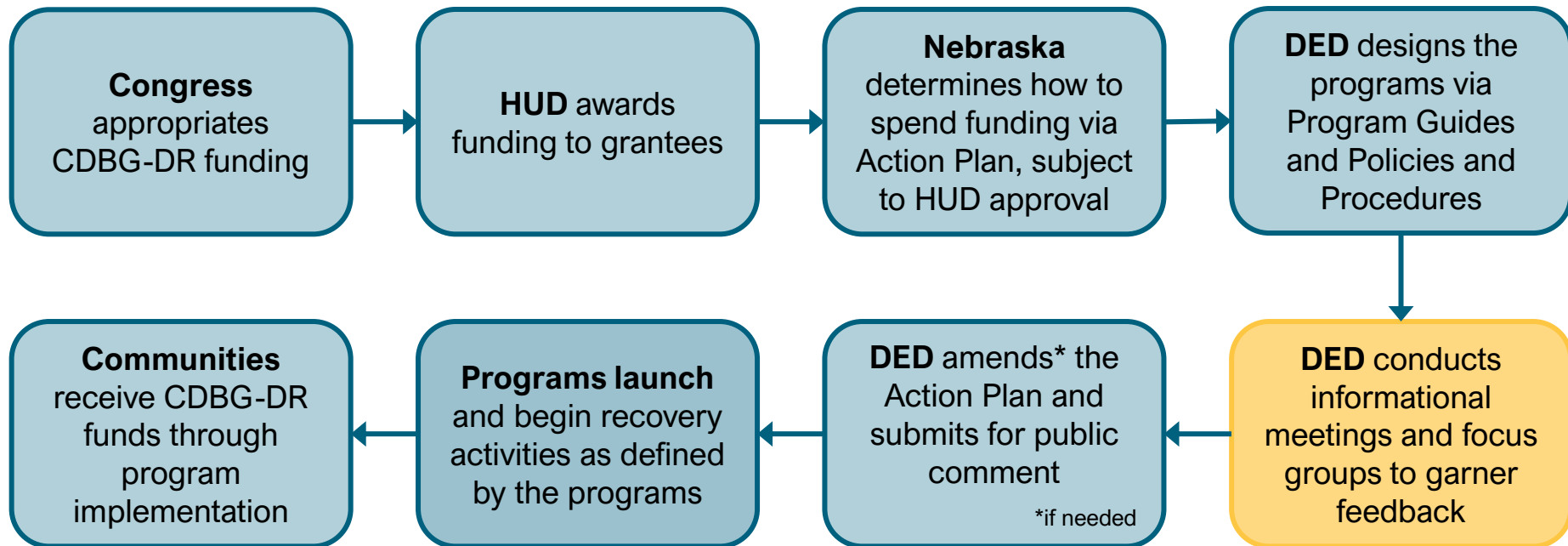
- The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) manages the CDBG-DR Program for the State of Nebraska.
- Funds must prioritize spending in HUD-defined Most-Impacted and Distressed (MID) areas and for Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) populations.
  - 80% of funds must address needs in the HUD-defined MID, which includes Dodge, Douglas, and Sarpy counties.
  - 70% of funds must support LMI populations.



# Nebraska's Commitment to the Community

The State of Nebraska enforces conduct of the CDBG-DR program **to ensure that no person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, or subjected to discrimination in any housing program or activity** because of their age, race, color, creed, religion, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, sex, disability, or marital status.

# How Does the State Access CDBG-DR Funds?





# Focus Group Methodology

## CDBG-DR FOCUS GROUPS

**INFRASTRUCTURE  
PROGRAM  
FOCUS GROUPS**

**HOUSING PROGRAMS  
FOCUS GROUPS**

**PLANNING  
PROGRAMS  
FOCUS GROUPS**

THE CDBG-DR FOCUS GROUP CATEGORIES WILL MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT SEQUENCE OF TOPICS

**PROGRAM  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOCUS GROUPS**

**PROGRAM  
PILOT  
FOCUS GROUPS**

**PROGRAM  
EVALUATION  
FOCUS GROUPS**



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# PLANNING PROGRAMS

DED will administer two planning programs with CDBG-DR funding to increase resilience throughout Nebraska:

## RISK AWARENESS PLANNING PROGRAM

Evaluate how privately-owned levees and levee-like structures affected flooding during Winter Storm Ulmer and fund community engagement and risk communication.

*Up to \$750,000 in available funding*

## HOUSING RESILIENCY PLANNING PROGRAM

Provide funding to Subrecipients to develop plans related to housing recovery, resiliency, and affordability.

*Up to \$2,250,000 in available funding*



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# Risk Awareness Planning Program (RAPP) Overview

**Program Goal: conduct research** to identify and assign risk to levees and levee-like structures (LLS) across the State followed by **outreach and education, reduce the flood risk from levees and LLS in the future.**

- Levee-like structures include agricultural berms, embankments, roadbed or grades, and other structures that may restrict high stream flows and potentially reduce inundation extents.
- RAP is a single grant administered by DED in collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).
- ***No additional grants will be provided to Subrecipients.***

# Risk Awareness Planning Program (RAPP)

- DED will convene a **steering committee** including DED, NeDNR, NEMA, and other partner agencies to ensure a comprehensive approach to risk awareness planning.
- DED will issue a Request for Proposals following the State's Procurement Manual.
- DED will select a contractor to support program implementation through a competitive procurement process.
- Plan Development will be conducted by the contractor, overseen by the Steering Committee.

# Risk Awareness Planning Program (RAPP)

- Following an awarded contract, the expected period of performance is two years.
- The program will be carried out in two primary phases:
  1. **Discovery and Planning:** Collect available data necessary to make an inventory and risk assessment of existing levee-like structures in Nebraska.
  2. **Outreach:** Increase awareness of risks associated with levee-like structures and create materials that communities can use to build resilience.
- Upon completing outreach under Phase Two, a final deliverable (e.g., presentation, plan) will be used to compile resources, data and analysis, and public outreach and associated tools for use statewide.



**RISK AWARENESS  
PLANNING PROGRAM  
BREAKOUT  
DISCUSSION**





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# Housing Resiliency Planning Program (HRPP)

**Program Goal: promote comprehensive community resilience** by providing funding for the development of housing plans to address flood vulnerabilities.

- Open to eligible entities serving areas in the **HUD-defined MID**.
- The Housing Resiliency Planning Program provides Subrecipients funding to develop a plan that includes one or more of the following:
  - Housing Recovery;
  - Housing Resilience; and
  - Affordable Housing.

# Housing Resiliency Planning Program



**Phase 1: Program Application and Award Process**



**Phase 2: Initiating Projects**



**Phase 3: Implementing Projects**



**Phase 4: Project Closeout**



# Phase 1: Program Application and Award Process



**DED Releases the Notice of Funding Opportunity**



**Apply for the Program via AmpliFund**



**Initial Review and Project Selection**



**Award Process**



**Subrecipient Agreement with DED**

# Who is Eligible to Become a Subrecipient?

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>Applicant falls under one of the following eligible categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counties;</li> <li>• Municipalities; and</li> <li>• Economic Development Districts.*</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Activities</b>	<p>Planning activities must focus on reducing flood vulnerability <u>and</u> include one <u>or</u> more of the following areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing recovery;</li> <li>• Housing resilience; or</li> <li>• Affordable housing.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Locations</b>	<p>Geographic area of the project falls under one or more of the following HUD-defined MID areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dodge County;</li> <li>• Douglas County; or</li> <li>• Sarpy County.</li> </ul>

*\*EDDs are eligible to apply for the HRP Program; however, the planning activities must be geographically located entirely in a HUD-defined MID area to be considered eligible for funding.*

# General Steps to a Successful Application

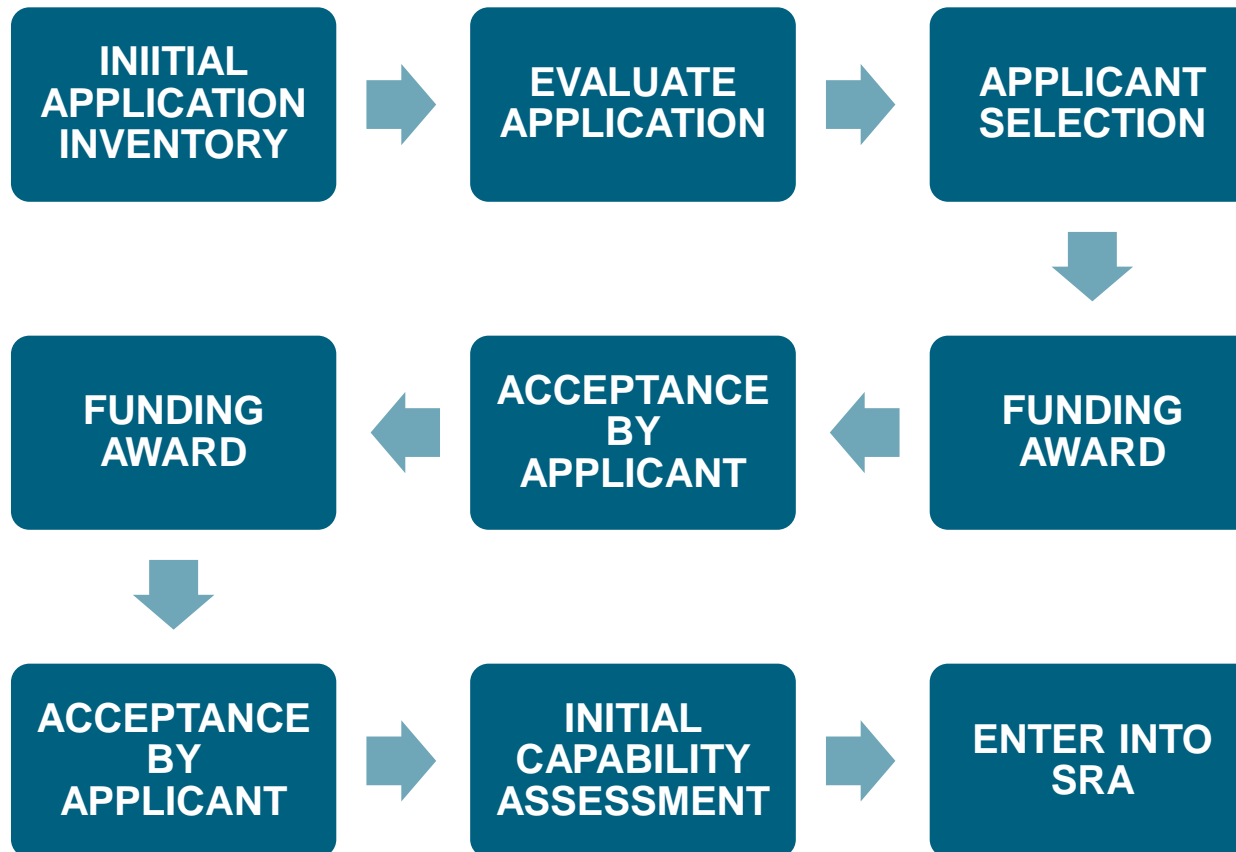
- All projects should address program goals:
  - Benefit LMI persons;
  - Implement projects in HUD-defined MID areas; and
  - Support community resiliency.
- All entities applying to the program must have been impacted by Winter Storm Ulmer (DR-4420) to receive assistance.

# Program Application and Award Process: Application Submission

Applicants must create an application and submit it to DED through its grants management system (GMS), AmpliFund. This requires:

- Program eligibility documentation;
- Compliance documentation; and
- Funding information.

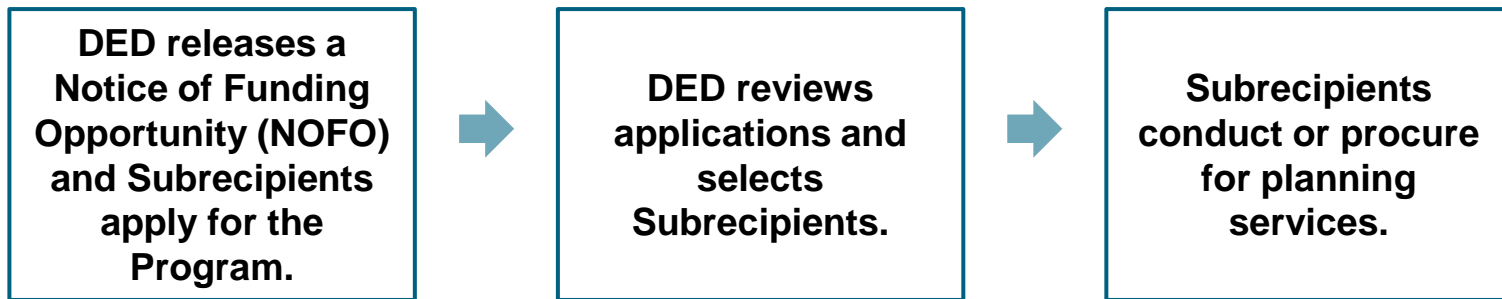
# Program Application and Award Process: Selection Review





# How Do I Apply to Become a Subrecipient?

- DED will issue one or more Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs).
- The NOFO will outline both threshold and competitive criteria.
- Awards will be made on a competitive basis.





# HOUSING RESILIENCY PLANNING PROGRAM BREAKOUT DISCUSSION #1

# Housing Resiliency Planning Program



**Phase 1: Program Application and Award Process**



**Phase 2: Initiating Projects**



**Phase 3: Implementing Projects**



**Phase 4: Project Closeout**



## Phase 2: Initiating Projects



**Recordkeeping and Data Management**



**Subrecipient Reporting Requirements**



**Financial Management**

# Recordkeeping and Data Management



**AmpliFund**



**Quarterly  
Performance Reports**



**Financial Reporting  
Requirements**

# Housing Resiliency Planning Program



Phase 1: Program Application and Award Process



Phase 2: Initiating Projects



Phase 3: Implementing Projects



Phase 4: Project Closeout



# Phase 3: Implementing Projects



**Project-Specific Milestones**



**Marketing and Outreach**



**Cross-Cutting Requirements**



**Subrecipient Monitoring and Compliance**



**Ongoing DED Monitoring**

# Cross-Cutting Requirements



**Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity**



**Labor Standards**



**Property Standards**



**Environmental Review**



**Relocation Requirements**



**Minority – and Women- Owned Business Enterprises**



**Section 3**



**Duplication of Benefits**



**Green Building Standards**



**Procurement**



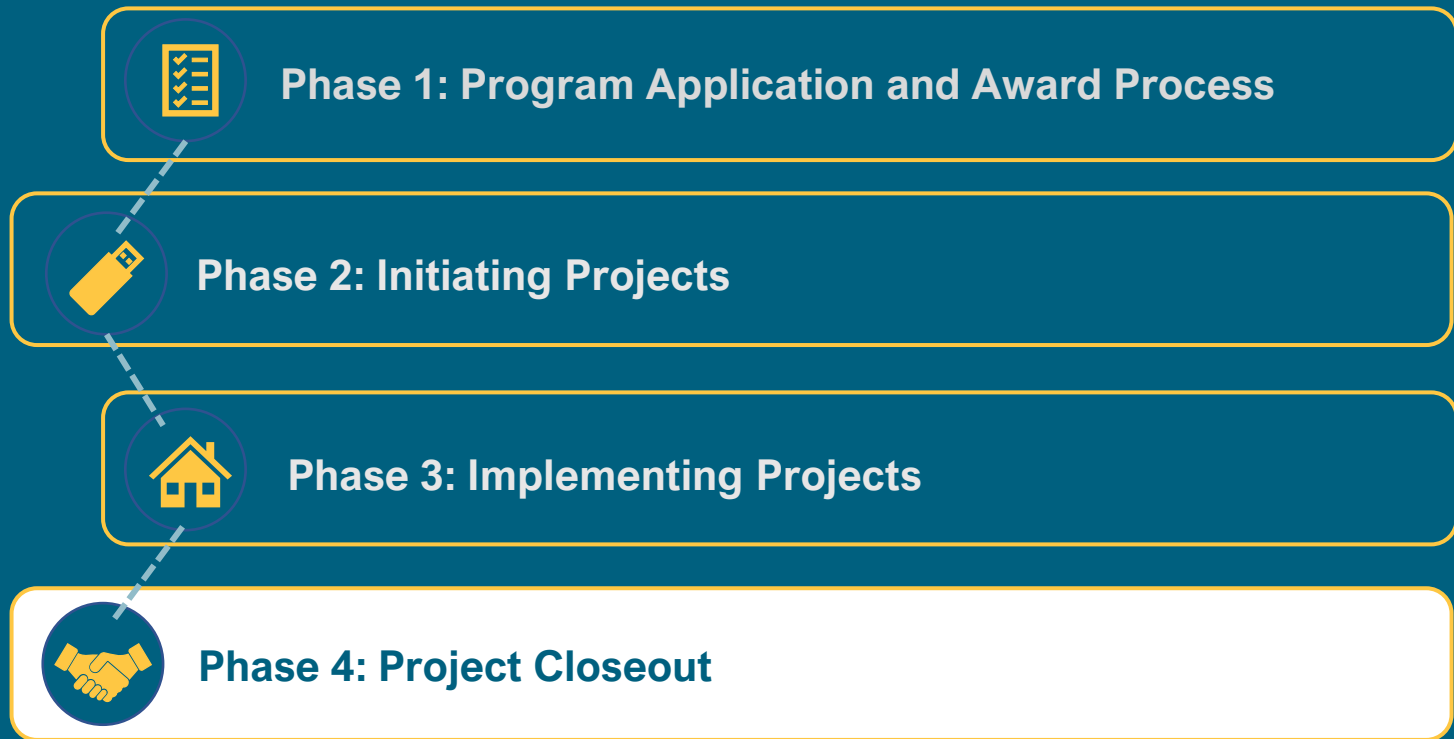
# Ongoing DED Monitoring

- Subrecipients will be monitored through **desktop monitoring** and may be subject to **on-site monitoring**.

Desktop Monitoring	On-site Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request documentation from Subrecipient.</li> <li>• Review collected documentation for compliance with CDBG-DR requirements.</li> <li>• Issue a Monitoring Report identifying areas of review, areas of weakness, areas of merit, and recommendations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review project and program files for compliance with CDBG-DR compliance.</li> <li>• Interview Subrecipient staff, engineers, or consultants as appropriate.</li> <li>• Issue a Monitoring Report identifying areas of review, areas of weakness, areas of merit, and recommendations.</li> </ul>

All projects will be monitored at least once prior to closeout. Frequency and type of monitoring is based on the results of the annual risk assessment.

# Housing Resiliency Planning Program





# Phase 4: Project Closeout



**Final Planning Document Submission**



**Records Retention**



**HOUSING RESILIENCY  
PLANNING PROGRAM  
BREAKOUT  
DISCUSSION #2**



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# Next Steps



## Visit the DED CDBG-DR Program Website

On the website you can sign up for the CDBG-DR program newsletter and review programmatic materials.

**Website:** [opportunity.nebraska.gov/cdbg-dr](https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/cdbg-dr)



## Provide Feedback Directly to DED

Additional feedback can be provided directly to the DED CDBG-DR team

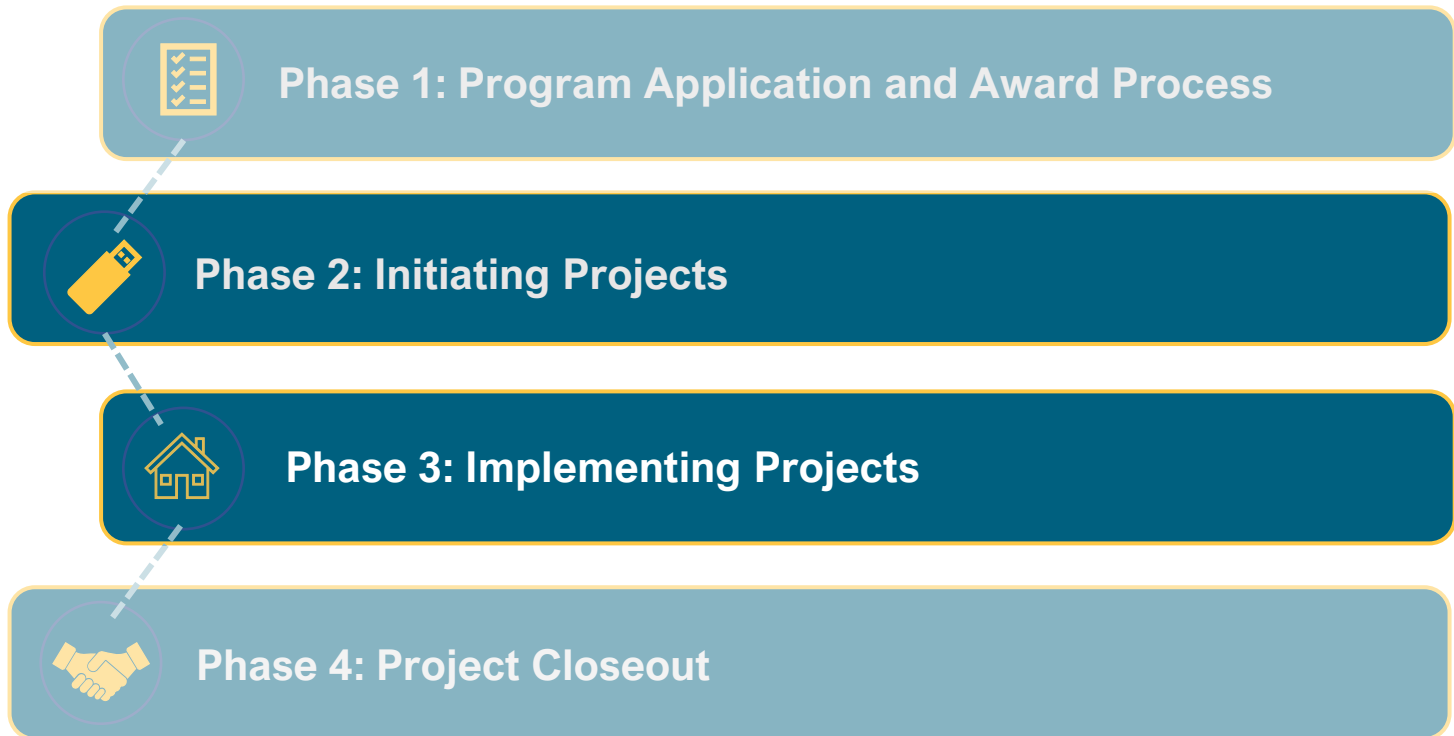
**Email:** [ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov](mailto:ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov)



## Attend Future Focus Group Sessions

The next focus group session will be held in **February**. The focus of the next focus groups will be on compliance requirements.

# Next Steps – Focus Group Sessions



# Q&A





# Contact Information

CDBG-DR Assistance

Housing & Community Development

[ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov](mailto:ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov)

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