

## **FEDERAL FUNDS FOR NATURAL DISASTERS IN NEBRASKA**

**Following the 2011 Missouri River flood, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) gave the counties along the Missouri River over \$3 million in public assistance funding.** Along with providing the affected counties with \$3,362,486 in public assistance funds, FEMA also gave \$623,653 in emergency work funding immediately following the accident. All of these funds were given in the span of three days, from June 19-June 21 of 2011. Without this funding, the affected areas would still be suffering extensively, and would have had an incredibly difficult time recovering from such a devastating flood<sup>1</sup>.

**From May 24,2011- August 1, 2011, FEMA gave over \$10 million in both individual assistance and public assistance to help Nebraskans repair flood damage and rebuild.** During this longer period, FEMA gave \$4,311,497 in individual assistance, \$4,180,886 in total housing assistance, as well as \$65,016,636 in public assistance. These funds went to helping individuals rebuild their lives, as well as helping the affected counties to pull themselves out from underwater.<sup>2</sup>

**FEMA has also helped Nebraskans recover from incidences of severe winter storms, high winds and tornadoes, and allowed them to be better prepared for these events.** Just before the large tornado that took out much of the town of Pilger, NE on June 16, 2014, FEMA had provided over \$4 million in funding to counties in the surrounding areas, which had also been affected by severe weather leading up to the tornado. This funding included \$4,126,915 in public assistance funding, \$272,329 in emergency work funding, and \$3,829,410 in permanent work funding<sup>3</sup>. (Without this funding, the areas affected by the massive tornado would have still been struggling to recover from other inclement weather, and would have been affected even more drastically by the tornado.

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<sup>1</sup> The counties that received the influx of money during this time included Dodge, Polk, York, Hamilton, Buffalo, Phelps, Red Willow, Chase, Dundy, and Hayes.

<sup>2</sup> The counties that benefitted from this funding included Burt, Washington, Dakota, Douglas, Sarpy, Cass, and Otoe.

<sup>3</sup> Counties that received this funding included Burt, Washington, Holt, Rock, Valley, Pawnee, Nemaha, and Cass.