



**Homeland
Security**

**Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin
No. 300, November 21, 2008**

TO: All State Contacts
All Core City/Core County Contacts

FROM: W. Ross Ashley, III
Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency

SUBJECT: Announcement of the Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) Strategic Plan

Since the inception of the Grants Programs Directorate (GPD) on April 1, 2007, GPD has worked diligently to establish a formal organization structure and to develop processes and procedures in-line with the strategic goals of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As the one-stop-shop for grants management, GPD is responsible for both the business management of all FEMA grant programs and the programmatic management of the suite of preparedness programs.

Earlier this year, GPD staff and management developed the Mission, Vision, Strategic Goals and Objectives for our Directorate with the aim of providing a greater understanding of GPD's role in FEMA and our strategic direction for the future. This is the basis of the GPD Strategic Plan, which was then drafted, vetted, and approved by FEMA senior management. Throughout the process, GPD received many comments and recommendations that have provided the Directorate with good ideas to consider as we work to implement the Strategic Plan. Those ideas include:

- Using the Grant Program Task Force to guide strategy and development and implementation;
- Working to increase and streamline communications from HQ to the FEMA Regions concerning grants-related issues; and
- Increasing coordination between the Grant Management Division (GMD), Grant Development and Administration Division (GD&A), and the FEMA Regions.

In case you are interested, GPD's Strategic Plan is now featured on FEMA's website at the following URL:

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/grants_stratplan.pdf

Additionally, a short, bi-fold outreach brochure has been developed and entitled, "The Grant Program Directorate Strategic Plan in Brief 2009 – 2011", which may be accessed at

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/plan_in_brief.pdf. This document highlights GPD's strategic goals and how they link to FEMA's overall goals.

Please be advised that a limited number of hard copies of the complete plan will be available in the near future. GPD is currently working with FEMA Publications to print a large quantity of the Plan-in-Brief, which should be available next month for the GPD National Conference on December 16-17, 2008.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support of FEMA grant programs.