

An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood, showing houses, streets, and trees. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. Centered on the image is white text.

**HOME REHABILITATION  
BLOCK GRANT  
PILOT PROGRAM  
\$4 MILLION**

# PURPOSE

- Iowa's housing stock is comparatively older than that in the rest of the country
  - Average median home age of approximately 50 years
  - 65% of Iowa's housing units were built prior to 1980
  - 25% of Iowa's housing units were built prior to 1940
- Working with community partners, this investment will provide income qualified homeowners with financial assistance for eligible repair expenses to help preserve their homes.



# PROGRAM DETAILS

- \$4 million pilot program targeted to stabilize neighborhoods and make transformative change in rural communities that have demonstrated active engagement in efforts to improve their housing stock
- Competitive funding round with application available coming soon.
  - **Application submission deadline Friday, November 19, 2021**
  - Funding awards to be announced by early 2022
  - Maximum grant award \$1 million per applicant
  - Minimum 25% Local Match requirement (scoring consideration for additional leverage)
  - Initial grant agreement performance period of two years from date of award approval



# ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Iowa communities with a population under 30,000 (2020 Census) meeting the following criteria:

- Community offers local financing incentives for housing development and/or preservation
- Community has a locally adopted building or housing code and a program for local enforcement of that code
- Community demonstrates public/private partnerships related to the proposed project
- Qualified administrative capacity through the city or a partner entity

Additional scoring consideration:

- Communities that have completed ISU Extension's Rural Housing Readiness Assessment



# ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Rehabilitation and repair expenses of homes.
- Technical services (such as inspections, work write-ups, cost estimates, construction supervision, radon testing, etc.) subject to a maximum per unit cap of \$3,000 per unit
- Funding must benefit homeowner households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income (a commitment to deeper income targeting will be a competitive scoring item)
  - Income limits are updated annually
- Rehabilitation activities must meet all applicable locally adopted and enforced building or housing codes, standards, or ordinances, as well as any applicable state and federal rules and regulations (such as may relate to Lead-Based Paint)
- No grant funding will be available for general administration

