

Overview of MID Counties Planning Process

Introduction: The Association of County Commissions of Alabama (ACCA) has partnered with the Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) Counties Consortium which includes Clarke, Dallas, Escambia, Marengo, Perry, Washington and Wilcox to develop an unmet needs plan that addresses the specific challenges faced by each of the seven MID Counties. This plan is part of a broader framework aimed at maximizing funding opportunities while ensuring compliance with all program requirements and guidelines.

Perspective: Over the past 16 months, the ACCA has been actively engaged in identifying unmet needs within the MID Counties. This effort has been focused on ensuring that all requirements and guidelines are met, thereby positioning the counties to secure the maximum possible funding to address their needs.

Process Overview: The ACCA's approach has been both collaborative and research-driven, involving extensive work with experts in long-term recovery. Key elements of this process include:

- **Research and Collaboration:** ACCA has conducted in-depth research and worked closely with field experts to tailor the Local Recovery Plan (LRP) to each county's specific needs.
- **Community Engagement:** A total of 29 meetings were held, with nearly 500 participants, including citizens and stakeholders from across the county.
- **Comprehensive Planning:** The collaborative efforts have resulted in a diverse and comprehensive plan that accurately reflects the articulated needs of the entire community.

Key Benefits: This strategic approach has provided MID Counties with a thorough understanding of their unmet needs. It has also enabled the development of a strategic plan that is both effective and responsive to those needs.

Next Steps: To continue achieving greater outcomes, the following steps are recommended:

1. **Project Identification:** MID Counties should begin identifying potential projects, with a target of five or more projects per county.
 2. **Workshop at ACCA Office:** A workshop will be held at the ACCA office, where one-on-one discussions will take place to review each county's plan. This will ensure that identified projects are appropriately incorporated and aligned with the overarching plan.
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Hurricanes Sally and Zeta MID Counties Consortium Project Selection and Application Checklist

Phase 1: Identify Potential Projects

Start Date: 26 August 2024

- **Gather and identify potential projects for evaluation.**
 - Description: Compile a list of potential projects (5+) based on the Local Recovery Plan (LRP).

Phase 2: Project Workshop

Start Date: 3 September 2024

End Date: 13 September 2024

- **Review Plan and evaluate potential projects.**
 - Description: Conduct a comprehensive one on one (one county per day) evaluation of each potential project in relation to the LRP and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) objectives. Hosted by ACCA at 2 North Jackson Street on the 6th floor starting at 10 am September 3-6 and September 10-13. Lunch provided. Please Book your Date Here. <https://calendar.app.google/ShKP2iXWqyEAGKjWA> or Scan this QR code.



Phase 3: Cost Estimates on Projects

Start Date: Following Workshop

- **Develop and review approximate cost estimates for the selected projects.**
 - Description: Calculate rough cost estimates for each of the selected projects.

Phase 4: Public Meeting

End Date: 22 October 2024

- **Conduct a public meeting to inform citizens of projects selected for application.**
 - Description: Present the selected projects to be applied for during a public meeting, which may be a regularly scheduled commission meeting.

Phase 5: Application Preparation

Start Date: On or about 22 October 2024

- **Application Workshop.**
 - Description: ADECA will conduct a workshop focused on training counties to complete the necessary documentation and ensure compliance with all requirements for application submission.
 - Date and Location: TBD, scheduled before applications will be accepted by ADECA.

Phase 6: Application Review

Start Date: Following Application Workshop

- **Application Submission.**
 - Description: Applications will be submitted to ADECA for evaluation.

Phase 7: ADECA Reviews Applications

Start Date: On or about 20 December 2024

- **Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) reviews the submitted applications.**
- **Review Completed and Approved by ADECA.**
 - Description: ADECA completes the review process and approves the applications.
- **Final Submission of Projects.**
 - Description: Make the final submission of the approved projects.

Phase 8: Grading by ADECA

Start Date: On or about 17 January 2025

End Date: On or about 17 April 2025

- **ADECA grades the submitted projects.**
- **Notification of Funding for Selected Projects.**
 - Description: Receive notification of funding for the selected projects.

Phase 9: Subrecipient Agreements Executed

Start Date: On or about 17 May 2025

End Date: On or about 16 July 2025