

Mississippi's OnBase Enterprise Content Management System

COSCDA Conference 2024

Tina Hines Mississippi Development Authority-Disaster Recovery Division

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Katrina's Wake in Mississippi

- 55 ft. sea waves with a 28 ft. storm surge (over 30 ft. in some areas)
- 80 miles of coastline destroyed
- Hurricane force winds 150 miles inland, spawning 11 tornados statewide
- All 82 counties declared disaster areas with 49 declared major disaster areas
- Entire communities Waveland, Bay St. Louis – obliterated
- 90% of buildings from Gulfport to Biloxi wiped out
- 220,000 damaged housing units, with 60,000 destroyed; over 100,000 homeless
- 46 million cubic yards of debris
- Estimated damages: \$30 Billion
- 235 Mississippians lost their lives





The Aftermath

- Hurricane Katrina marked the beginning of a new era
- Scale of destruction was unprecedented
- Recovery needs were extraordinary and required a shift in the traditional CDBG-DR recovery paradigm
- Adjustments in programs, policies, procedures, oversight, and monitoring



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mississippi development authority MISSISSIPPI

Such unparalleled, catastrophic damage...







and the development of innovative programs to address the multiple and varied recovery needs...

- •Homeowners Assistance Program- \$2 Billion Compensation Grant to eligible homeowners who suffered flood damage to their primary residences; 27,756 households served
- •Elevation Grant Program- \$30,000 grants to elevate homes to comply with new building codes; 1,002 households served
- •Neighborhood Home Program- addressed unmet needs in housing damage for LMI residents, prioritizing the elderly and disabled; 4,645 units completed
- •Port of Gulfport Restoration- rebuilt the Port's destroyed facilities and created a modern terminal- the "Port of the Future"
- •Tourism Industry Restoration Grant Program- grants to 28 venues and events along the Gulf Coast to advertise that they were open for business post-Katrina



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Drove the need for a comprehensive content services system to organize and manage program documents, processes, workflow, and cases





OnBase Enterprise Content Management (ECM)

- A process management software suite developed by Hyland Software
- MDA purchased and installed OnBase in 2008 to support eligibility processes and application documentation for Katrina Disaster Recovery programs managed by HORNE LLP
- Cost was included in HORNE's proposal to MDA-DRD for Katrina program support services
- A single system that can manage data, documents and processes

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OnBase ECM cont'd.

- Accommodates multiple file types- PDF, scanned documents, video files, and audio files
- Modular by design to allow users to tailor the system to their specific requirements
- MDA-DRD primarily uses OnBase for case management, document management, and workflow processes
- MUCH more convenient than paper files for monitoring reviews by HUD and other parties, particularly when reviews are not conducted in the MDA offices



OnBase ECM cont'd.

- Yearly maintenance fees: approximately \$45,000
- Additional charges for upgrades occur every few years and typically cost \$5,000-7,000 for MDA's system
- System is stored on MDA's network but is web-based and can be accessed through the Windows application or via a web browser
- Hyland Software still owns the software and controls/restricts how the platform can be altered

NOTE: To maintain eligibility for support/maintenance, licensees cannot alter the underlying database- must use Hyland's API and/or clients to update data in OnBase and their configuration tools for out of the box features. Currently, a developer must make those changes; however, end users will soon be allowed to make certain changes without IT expertise. Major functionality changes must still be performed by developers.

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Licenses

- · LICENSES ARE REQUIRED; software must be installed on individual laptops
- 2 types of Licensing:
 - 1. Individual User Licenses
 - For small to mid-sized companies without frequent changes in scale or varying use cases
 - Purchase licenses for individual users based on their specific needs
 - Pricing varies depending on number of users and the functions they will perform
 - Exiting employees will not reduce the overall cost of the license, which is based on the number of users
 - 2. Enterprise Licensing (concurrent licenses- MDA has these)
 - Suitable for organizations with highly fluctuating needs, such as growth or changes in scale or varied user needs
 - Covers everyone in an organization at a fixed rate; can add or remove users without additional costs
 - Ensures that every department has access to the add-ons they require without individually selecting and paying for each feature



OnBase

- Primarily developed for MDA-DRD as a document management system
 - Scanning the contents of project files allows for digital storage and paperless review by HUD and other monitors
 - Easy to search for specific documents by keywords, dates, or document type
 - Document categories based upon the layout of DRD paper files
- OnBase is not directly linked to DRGR, though MDA runs reports to check against DRGR reports to ensure consistency of data
- As Katrina CDBG-DR programs were developed and implemented, the system was customized by HORNE to meet the needs of MDA-DRD
- HORNE and MDA-DRD are collaborating on enhancements to the system to accommodate Hurricane Zeta and Ida CDBG-DR programs

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Program Manager Functions

- Entering line-item budgets, start and end dates, performance measures, project status, and other identifying information for individual projects
- Initial level of review and processing of requests for cash and invoices submitted by subrecipients and contractors
- Tracking of project expenditures
- Initial level of review and processing of subgrant budget modifications and requests for extension of time submitted by subrecipients
- Updating project details when necessary to reflect changes approved in budget modifications, contract amendments, etc.
- Scanning all project documents into the system for digital storage and easy access by HUD, program monitors, and other MDA staffs,



Program Manager Functions cont'd.

- Generating CDBG-DR program-specific summary reports that include up-to-date information on project and program expenditures, performance measures, modifications, projected end dates, and other project details
 - Reports used to:
 - Brief the MDA Executive Team, State and local elected officials, HUD, and other interested parties on the status of CDBG-DR programs and individual projects
 - Serve as a tool for program managers to cross-check date entered in DRGR for quarterly performance reporting to HUD
- Retrieving copies of digital documents when requested by HUD and other program reviewers
 - Eliminates the need to transport cumbersome paper files to offsite locations
 - Maintain the original paper files safely in MDA-DRD offices or State Archives storage

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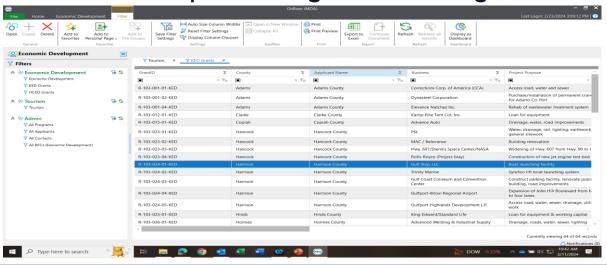


Program-Specific Home Pages

- Customizable by program manager/user
- Users are given access only to their programs or projects; prevents alteration of data by unauthorized personnel
- Home pages may be viewed as tiles or dashboard
- Project data may be exported to an Excel worksheet directly from these pages
- To access a specific activity or project, click on the project from the displayed list



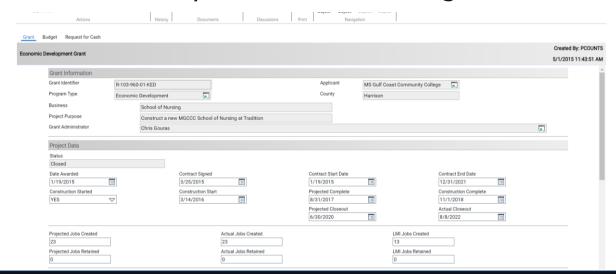
Economic Development Program Home Page



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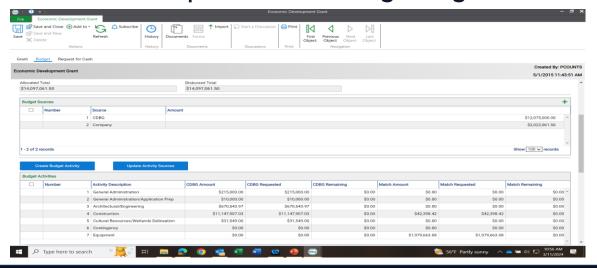


Economic Development Grant Home Page





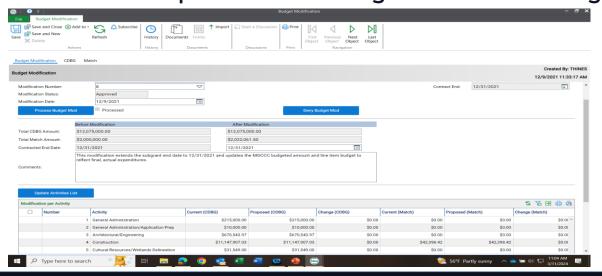
Economic Development Grant Budget Page



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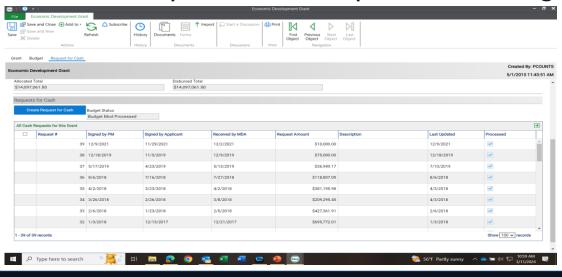


Economic Development Grant Budget Modification Page





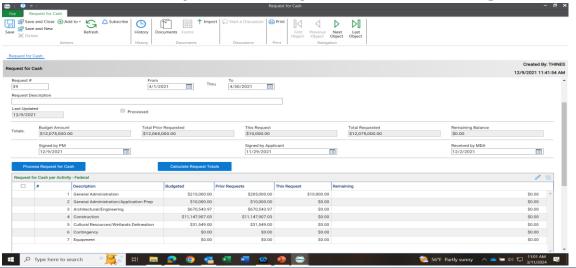
Economic Development Grant Request for Cash Page 1



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Economic Development Request for Cash Page 2





Economic Development Sample Report

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KATRINA CD	BG ECON	OMIC DEVELOPM	ENT PROJECT SUMMARY	AS OF 3-11-2024											
GrantID	County	Applicant Name	Business	Project Purpose	Status	Allocated CDBG	Disbursed CDBG	Remaining CDBG	% Spent CDBG	LMI Jobs Created	Jobs Created	Jobs Created Actual	Closeout Projected	Closeout Actual	Budget Status
Jiunub	County	Applicant Hume	Corrections Corp. of America	rroject ruipose	Status	Amocutcu CDDG	DISDUISCO CDDG	nemaning cood	A Spent Cobo	LINI JODS CICUICO	riojecteu	Actour	Closcout i rojectet	CIOSCOUL ACTUU	Budget Mod
-103-001-01-KED	Adams	Adams County	(CCA)	Access road, water and sewer	Closed	\$3,925,625.00	\$3,925,625.00		0 10	0 15	5 27	5 2	76 5/9/201	4 5/9/2014	Budget Mod Processed
:103-001-02-KED	Adams	Adams County	Dynasteel Corporation	Purchase/installation of permanent crane for Adams Co. Port	Closed	\$960.421.00	\$960.421.0		0 10	0 2	3 4	0 '	52 5/13/201	1 5/13/201	Budget Mod 1 Processed
103-001-04-KED		Adams County	Elevance Natchez Inc.	Rehab of wastewater treatment system	Withdrawn	\$30,000.00							0 12/31/201		Budget Mod Processed
103-012-01-KED	Clarke	Clarke County	Kamp-Rite Tent Cot, Inc.	Loan for equipment	Withdrawn	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00		0 10	0	. 4	0	0 9/1/201	0 11/22/201	Budget Mod I Processed
-103-015-01-KED	Copiah	Copiah County	Advance Auto	Drainage, water, road improvements	Closed	\$617,000.00	\$617,000.00		0 10	0 3	3	5	12/19/201	3 12/19/201	Budget Mod 3 Processed
-103-023-01-KED	Hancock	Hancock County	PSL	Water, drainage, rail, lighting, earthwork, general sitework	Closed	\$9,000,000.00	\$9,000,000.00		0 10	0 16	27	5 21	9/30/201	4 1/30/201	Budget Mod 5 Processed
-103-023-02-KED	Hancock	Hancock County	MAC / Belevance	Building renovation	Closed	\$1,981,042.50	\$1,981,042.50		0 10	0 3	5 5	0 !	3/31/201	8 2/2/201	Budget Mod 7 Processed
-103-023-03-KED	Hancock	Hancock County	Hwy. 607/Stennis Space Center/NASA	Widening of Hwy. 607 from Hwy. 90 to I-59	Transferred	\$0.00	\$0.00		0	0	20	0	0 6/30/201	9	Budget Mod Pendi
-103-023-04-KED	Hancock	Hancock County	Rolls-Royce (Project Islay)	Construction of new jet engine test bed	In Closeout	\$6,000,000.00	\$6,000,000.00		0 10	0 1	3	5	3/31/201	7	Budget Mod Processed
-103-024-01-KED	Harrison	Harrison County	Gulf Ship, LLC	Boat launching facility	Closed	\$12,000,000.00	\$12,000,000.00		0 10	0 42	7 80	0 8	11/20/201	3 11/20/201	Budget Mod 3 Processed
-103-024-02-KED	Harrison	Harrison County	Trinity Marine	Synchro lift boat launching system	Closed	\$17,000,000.00	\$17,000,000.00		0 10	0 34	65	0 6	74 1/30/201	5 1/30/201	Budget Mod 5 Processed
-103-024-03-KED	Harrison	Harrison County	Gulf Coast Coliseum and Convention Center	Construct parking facility, renovate public building, road improvements	Closed	\$17.336.753.03	\$17.336.753.0		0 10	0 16	9 25	0 2	75 12/31/201	5 3/1/2019	Budget Mod Processed
		,		Expansion of John Hill Boulevard											Budget Mod
-103-024-04-KED		Harrison County Harrison County	Gulfport-Bilaxi Regional Airport Gulfport Highlands Development L.P.	from two to four lanes Access road, water, sewer, drainage, utility work	Closed Construction Complete Pending Job Creation	\$2,163,842.15					5 25		9/30/201 4 9/30/201		Processed Budget Mod Processed
-103-024-03-KED		Hinds County	King Edward/Standard Life	Loan for equipment & working capital	Closed	\$2,300,000.00							28 7/17/201		Budget Mod 3 Processed
103-026-01-KED		Holmes County	Advanced Welding & Industrial Supply	Drainage, roads, water, sewer, lighting	Closed	\$846,922.70			0 10				0 6/30/201		Budget Mod Frocessed
103-030-01-KED	Jackson	Jackson County	Northrop Grumman - Singing River	Building rehab - Singing River	Closed	\$1,774,966.88	\$1,774,966.88		0 10	0 1	5 3	0 :	30 11/28/201	1 11/28/201	Budget Mod I Processed
103-030-02-KED	Jackson	Jackson County	Northrop Grumman - airport	Airport runway improvements	Closed	\$813,480.21	\$813,480.2		0 10	0 1		0 :	20 5/10/201	2 5/10/201	Budget Mod 2 Processed

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Document Scanning Process

- Document Caches should be customized for each CDBG-DR program
- Program managers work with OnBase programmers to set up document lists and identify keywords for searches
- Scanning stations can be set up at each program manager's workstation OR in common work areas
- Nomenclature should be consistent across each program- for example, always use "Request for Cash" or "RFC" rather than changing the naming conventions each time you scan documents; this will simplify a reviewer's search
- Creating written scanning guidelines might be useful, particularly when several staff members are performing scanning duties for multiple CDBG-DR programs



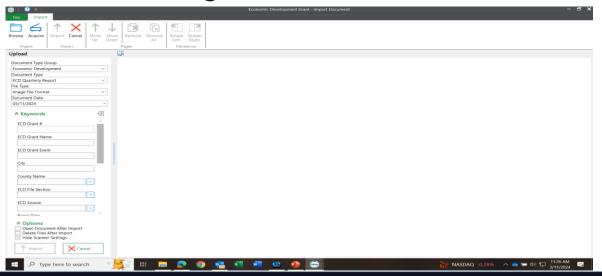
Document Scanning cont'd.

- Try to scan documents on a regular basis to ensure that program reviewers have the most recent documents available
- Do not allow too many documents to pile up before scheduling a scanning session, as it is easy for documents to be misplaced or misfiled
- Be as descriptive as possible to enable viewers to quickly find the documents they need- provide dates of service, subject matter of correspondence, and other details
- Place scanned documents in official grant files as soon as possible after they are scanned

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Document Scanning Screen





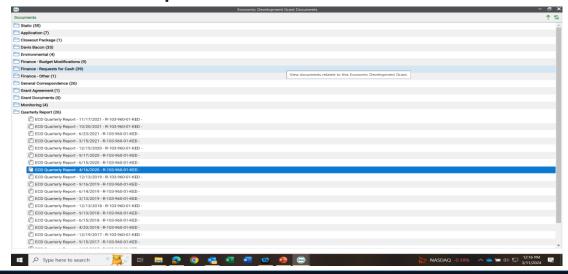
Document Retrieval Process

- User can search for, view, and print scanned documents
- · Can search by document type, keyword, or dollar amount
- Drop-down menus for each document type allow the user to select individual documents
- Program managers can also re-index scanned documents that were filed using incorrect keywords or scanned into the wrong project files- no need to delete and re-scan the documents

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Economic Development Document Retrieval Screen





Housing Programs and OnBase

- Hurricane Katrina rental property restoration and home repair and reconstruction programs, with nearly 20,000 applicants, used a customized version of OnBase as its system of record and program management and workflow tool
- OnBase WorkView, a Rapid Application Development module, used to design custom Case Management and Workflow solutions
 - Neighborhood Home Program (NHP)
 - Neighborhood Rental Restoration Program (NRRP)
 - Small Rental Assistance Program (SRAP)
 - Long Term workflow Housing (LTWH)
- This customized system has been through a number of revisions and is now known as Canopy

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Housing Programs and OnBase cont'd.

- OnBase was used as an "end-to-end" live-time workflow tool for:
 - All eligibility steps including environmental assessments
 - Applicant disqualifications and appeals
 - Construction process
 - All scheduling including contractor assignments, inspections, requests for approvals such as change orders
 - Final Inspections
 - Review of Contractor requests for payment
 - Closeout



Housing Programs and OnBase cont'd.

- All housing program staff members and contractors were required to use OnBase as the instrument for all communication
- This created a single, digital repository for all communications associated with a single project:
 - Interactions with applicants
 - State staff-contractor interactions and decisions
 - Other elements as required
- All documents were linked to the appropriate application and stored in a readily accessible format

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Workflow Tool Functions- Housing Programs

- Assigned for Construction
- Pending Construction Start
- T Construction In Process
- Y On Hold
- T Pending Punchlist Completion
- T Pending WEI Final Inspection Approval
- T Pending Pay Request Docs
- Y Pending Horne Pay Request Review
- Y Submitted to MDA for Payment
- T Construction Completed



Centralized Data System- Housing Programs

All data for each applicant accessed from the project's home page:

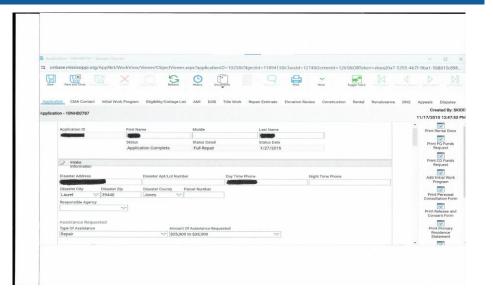
Application Journal Entry Notes Owners/Corp Officers Initial Work Program Title Work Subordination Circle Back WP Duplication of Benefits Calculation Inspections Preliminary Flood Check

09SR2102518

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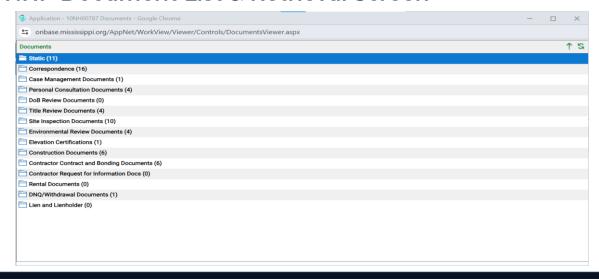


Sample NHP Application Page





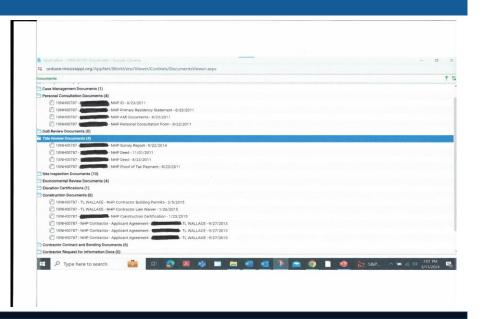
NHP Document List & Retrieval Screen



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NHP
Document
ListDrop-Down
Menus and
Examples of
Documents





Housing Programs-Contractor Payment Process

- Project scopes of work and contractor invoices were loaded into the system for program managers to review for accuracy and processing of payments
- OnBase interfaced with the State accounting system to send requests for reimbursement to the State Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
- DFA issued physical checks to the contractors

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Housing Programs and OnBase-Reporting

- Allows for the generation of real-time, customizable reports:
 - Production reports
 - Pending or existing points of project slow-down
 - Individual queries
 - Contractor performance
 - Applicant concerns
 - Financial status including planned expenditures and payments to date



Setting an Example

- Other State and Local Governmental Agencies utilizing OnBase:
 - Texas GLO
 - City of Houston
 - State of Nebraska
- Local Entities utilizing OnBase:
 - Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company
 - Ergon
 - HORNE LLP
 - Miller Transportation Services

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Recognition from HUD

- OnBase was designated by HUD monitors as a "Best Practice" for program management because of its ease of access to documents required for the review process
 - Review of electronic documents deemed less burdensome and time-consuming than transporting and searching through paper files
 - Paper files are still maintained by MDA-DRD and moved to State Archives after program closeout



Lessons Learned

- Purchasing "off the shelf" is fine if you do not require too much customization OR if the software is readily customizable
- Do not rush into procurement of a system; take time to identify your needs and solicit feedback from end users
- Be sure the system you select meets the needs of the organization- bells and whistles are great, but ONLY if the system delivers what your organization needs

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Lessons Learned cont'd.

- Determine the system's capability for alteration and expansion as you identify additional requirements of your organization
- Be sure your organization and/or contractor have staff members on hand who can manage and maintain the system and hardware that can support the system
- Be consistent with scanning nomenclature;
 written guidelines are helpful



QUESTIONS?

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