## FEMA Provides \$1.5 Million for Ranch Events Center Lease

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**DENVER** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency has provided \$1,547,910 to the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management toward leasing the Ranch Events Center in Loveland. The assistance was made available under the major disaster declaration issued March 28 by President Trump.

The funding is for leasing costs through June 30, 2020. The facility is being transformed into a temporary medical care site by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under a Mission Assignment from FEMA to support a request from the state. Initial funding for the construction costs was previously provided.

"Funding this work supports Colorado's efforts to be prepared in the event that there is not sufficient medical space to care for patients with COVID-19," said FEMA Region 8 Administrator Lee dePalo.

FEMA's Public Assistance program provides funding for emergency actions undertaken by communities to protect public safety, providing at least a 75 percent funding share for eligible costs. Remaining costs are the responsibility of the state and local applicants for assistance. The total estimate for leasing the facility for the initial time period is \$2,063,880.

For the COVID-19 response, FEMA has simplified the Public Assistance application and funding process to address the magnitude of this event and to allow local officials to receive eligible funding more quickly. These reimbursements can play a critical role as state, local and tribal officials work tirelessly to assist their communities during this response.

