Committed to the future of rural communities.

- Improving the quality of life of all rural Americans
- Increasing economic opportunity in rural America
More Than 40 Rural Development Programs:

- Energy
- Business
- Community
- Housing
- Planning

Direct Loans -- Guaranteed Loans -- Grants
Rural Development

- $21.25 Billion in Fiscal Year `10 Appropriated Funds, an increase of $1.9 billion, or almost 10 percent, from last year.
- Nearly 500 Field Offices
- 6,100 experienced Economic Development staff
- $142 Billion Loan Portfolio
Seven Economic Development Strategies

- Capital Markets
- Regional Food Systems
- Alternative Energy:
- Broadband and Continuous Business Creation
- Strategic Partners
- Community Building
- Regional Collaboration
Building Rural Economies

The White House Blog

Libraries: A Place Where Stories are Told, Knowledge is Gained, and Economies are Built

Posted by Secretary Tom Vilsack on September 24, 2010 at 05:44 PM EDT
Financial and Technical Assistance

- Community Facilities
- Broadband
Community Facilities

**Purpose:** to develop essential community facilities and services for public use in rural areas with populations up to 20,000.

**Project types:** health care, schools, libraries, public safety, cultural and educational facilities, public buildings, and many other types of facilities.
Community Facilities Applicants

- Public Bodies
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Indian Tribes
Community Facilities

Eligibility Area

Population of 20,000 or less

- Cities
- Towns
- Unincorporated areas
Significant Community Support

- Broadly based board representing the community served
- Public funding through taxes or fundraising
- Support by local public body
Rural Development’s Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan program partners with lending institutions to provide loans for essential community facilities.
Community Facilities

Direct Loans

- Loans are made directly to the organization by USDA Rural Development.
- Interest rates are fixed.
- Repayment terms are up to 40-years, the maximum allowed by state statute or the useful life of the facility whichever is less.
- No prepayment penalties.
- May be combined with a guaranteed loan.
Community Facilities Grants

- Grant funds may **be used to** pay 15-75% of the project costs (depending on income & population).

- Grants may be used to supplement CF direct/guaranteed loan funds.

- Funding for the balance of the project (leveraged funds) may consist of applicant contributions, loans, grants, or donations from other sources.
Library Initiative: Overview

- Improve library facilities
- Must be open to the public
- Enhance educational opportunities
- Enhance economic viability of rural communities
Library Initiative: Overview

Use funds to:

- Construct, enlarge or improve public libraries.
- Purchase equipment, including computers and bookmobiles.
Library Initiative: Investments

FY 2008: 18 facilities for a total of $2.5 million

FY 2009: 25 facilities for a total of roughly $6.5 million

FY 2010: over 257 facilities for a total of $70 million

8 multipurpose facilities totaling nearly $4 million
Once Upon a Time in a Land Far, Far Away... Stories Traveled through Union Parish By the Dock of the Bay.

To Each Village Books Passed from Friend to Friend; And They All Lived Happily Ever After! THE END.
Helping You Development Your Plan

Rural Community Development Initiative

- Technical assistance grants to:
  - To build organizational capacity
  - To develop training tools
Telecommunications Loan and Grant Programs

**Infrastructure Loan Program:**
Loans to local telephone companies for improving telecommunications service in rural communities

**Broadband Access Loan and Community Connect Grant Program:**
Loans and grants for local telephone companies and other service providers who offer Broadband (high-speed Internet) services in eligible communities

**Distance Learning/Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program:**
Loans and grants for providing Distance Learning and Telemedicine services to rural residents
Community Connect Grant Program

A nationally competitive: to provide broadband service to the most rural and economically challenged communities

One community, recognized by US Census or Rand MacNally, currently unserved by broadband: 20,000 population or less

- Minimum grant $50,000, Maximum grant $1,000,000
- 15% required matching contribution
- FY 2011 application window not yet announced

Since inception, the program has provided 197 grants and invested $88.2 million nation-wide
Community Connect Grant Program

Project must include a Community Center with 10 computers for public use (at no charge for two years)

Free service to Critical Facilities (such as fire station, city hall, police station, etc.) must be provided for two years

Must offer basic broadband service to residential and business customers within the proposed service area
Provide rural communities with opportunities to obtain educational and medical services from distant locations utilizing communications technologies.

$403 million in DLT grants and loans have been awarded

http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm
Distance Learning/Telemedicine Grants

Eligible Applicants:

- An incorporated organization or partnership
- An Indian tribe or tribal organization
- A state or local unit of government
- Other legal entity such as a private corporation either profit or non-profit
Distance Learning/Telemedicine Grants

Program Requirements:

- Serving rural communities of 20,000 or less
- Minimum grant $50,000, Maximum grant $500,000
- 15% required matching contribution (more points for higher matching contribution)
- FY 2011 application window not yet announced
Distance Learning/Telemedicine Grants

Eligible Purposes:

- Computer hardware and software
- Audio and video equipment
- Computer network components
- Interactive video equipment

Acquiring instructional programming

Providing technical assistance and instruction
Summary

• The Obama Administration is working hard to create the financial and technical tools to help rural America revitalize and rebuild.
Contact Us

A Click or Call Away:

www.rurdev.usda.gov : Click on “Agencies and Offices” to go to map where local contact information is located or add state abbreviation to URL to go directly to state site and contact information for the state director.

www.rurdev.usda.gov/mi

Or call Toll Free: 1-800-670-6553
Thank You