

PART 2000 - GENERAL

SUBPART RR - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE  
ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

§2000.2151 General.

Rural Development has entered into an agreement with the Administration on Aging (AoA) to support joint efforts to improve the coordination of programs administered by each Agency which relate to the rural housing and service needs of elderly people.

§2000.2152 Implementation of Memorandum.

To ensure successful implementation of the Memorandum, Rural Development State and District Offices should work closely with AoA counterpart offices. This effort should be ongoing.

§§2000.2153 - 2000.2174 [Reserved]

§2000.2175 State Memorandums of Understanding.

Rural Development State Directors may enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with AoA State Agencies on Aging to address issues relevant to a particular State. State Memorandums must meet the intent of Exhibit A of this subpart. State Directors must submit a copy of any State Memorandum to the National Office for information.

§§2000.2176 - 2000.2200 [Reserved]

Attachment: Exhibit A

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Administration  
General

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
Between the  
Farmers Home Administration  
and the  
Administration on Aging

INTRODUCTION

Rural Development, an Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, administers several programs to improve housing conditions in rural areas for very low-, low- and moderate-income families and the elderly. Financial assistance is available to eligible organizations, including public bodies and nonprofit organizations, and families. The housing programs are authorized by the Housing Act of 1949, as amended.

The Administration on Aging (AoA) was created under the Older Americans Act of 1965 and is the only Federal Agency devoted exclusively to the concerns and potential of America's older population. AoA serves as the visible advocate on behalf of the elderly within the Department of Health and Human Services and with other Federal Agencies and National organizations administering programs affecting older people. The major goal of AoA is to help older people live more meaningful, independent, and dignified lives in their communities for as long as possible.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to support joint efforts between Rural Development and AoA to improve the coordination of programs administered by them which relate to the rural housing needs of older persons.

BACKGROUND

The lack of adequate, affordable housing is a serious problem for the elderly, particularly those who live in rural areas. Data indicate that over 40 percent of the substandard housing in rural America is occupied by the elderly.

The housing requirements for older persons are significantly different than those of the rest of the population due to the progressive limitations of their mobility and physical capabilities over time. As people age, there may be a need for support services to enable them to maintain an active life and remain independent in a noninstitutional environment.

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#### SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

Under this agreement, Rural Development and AoA agree to jointly engage in collaborative activities to achieve the goal of promoting the well-being of older persons by providing a coordinated, integrated response to the housing and support service needs of older persons. Rural Development and AoA support the following objectives:

#### OBJECTIVES

1. To improve the coordination of programs funded under the authorities of Rural Development and AoA which relate to older persons.
2. To increase public awareness of Rural Development programs, especially congregate housing, and the nutrition and supportive services programs of AoA.
3. To encourage replication of interagency agreements between the Rural Development State Offices and the State Agencies on Aging.

Rural Development and AoA agree to collaborate on a number of activities, including the following:

1. Encourage their networks (the Rural Development State, District and County Offices and the State Agencies on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging) to engage in program information sharing; regional, State and local meetings; training sessions; local planning activities; and joint activities or events to better serve the elderly population in rural areas.
2. Designate National and field staff to be responsible for administering all aspects of this agreement.
3. Meet regularly at the National and field level to review the progress of the joint agreement and to identify new joint initiatives and other possible areas of collaboration.
4. Meet at the National level as often as necessary to review how well the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding are being met.

#### PERIOD OF AGREEMENT

This agreement is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until terminated in writing by either party.

MODIFICATION OR CANCELLATION PROVISION

This agreement may be modified or amended by written agreement of the two parties. Requests for modification and amendments to the agreement may be initiated by either party through written notification.

ACCEPTANCE AND SIGNATURE OF EACH APPROVING PARTY

/s/

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LA VERNE AUSMAN  
Administrator  
Farmers Home Administration

8/10/90  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

/s/

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JOYCE T. BERRY, Ph.D.  
U.S. Commissioner on Aging  
Administration on Aging

8/10/90  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_