



STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Invites Applications for National Fund Manager of Healthy Food Financing Initiative

(November 28, 2016) – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Rural Development Lisa Mensah today announced that USDA is inviting Community Development Financial Institutions to apply for the position of National Fund Manager for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

The purpose of the initiative is to improve access to healthy foods, and create and preserve high-quality jobs in underserved areas. HFFI helps to revitalize low-income communities by providing loans and grants to eligible healthy food retailers.

One of HFFI's essential components is the designation of a National Fund Manager (NFM). The Community Development Financial Institution designated as the NFM will have the following responsibilities:

- Ensure access to private capital to supplement federal appropriations, as needed, in order to invest in healthy food retailers
- Establish new partners and maintain alliances to support retailers that bring healthy foods to low-income communities
- Provide financial and technical assistance to partners and eligible healthy food projects
- Determine project eligibility criteria
- Identify healthy food projects
- Coordinate with USDA Rural Development state and field offices.

Applications are due Dec. 28, 2016.

Additional details on how to apply for this position can be found on page [85510](#) of the Nov. 28, 2016 Federal Register.

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service will be conducting a webinar on this issue on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 2:00 p.m., EST. To register, click on the following link: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/c6zft10lv4tn&eom>

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