



United States Department of Agriculture



# USDA Rural Development South Dakota

2014 Progress Report

## Secretary of Agriculture

Thomas J. Vilsack

“USDA Rural Development provides loan and grant financing as well as technical assistance to develop housing, community facilities, businesses, infrastructure, and renewable energy ventures in rural areas. In addition to providing direct loan and grant assistance, USDA Rural Development also partners with private sector lenders and development organizations to carry out local community development projects. Rural Development's more than 40 financial assistance programs, in addition to its ability to leverage private sector resources, give USDA the flexibility to invest in a wide range of projects that are reinvigorating rural towns and bringing new job opportunities for local residents. As I often say, USDA is not just about helping farms and farmers. USDA Rural Development's mission is a great example of the extraordinary reach of USDA programs throughout the rural economy. “



### **Mission:**

To Increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for all rural Americans.

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## Under Secretary for USDA Rural Development

Lisa Mensah

“The vitality of rural America is critical to ensuring the strength of our economy, the affordability of our food, the independence of our energy supply, and the vibrancy of small communities. The Obama Administration is committed to ensuring that rural communities are economically strong, sound and sustainable. At USDA Rural Development, many of our employees live and work in the same rural communities alongside our rural customers and stakeholder and partner organizations. We are truly fortunate and unique to serve rural America at the grassroots level. The investment work we do is important, and has lasting impacts both in rural America and for our overall economy. We look forward to continuing this work that improves the quality of life for rural residents and provides them with greater economic opportunities. We had great success delivering assistance to rural communities in 2014, and we look forward to a great 2015.”



### **Vision:**

A rural America that is a healthy, safe, and prosperous place to live and work.



## State Director for South Dakota USDA Rural Development

Elsie M. Meeks

“I am pleased to present our Fiscal Year 2014

Progress Report highlighting the accomplishments throughout South Dakota. I hope you find this report useful, informative, and it provides a better understanding of USDA Rural Development. Through our programs, we touch rural America in many ways. Rural Development is the only Federal agency that can essentially build a community from the ground up. Through investments in infrastructure, homeownership, and job creation, Rural Development helps rural Americans achieve the American Dream. Rural Development operates three distinct programs - Business Programs, Community/Utility Programs, and Housing Programs. During this past year in South Dakota, USDA Rural Development delivered over \$463 million of investment throughout South Dakota’s 66 counties. Rural Development programs and services are provided to South Dakota through the State Office and seven Area Offices throughout the state. South Dakota Rural Development has a team of dedicated professionals capable and ready to work with you to improve rural South Dakota. I encourage you to contact your Area or State Office to learn more about how USDA Rural Development can help improve the quality of life and increase the economic opportunity in your community.”

### USDA:

Rural Development strives to create new jobs, new businesses, and new economic opportunities in rural South Dakota.

### Fiscal Year 2014 Investments in South Dakota

Business Programs	Community/Utility Programs	Housing Programs	All Others	Total
\$7,088,155	\$243,909,324	\$22,701,710	\$1,121,988	\$463,821,177

## Rural Business and Cooperative Programs

USDA Rural Development Business Programs help create jobs and stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses. Loans, grants, and loan guarantees are available to any legally-organized entity, including cooperatives, partnerships, profit or non-profit entities, Indian tribes or federally-recognized tribal groups, and municipalities. Additionally, a wide range of technical assistance is provided to cooperatives and people interested in forming new cooperatives. Our programs have funds available to complete energy audits and feasibility studies, complete energy efficiency improvements, install renewable energy systems. We have programs that help convert older heating sources to cleaner technologies, produce advanced biofuels, install flexible fuel pumps, install solar panels, build biorefineries, and much more. USDA Rural Development is at the forefront of renewable energy financing, with options including grants, guaranteed loans and payments.

### Fiscal Year 2014 Results

In fiscal year 2014, Rural Development invested \$7 million in South Dakota rural businesses, supporting 37 projects. Business and Cooperative Programs serve South Dakota communities by creating new business, growing production, maintaining jobs, conducting feasibility studies, improving rural energy development, creating professional business plans, and increasing revenue for rural business ventures.

### Regional Food Systems • Always Home Grown or Homemade in South Dakota

Terry Lehmkuhl and her husband Ernie operate SpringerRidge Barnyard Products. They organize the Country Farmer's Market held in Pierre, South Dakota. The Farmer's Market family celebrated "National Farmers Market Week" (August 3 through 9, 2014) that was declared by USDA Agriculture

Secretary Tom Vilsack. The Country Farmer's Market offers a large variety of fresh produce, baked goods, free range eggs, Icelandic yarn, coffees, honey, and canned goods.



It is people like Ernie and Terry, two hard working "country folks" that provide fresh produce, canned goods, baked goods and make an economic impact holding up the motto 'Always Home Grown and Homemade in South Dakota'.

New to the market was "The Gathering Place" in honor of the National celebration which offered a sitting area and booth to sit and chat and have special guests, demonstrations and kids' activities. South Dakota USDA Rural Development staff attended and highlighted the annual local food conference held in November.

Farmer's Markets make an impact in the state. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture did a study and it showed that farmers market vendors sold over \$1.3 million worth of products in South Dakota during 2013. Farmers markets had an average of 7.5 vendors and 96.2 customers per market. The average sales per market for that time period were \$1,125.67.

## Rural Business and Cooperative Programs

### Regional Food Systems • Deuel Community Kitchen Valuable to Local Chefs/Producers

Everyone wants large companies to come to their area for jobs and opportunities, but those opportunities may already exist in our communities. The Deuel Community Kitchen is the first partnership of its kind in South Dakota and gives rural South Dakotans a starting place for entrepreneurship. By creating and supporting this kitchen incubator, Deuel Area Development, Inc. (DADI) is helping to connect rural entrepreneurs with new market opportunities, contributing significantly to community economic development.

The kitchen incubator gives local growers an opportunity to try out their favorite recipe and the potential to grow from a one person operation to a business with several employees. With people's concerns about healthy and safe food, the demand is growing for home grown, locally produced food, adding to the market opportunity for local growers.

Besides growing and processing food, the "Chefs" are creating their own business complete with business plans, marketing strategies, and future goals.

DADI received a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) and leveraged it with other funding to provide technical assistance to small businesses in Deuel County in eastern South Dakota. In partnership with the Deubrook Area School in Toronto, DADI created a commercial kitchen incubator where local producers and local chefs can process food. Dakota Rural Action, a grassroots, family agriculture, and conservation group, assisted DADI in working out the details for local producers to use the kitchen.



Deuel Community Kitchen and USDA Rural Development representatives gathered around the kitchen incubator.

## Rural Housing Programs

USDA Rural Development Single Family Housing Programs provide homeownership opportunities to low and moderate-income rural Americans through several loan, grant, and loan guarantee programs. The programs also make funding available to individuals to finance vital improvements necessary to make their homes decent, safe, and sanitary.

USDA Rural Development Multi-Family Housing Programs offer Rural Rental Housing Loans to provide affordable multi-family rental housing for very low-, low-, and moderate-income families; the elderly; and persons with disabilities. This is primarily a direct mortgage program, but funds may also be used to buy and improve land and to provide necessary facilities such as water and waste disposal systems. Additionally, subsidy rental assistance is available to eligible families.

### Fiscal Year 2014 Results

USDA Rural Development improved rural housing in South Dakota with \$196.8 million in loans and grants to build, repair, rehabilitate, and purchase homes that ultimately improve the quality of life in rural South Dakota. Rural Development provides funding for single-family homes, apartments for lower-income families or the elderly, and housing for farm laborers. In fiscal year 2014, the agency obligated 71 direct loans and 1,465 guaranteed loans to finance homes for rural South Dakota families.

### Rural Housing • A White House with a Beautiful Back Yard

The Joe & Danielle Donnell family are living in their new home, a white house with a porch and a beautiful back yard with a running creek next to it.

They feel blessed to have a place where their family can grow together. Their story exemplifies this year's theme, "*USDA: Own Your Future. Own Your*

*Home.*" The Donnell family is one of two families to benefit from a Memorandum of Understanding entered into between USDA Rural Development, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, acting through the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Housing Authority, and Dacotah Bank.

The list of partners assisting the Donnell family include: USDA Rural Development direct loan that



The Donnell family standing in front of their new home.

was leveraged with a Homes Are Possible, Inc. (HAPI) silent mortgage, a GROW SD Silent Mortgage for repairs, a GROW SD Silent Mortgage for closing costs, and a NAHI grant for down payment and closing costs, an affordable housing product of Federal Home Loan Bank - sponsored by Dacotah Bank. The application was packaged through Grow South Dakota.

The Donnell's have one child. They were previously living with relatives. They shared that the new home has allowed them to live life the way they want and not have to worry about others' schedules, imposing on others, or being a burden. For the first time, they will be able to start a garden and have begun dreaming of ways to decorate their new home.

# Rural Housing Programs

## Rural Housing • Homeownership for Our Native Communities

As a kid Charles McGaa moved around a lot and never really had a home to call his own. Through the assistance of a new collaboration of housing organizations, the [Sustainable Home Ownership Project](#), SHOP, Charles was able to achieve the goal of homeownership on the Reservation. Many Americans find the process of buying a home to be very scary and at times a frustrating process.



Charles McGaa, borrower, working with Rose Marie Dillingham from Partnership for Housing (seller) and Betsy K from Pennington Title, who closed the loan.

Charles was able to attend homebuyer and financial literacy classes taught by the Oglala Sioux Tribe Partnership for Housing, a SHOP partner. A housing counselor at the Partnership then helped him put together the USDA Rural Development 502 Direct Single Family Housing application. Once he was approved and a home chosen in Pine Ridge, the process of closing on his home began.

This process was long and a little rocky at times as he became the first Tribal Trust land application that has closed with the assistance of a Title Insurance Company. Pennington Title of Rapid City, joined with Rural Development to insure both the buyer and the lender against any loss arising from problems that may have connected to the title of

the property. It is with this new partnership that Rural Development hopes to reduce the time it takes to close this type of loan.

For many, owning a home may seem like an impossible dream but the SHOP organizations on the Pine Ridge Reservation as well as Rural Development are there to help. Partners such as Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation, Lakota Funds, Lakota Federal Credit Union, Partnership for Housing, Mazaska Owecaso Otipi Financial, Oglala Sioux Tribe Partnership for Housing and Oglala Sioux Lakota Housing authority have joined together to create a streamlined one stop housing process. By joining together, they enhance each other’s mission by providing credit counseling, housing education and counseling, plus IDA’s—individual deposit accounts to help families save for down payments and closing costs. The collaboration creates an ecosystem of opportunity for potential homeowners on the reservation.

## Rural Housing • Yankton Sioux Tribe Hosts Annual Housing Fair

It is a picture worth a thousand words and resonates the well know phrase “that the children of today are the future of tomorrow.”



Young children intermingled and colored in USDA coloring books while their parents were educating themselves on programs available through USDA at the Housing Fair held on July 24th at the Legion Hall in Wagner.

## Community/Utility Programs

Community Programs administers programs designed to develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas. These facilities include schools, libraries, childcare, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings and transportation. Through its Community Programs, the Department of Agriculture is striving to ensure that such facilities are readily available to all rural communities. Community Programs utilizes three flexible financial tools to achieve this goal: the Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program, the Community Facilities Direct Loan Program, and the Community Facilities Grant Program.

Utility Programs provide assistance, such as building, repairing, or improving rural water and wastewater systems, and provide technical assistance and training to solid waste facilities. Programs also exist for telecommunications equipment for classrooms and healthcare facilities and broadband equipment for rural facilities and communities.

### Fiscal Year 2014 Results

During fiscal year 2014, USDA Rural Development invested \$6.9 million in rural South Dakota through community facilities loans and grants. The 26 projects, including funding for schools and fire safety equipment, was used to benefit more than 6,378 rural South Dakota residents. Community Facilities Programs help build, expand, rehabilitate, purchase, and support the development of police and emergency fire stations and equipment, museums, child care centers, hospitals, clinics, schools, and more.

USDA Rural Development invested \$238 million during fiscal year 2014 through 32 infrastructure projects to provide reliable and clean drinking

water, waste treatment systems, electric power, and telecommunications services in about 40 rural communities in South Dakota.

### Community Economic Development • StrikeForce Initiative • New Water Treatment Plant for Eagle Butte and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

The Mni Waste' Water Company will soon have a new water treatment plant connected to an abundant water supply - the Missouri River - thanks to \$65.8 million in USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal funding and other support from the Indian Health Service and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

The new system will help meet water needs in the Eagle Butte region. An existing water system was failing, and water shortages were hampering development of new homes and businesses and delaying fire response.

The groundbreaking was in April 2014. In addition to the new treatment plant, this major project includes building out about 36 miles of water line and other system improvements.

The new plant will produce 4.4 million gallons of clean, safe water per day; about three times as much as the current plant. The system will also help ensure that critically needed development can continue in the region.

In the Lakota language, Mni Waste' means 'good water.' About 8,500 people living in this rural region, including members of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, will benefit from the project, which is good indeed.

Rural Development is targeting assistance to the area through USDA's StrikeForce initiative to combat persistent poverty in rural communities.

## Community/Utility Programs



Pictured at left - Members of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Indian Health Service, and USDA at the water system groundbreaking ceremony. Pictured at top right - Ninety-four year old former Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council Member Marcella Le Beau celebrates the final stages of a major project underway to bring abundant and safe water to the Cheyenne River Reservation and at bottom right is the Mni Waste' Water Company pipeline under construction.

### Community Economic Development • StrikeForce Initiative • Red Cloud Indian School, Inc. Purchases School Buses

West River Area Director Tim Potts and State Director Elsie Meeks visited Our Lady of Lourdes (OLL), part of the Red Cloud Indian School, to celebrate, along with Father George Winzenburg, S.J, administrator, students and staff, the purchase of several USDA Rural Development funded school buses. Community Facility loan and grant funding totaling \$55,000 assisted with the purchase. The buses are a great asset to the school district and community and will assist in reducing transportation costs associated with busing children from over a fifty mile radius. OLL and Red Cloud Indian School system are considered the premier schools on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and they provide a foundational high quality education to the students.



Father George Winzenburg, SJ and USDA Rural Development State Director Elsie M. Meeks inspect one of the new buses.

## South Dakota USDA Rural Development Investments

Fiscal Year 2014		
Program	Award Amount	Number of Projects
Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans	\$3,335,484	6
Intermediary Relending Program	\$750,000	1
Renewable Energy Loans and Grants	\$172,239	13
Business Grants	\$506,070	7
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	\$2,050,000	7
Value-Added Producer Grants	\$274,362	3
Single Family Housing Direct Loans	\$8,250,117	71
Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loans	\$188,302,524	1,465
Home Repair Loans and Grants	\$311,394	59
Self Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants	\$0	0
Multi-Family Housing Direct Loans	\$0	0
Multi-Family Housing Guaranteed Loans	\$1,225,900	1
Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants	\$0	0
Rental Assistance	\$13,611,775	150
Community Facility Direct Loans	\$6,036,500	7
Community Facility Guarantee Loans	\$0	0
Community Facility Grants	\$928,285	19
Water and Waste Direct Loans	\$11,661,000	10
Water and Waste Guarantee Loans	\$0	0
Water and Waste Grants	\$5,446,277	10
Telecommunications Loans and Grants	\$379,262	2
Electric Loans	\$219,458,000	10
All Others	\$1,121,988	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$463,821,177</b>	<b>1, 846</b>

# USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

## HOUSING AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b>Single Family Home Ownership Direct Loans</b>	Safe, well-built, affordable homes for rural Americans.	Families and individuals.	Buy, build, improve, repair or rehabilitate a rural home as the applicant's permanent residence.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of market value or cost. Loan term of 33/38 years. Applicant may be eligible for payment assistance (subsidy) on the loan.
<b>Single Family Home Ownership Guaranteed Loans</b>	To assist moderate-income applicants(s)/household(s) in buying their homes by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders.	Families and individuals.	Purchase new or existing home and refinance existing Rural Development guaranteed or direct loans.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Loan guarantee.	30-year, fixed rate. Interest rate is negotiated between lender and borrower. Loans up to 100% of market value plus the amount of the up-front guarantee fee being financed.
<b>Single Family Repair Loans and Grants</b>	To help very-low-income applicants remove health and safety hazards or repair their homes.	Families and individuals who currently own their home.	Repair/replace roof, winterizing, purchase or repair heating system, structural repair, water/sewage connect fees, etc.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan and grant.	Loans up to \$20,000 up to 20 years at 7%. Grants available to very-low-income applicants 62 years or older unable to pay 7% loan.
<b>Mutual Self-Help Housing Grants</b>	Assist lower-income families in building their own homes.	Non-profits and public bodies.	Technical assistance to help small groups of families to build each other's homes.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Grant.	Grant agreement.
<b>Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans</b>	Safe, well-built, affordable rental housing for very-low-income individuals and families.	Individuals, trusts, associations, limited partnerships, for-profit and non-profit entities, Tribes, public bodies.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of total development cost (non-profits); 97% (for-profits); 95% (for-profits with Low-Income Housing Tax Credits). 30-year term with up to 50-year amortization.
<b>Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees</b>	Provides loan guarantees on loans to build or preserve affordable housing for very-low to moderate-income tenants.	For profit and non-profit lenders.	Build or rehabilitate affordable rental housing.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Loan guarantee.	At least 25-year term with fixed interest rate. Loan guarantees up to 90% of the principal.
<b>Housing Preservation Grants</b>	Repair and rehabilitate housing owned or occupied by very-low- and low-income rural families.	Public bodies and non-profit organizations.	Operation of a program which finances repair and rehabilitation activities for single-family and small rental properties.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Grant.	Grant agreement.
<b>Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants</b>	Safe, well-built affordable rental housing for farmworkers.	Individuals, public and private non-profit organizations.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	N/A.	Direct loan and grant.	Up to 102% of total development cost. Up to 33 years to repay at 7% interest.
<b>Community Facilities Loans and Grants</b>	Improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities.	Public bodies, non-profits, and Federally recognized Indian Tribes.	Construct, enlarge or otherwise improve essential community facilities, such as public safety, fire and rescue, telecommunications, schools, libraries, hospitals, other health care facilities, etc. This may include furnishings, fixtures and other required equipment.	City, town or unincorporated area of not more than 20,000 in population. Facilities must primarily serve rural residents.	Direct loan, loan guarantee or grant.	Up to 100% of market value. Term is for useful life of the facility or equipment, the state statute, or 40 years. Maximum grant 75% of project cost. Grant eligibility based on income, population and need.
<b>Rural Community Development Initiative</b>	To facilitate housing, community facility and community and economic development projects.	Private non-profit or public organizations, philanthropic foundations, low-income communities.	Technical assistance grants of \$50,000 to \$300,000 to develop the capacity and ability of the awardees to carry out needed projects.	City, town or unincorporated area of not more than 50,000 in population.	Grant.	Matching funds required for grant.

## BUSINESS AND COOPERATIVES

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b>Business and Industry Loan Guarantees</b>	Create jobs/stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses.	Lender/Businesses.	Real estate, buildings, equipment, supplies, working capital, and some debt refinancing.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loan guarantee.	Lender and borrower negotiate terms. Up to 30 years for real estate, 15 years for machinery and equipment, and 7 years for working capital.
<b>Rural Business Enterprise Grants</b>	Finance and facilitate the development of small and emerging private business enterprises.	Public bodies, private non-profit corporations and Tribes.	Refinancing, land acquisition, revolving funds, construction, equipment, access streets and roads, utility and service extensions, and rural distance learning networks.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Amount based on funding availability, funding priority and national goals.
<b>Intermediary Relending Program Loans</b>	Establish revolving funds for business facilities and community development projects.	Public bodies, non-profit corporations, Native American Tribes and cooperatives.	Community development projects, establishment or expansion of businesses, creation or saving of rural jobs.	Rural areas and incorporated places with populations of less than 25,000.	Direct loan.	The intermediary makes loans to businesses from its revolving loan fund on terms consistent with security offered. Intermediary pays 1% for 30 years.
<b>Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program</b>	Establish revolving funds to target assistance to small rural enterprises.	Microenterprise Development Organizations (MDOs).	Loans, technical, and capacity-building assistance to businesses with 10 or fewer employees and sole proprietors/hubs.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loans, grants.	Rural microenterprises apply directly to the intermediary.
<b>Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants</b>	Finance economic development and job creation in rural areas.	Rural Utilities Service-financed electric and telephone utilities.	Business startups or expansion projects that create rural jobs.	Rural areas with priority to places with populations of 2,500 or less.	Direct loan or grant to establish revolving loan fund.	Intermediary makes loans to for-profit or non-profit businesses and public bodies. Loans are 0% for 10 years.
<b>Rural Cooperative Development Grants</b>	Establish/operate centers for cooperative development.	Non-profits and institutions of higher education.	Establish centers to provide technical assistance, training, applied research, and collection and interpretation of data, for the purpose of cooperative development.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Minimum 25% fund match (5% for 1994 Institutions). Grants awarded competitively.
<b>Small Socially Disadvantaged Producer Grants</b>	Provides funds to eligible cooperatives or an association of cooperatives to provide technical assistance to small, socially disadvantaged producers in rural areas.	Cooperatives and associations of cooperatives whose membership and board of directors is comprised of at least 75% socially disadvantaged agricultural producers.	Technical assistance.	All areas, except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. There is no matching requirement.
<b>Value-Added Producer Grants</b>	Help independent agricultural producers enter into activities that add value to their crops.	Independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, producer groups, majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.	Feasibility studies, business plans, working capital.	All areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Funds cannot be used to build facilities or purchase equipment. Funds must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
<b>Rural Business Opportunity Grants</b>	Finance technical assistance for business development planning in rural areas.	Public bodies, non-profit corporations, Indian Tribes on Federal or State reservations, cooperatives with members that are primarily rural residents.	Technical assistance, leadership training, establishment of business support centers, economic development plans.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Must be completed within 2 years after project has begun.

**BUSINESS AND COOPERATIVES (CONT.)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Uses</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Loan/Grant</b>	<b>Terms/Conditions</b>
<b>Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Loan Guarantees and Grants</b>	Provide assistance for energy efficiency improvements or purchase of a renewable energy system for operations.	Rural small businesses and agricultural producers.	Energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy systems, land acquisition and working capital.	Cities, towns, unincorporated areas with population less than 50,000. (Population limits do not apply to agricultural producers)	Loan guarantee and/or grant.	Grants up to 25% of project costs not to exceed \$250,000 for energy efficiency projects and \$500,000 for renewable energy. Loan guarantees up to 75% of project cost not to exceed \$25 million.
<b>REAP Audit/Development Grants</b>	Provide grant to entity to pass through to a small business or agricultural producer for 75% of the cost of an energy audit or renewable energy development assistance.	State, Tribal or local government institutions of higher education; rural electric cooperatives; or public power entities.	\$100,000 grant to entities, smaller ones to small business and agricultural producers for 75% of energy audit or renewable energy development assistance.	Cities, towns, unincorporated areas with population less than 50,000.	Grant.	\$100,000 to entities and up to 75% of the cost of energy audit for renewable energy development assistance.
<b>Bio Refinery Assistance Program Loan Guarantees</b>	Provide loan guarantees for the development and construction of commercial-scale bio refineries or to retrofit facilities using eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels.	Individuals, Indian Tribes, State or local governments, corporations, farm cooperatives, associations of agricultural producers, national laboratories, higher learning institutions, rural electric co-ops, public power entities, consortiums of any of the entities.	Loan guarantees to develop and construct commercial-scale bio refineries or retrofit facilities to use eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels.	No restrictions.	Loan.	90% (maximum) guarantee on loans up to \$125 million; 80% (maximum) guarantee on loans less than \$150 million; 70% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$150 million but less than \$200 million; 60% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$200 million up to \$250 million.
<b>Repowering Assistance Program</b>	Provide payments to bio refineries to replace fossil fuels with biomass.	Bio refineries.	Grant to bio refineries, including ethanol and biodiesel plants that use electricity generated from natural gas and coal and require this for the fermentation process.	No restrictions.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
<b>Advanced Biofuel Payment Program</b>	Provide payments to producers of advanced biofuels.	Eligible producers of advanced biofuels.	Grant to producers of advanced biofuels (non-commercial-based).	No restrictions.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review. Grant awards determined by National Office.
<b>Rural Community Development Initiative</b>	To facilitate housing, community facility and community and economic development projects.	Private non-profit or public organizations, philanthropic foundations, low-income communities.	Technical assistance grants of \$50,000 to \$300,000 to develop the capacity and ability of the awardees to carry out needed projects.	City, town or unincorporated area of not more than 50,000 in population.	Grant.	Matching funds required for grant.

## UTILITIES PROGRAMS

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b>Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants</b>	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian Tribes and non-profit corporations.	Build, repair and improve public water systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas, and to towns with up to 10,000 population.	Direct loan and grant.	Repayment period is a maximum of 40 years. Grant funds may be available.
<b>Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees</b>	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian Tribes and non-profit corporations.	Construct, repair and improve water supply and distribution systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas, and to towns with up to 10,000 population.	Loan guarantee.	Eligible lenders obtain up to a 90% guarantee on loans they make and service.
<b>Solid Waste Management Grants</b>	Provide technical assistance and/or training to those who operate and maintain active landfills.	Public bodies, private non-profit organizations, Indian Tribes, academic institutions.	Technical assistance and training to improve landfill conditions and protect against threats to nearby water resources.	Rural areas, and to towns with up to 10,000 population.	Grant.	Applications accepted year-round. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
<b>Technical Assistance/ Training/Circuit Rider</b>	Provide technical assistance and training.	Public, private, and non-profit organizations.	Provide technical assistance and training to assist with management of water and waste projects.	Rural areas and to towns with up to 10,000 population.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
<b>Rural Broadband Loan and Loan Guarantee</b>	Deployment of broadband service to eligible rural communities.	Entities seeking to provide broadband services in rural areas. Individuals and partnerships not eligible.	Finance the construction, improvement and acquisition of facilities and equipment to provide broadband service in eligible rural communities; refinance RD telecommunications program debt.	Any area not located within a city, town or incorporated area over 20,000 inhabitants; or an urbanized area contiguous to a city or town of greater than 50,000 inhabitants.	Direct loan and loan guarantee.	Loans are made at the Treasury rate; loan term is the expected economic life of the assets financed; guarantee cannot exceed 80% of the project amount.
<b>Electric and Telecommunications Loans</b>	Assist rural communities in obtaining affordable, high-quality electric and telecommunications services.	Non-profit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities.	Generation, transmission facilities and distribution of electric power, including alternative, renewable, conservation and energy efficiency programs. Enhance 911 emergency service, digital switching equipment, and fiber optic cable, along with traditional main system telecommunications service.	Electric areas served by an existing rural electric borrower, or rural areas other than a city or town of more than 20,000. Telecommunications areas cities with population over 5,000.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.	Interest rates are established in accordance with 7CFR 17.4. Contact RUS at <a href="http://www.rd.usda.gov">www.rd.usda.gov</a> or 1(800) 670-6653.
<b>Distance Learning and Telemedicine</b>	Development and deployment of advanced telecommunication services throughout rural America to improve education and health care.	Incorporated entities, including municipalities, for-profit, and non-profit corporations that operate rural schools, libraries, health care clinics and other educational or health care facilities.	To provide end-user equipment and programming that delivers distance learning and telemedicine services into eligible areas.	Rural areas outside incorporated or unincorporated cities with population over 20,000.	Direct loan and/or grant.	Matching funds are required.
<b>Community Connect</b>	Provide public access to broadband in otherwise un-served communities.	Public bodies, Tribes, cooperatives, non-profits, limited dividend or mutual associations; corporations and other legally organized entities.	To build broadband infrastructure and establish a community center that offers free public access to broadband for two years.	A single community outside incorporated or unincorporated cities with population over 20,000 which does not have broadband.	Grant.	Minimum: \$50,000; Maximum: \$1 million. Amounts are published in NOFAs and may vary.

## SUMMARY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PURPOSES

	Land & Bldgs.	Mach. & Equip.	Working Capital	Infrastructure	Tech. Asst./Train.
Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs					
Single Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)	♦				
Single Family Housing Loan Guarantees	♦				
Single Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants	♦			♦	
Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans	♦			♦	
Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees	♦			♦	
Housing Preservation Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	♦			♦	
Community Facilities Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Community Development Initiative					♦
Rural Business and Cooperative Programs					
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Business Enterprise Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Intermediary Lending Loans	♦	♦	♦		
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Cooperative Development Grants				♦	♦
Value-Added Producer Grant			♦	♦	♦
Rural Business Opportunity Grants					♦
Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants	♦	♦		♦	♦
Biorefinery Assistance Program Loan Guarantees					
Repowering Assistance Program					
Advanced Biofuel Payment Program					
Rural Utilities Programs					
Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans, Loan Guar., Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Solid Waste Management Grants					♦
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	♦			♦	
Electric and Telecommunications Direct Loans/Loan Guarantees	♦	♦		♦	
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans/Grants		♦		♦	

# USDA Rural Development Offices in South Dakota

For more information on programs, visit our website at <http://www.rd.usda.gov/sd> or email us at [tammi.schone@sd.usda.gov](mailto:tammi.schone@sd.usda.gov).

## South Dakota State Office

200 4th Street SW  
Federal Bldg. Rm. 210  
Huron, SD 57350  
Toll Free: 800-622-1341, Ext. 4  
Voice: (605) 352-1100  
Fax: (855) 262-1940  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Mitchell

Area Office  
1820 North Kimball, Suite C  
Mitchell, SD 57301-1114  
Voice: (605) 996-1564, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1941  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Sioux Falls

Area Office  
2408 East Benson Road  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Voice: (605) 330-4515, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1944  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Aberdeen

Area Office  
524 Enterprise Street S., Suite  
100  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
Voice: (605) 226-3360, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1939  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Pierre

Area Office  
1717 N. Lincoln Ave., Suite 102  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Voice: (605) 224-8870, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1942  
TTY: (605) 352-1147  
TY: (800) 366-6888

## Watertown

Area Office  
1720 4th Street NE, Suite 2  
Watertown, SD 57201  
Voice: (605) 886-8202, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1945  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Rapid City

Area Office  
414 East Stumer Road  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
Voice: (605) 342-0301, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1943  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

## Yankton

Area Office  
2914 Broadway  
Yankton, SD 57078  
Voice: (605) 665-2662, Ext. 4  
Fax: (855) 262-1938  
TTY: (605) 352-1147

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### To File an Employment Complaint:

If you wish to file an employment complaint, you must contact your agency's EEO Counselor (PDF) within 45 days of the date of the alleged discriminatory act, event, or in the case of a personnel action. Additional information can be found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_file.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_file.html).

### To File a Program Complaint:

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

### Persons with Disabilities:

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities and you wish to file either an EEO or program complaint please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

Persons with disabilities who wish to file a program complaint, please see information above on how to contact us by mail directly or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at (800) 221-5689, which is also in Spanish or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers.

### All Other Inquiries:

For any other information not pertaining to civil rights, please refer to the listing of the USDA Agencies and Offices for specific agency information.

April 2015