As we return to work after celebrating the birthday of our great country, few people think about our liberties and what our fore-fathers sacrificed in order for us to enjoy this holiday. It took steady determination and people working together to make our nation what it is today.

We must continue to work together to keep this country strong and prosperous. In South Carolina, the USDA Rural Development (RD) Agency works daily with community leaders, small businesses and farmers as well as individuals wanting to improve their way of life through home ownership.

We assist in creating jobs, having up-to-date facilities, and partner in creating safe, modern and healthy communities for our residents to live and work in. Partnerships are essential to who we are.

As part of our mission at Rural Development we strive to expand our infrastructure and increase our partnerships with innovative measures across rural America. Remember, “Together, America Prospers”.

**Some of our Community Partners are:**

- Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance: [www.southerncarolina.org](http://www.southerncarolina.org)
- S.C. State University 1890 Extension Program: [www.scsu.edu/1890.aspx](http://www.scsu.edu/1890.aspx)
- S.C. Department of Agriculture: [www.agriculture.sc.gov](http://www.agriculture.sc.gov)
- S.C. Arts Commission: [https://www.southcarolinaarts.com](https://www.southcarolinaarts.com)
- S.C. Council of Government: [https://www.state.sc.us/cogs](https://www.state.sc.us/cogs)
- S.C. Rural Resource Coalition: [https://ruralrc.org](https://ruralrc.org)
- S.C. Department of Education: [https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/special-programs/usda-summer-meal-programs](https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/special-programs/usda-summer-meal-programs)

To find out more information about RD, USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov/sc](http://www.rd.usda.gov/sc).

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.