

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### **USDA Invests in Opioid Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Opportunities in Rural America**

WASHINGTON, July 9, 2019 – Acting Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Joel Baxley today announced that [USDA is partnering with 12 rural communities in 10 states to support opioid misuse treatment, prevention and recovery services.](#)

“Under the leadership of President Trump, USDA is committed to being a strong partner to rural communities in planning and building local responses to this monumental challenge,” Baxley said.

USDA is awarding 12 grants totaling \$2.75 million through the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine](#) program. The projects will support a wide range of services, including video conferencing programs, and education and substance misuse treatment.

The projects USDA announced today are in Alabama, California, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah and Vermont.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density.

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