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News Release

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USDA Unveils Tool to Help Rural Communities Address the COVID-19 Pandemic

USDA's COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide Lists Federal Programs That Can Help Rural Communities, Organizations and Residents Impacted by COVID-19

WASHINGTON, April 13, 2020 – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today unveiled a one-stop-shop of federal programs that can be used by rural communities, organizations and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. <u>The COVID-19</u> <u>Federal Rural Resource Guide</u> is a first-of-its-kind resource for rural leaders looking for federal funding and partnership opportunities to help address this pandemic.

Josue E. Rivera, USDA Rural Development State Director for Puerto Rico indicated all our Offices are Open for Business virtually. For Business & Community Programs please call (787) 766-5346, Housing Programs (787) 766-5709, State Office (787) 76-5095 & Public Information Officer (787) 398-6226. "We are ready to provide service to our Rural Communities" indicated Rivera.

"Under the leadership of President Trump, USDA is committed to being a strong partner to rural communities preparing for and impacted by COVID-19," Perdue said. "This resource guide will help our rural leaders, whether they are in agriculture, education, health care or any other leadership capacity, understand what federal assistance is available for their communities during this unprecedented time."

USDA has taken many immediate actions to assist farmers, ranchers, producers, rural communities, and rural-based businesses and organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these actions, visit www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

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