


STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications for Community Facilities Relending Program

(June 30, 2016) – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development is making funds available to community lending institutions that qualify as eligible lenders through a new program called the Community Facilities Relending Program. This program allows USDA Rural Development to make direct loans to community lending institutions, (referred to as “re-lenders”), who then re-loan the funds to eligible applicants to acquire, maintain, build, or renovate essential community facilities. The Community Facilities Relending Program targets community lending institutions working in high poverty and persistent poverty areas.

This change to the Community Facilities (CF) rule will increase USDA Rural Development’s impact in high-need areas and empower experienced community-based organizations. Community lending institutions — distinct from banks, investment funds, and other economic development organizations—have a demonstrated track record of implementing the kinds of creative and time-intensive activities that are necessary to build essential community facilities. The community lenders that receive CF funds through this relending program will have to hold their borrowers to the same rules and regulations as a borrower of the current Community Facilities Direct Loan program.

Interested organizations should contact their local USDA Rural Development Office today. The application deadline is August 8, 2016. The Notice of Solicitation of Applications is in the [Federal Register](#).

Since 2009, USDA Rural Development ([@USDARD](#) ) has invested \$11 billion to start or expand 103,000 rural businesses; helped 1.1 million rural residents buy homes; funded nearly 7,000 community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care facilities; financed 185,000 miles of electric transmission and distribution lines; and helped bring high-speed Internet access to nearly 6 million rural residents and businesses. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/results.

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