

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

## USDA Seeks Applications for Technical Assistance Grants to Support Community Facilities for People in Rural America

**LOUISIANA**, **April 26**, **2023** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small today announced that the Department is accepting applications to help rural communities expand their capacity to access financial resources to help build or upgrade essential community facilities

The funding is being made available under the <u>Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant program.</u> The grants allow eligible public bodies as well as private and nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to help grantees identify and plan for community facility needs in their area. Once these needs are pinpointed, the grantee can seek additional public and private financial resources.

"Our goal is to develop rural communities into well equipe and functioning places to live and work," stated Director Robert. "One step to reaching this goal is by having the ability to expand our local working class's skill and knowledge here at home," Director Robert adds.

USDA is particularly interested in applications that will advance Biden-Harris Administration priorities to:

- Reduce climate pollution and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.
- Ensure all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development (RD) programs and benefits from RD-funded projects; and
- Help rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.

Additional information on these key priorities is available at <a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points">https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points</a>.

Electronic applications will be accepted via Grants.gov until 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on June 15, 2023.

Any paper applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. local time on June 20, 2023.

For additional information, see page 24544 of the April 21, 2023, <u>Federal Register</u> or contact the Louisiana Rural Development Community Program department at 318-473-7940.

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