

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

## USDA Seeks Applications to Rehabilitate and Preserve Rural Multi-Family and Farmworker Housing

**WASHINGTON, March 15, 2022** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Rural Development Xochitl Torres Small today announced the Department is inviting applications for a program to help property owners make improvements to rural multi-family and farmworker housing properties financed by USDA.

The Department is soliciting applications from property owners who wish to defer loan payments under the Multi-Family Housing Preservation and Revitalization (MPR) Demonstration Program. The owners may use funds generated by the debt deferral to make improvements and repairs that USDA Rural Development identified during a Capital Needs Assessment for each property. Property owners also may use the deferred loan payments to reduce tenant rents.

The program will increase the assistance for projects addressing the critical challenges facing people living in rural America. It supports the Biden-Harris Administration's key priorities to help communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, advance equity and combat climate change. Property owners with USDA loans that were closed on or after Oct. 1, 1991, that are addressing at least two of these three key priorities are eligible to participate in the loan deferral program.

Electronic applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 16, 2022. For additional information on how to apply, see page 14441 of the March 15, 2022, <u>Federal Register</u>.

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.

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