National Association of Towns and Townships

Chad Parker, Deputy Administrator

Community Facilities Programs
Rural Development Offices

- Rural Development
  - Rural Business-Cooperative Service
  - Rural Housing Service
  - Rural Utilities Service
USDA Rural Development Offices

- 4 Regions
- 47 State Offices
- 400 Area Offices
- 1 National Office in DC
Rural Development (RD) - Community Facilities

**Guaranteed Loan & Grant Processing & Servicing Division**
- Acting Director
  - Anita Outen
- Special Projects Coordinator
  - Anita Outen
- Community Program Specialist
  - Shirley Stevenson
- Asset Risk Management Specialist
  - Nathan Chitwood
  - Richard Hoffpauir
  - Mick Ward
  - Corey Young

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES – HEADQUARTERS**
- Deputy Administrator
  - Chad Parker
- Administrative Mgmt Specialist
  - Vacant
- Assistant Deputy Administrator
  - Joseph Ben-Israel
- Financial Investment Specialist
  - Albert Hu
- Senior Advisor
  - Surabhi Dabir

**Direct Loan & Grant Processing & Servicing Division**
- Director
  - Deborah Jackson
- Special Projects Coordinator
  - Jamie Davenport
- Community Program Specialist
  - Meredith Esquerra
  - Joan Barringer
- Asset Risk Management Specialist
  - Stan Hale
  - Kaitlin Kirkland
  - Anita Lopez
  - Janice Pond
  - Jennifer Sass
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>FY 2022 Funding Level</th>
<th>FY 2022 Obligated</th>
<th>FY 2022 Available (CR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct Loans</td>
<td>Improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities. Rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data are eligible for this program.</td>
<td>$2.8 Billion</td>
<td>$439 Million</td>
<td>$1.2 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guaranteed Loans</td>
<td>This program provides loan guarantees to eligible lenders to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 50,000 residents.</td>
<td>$650 Million</td>
<td>$33 Million</td>
<td>$267 Million</td>
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<tr>
<td>CF Grants</td>
<td>Improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities. Facilities must primarily serve rural residents with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data are eligible for this program.</td>
<td>$36.1 Million</td>
<td>$2.3 Million</td>
<td>$14.7 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance and Training Grants</td>
<td>The Technical Assistance and/or training will assist communities, Indian Tribes, and Nonprofit Corporations to identify and plan for community facility needs that exist in their area. Once those needs have been identified, the Grantee can assist in identifying public and private resources to finance those identified community facility needs.</td>
<td>$1.9 Million</td>
<td>Undistributed</td>
<td>NOSA Under Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Community Development Initiative</td>
<td>To facilitate housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects.</td>
<td>$6 Million</td>
<td>Undistributed</td>
<td>NOSA Published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal College Grants</td>
<td>This program provides funding to 1994 Land Grant Institutions (Tribal Colleges) to make capital improvements to their educational facilities and to purchase equipment.</td>
<td>$10 Million</td>
<td>Undistributed</td>
<td>Undistributed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Facilities Program Overview

- Community Facilities Programs offer fixed rate, low-cost direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities in communities across rural America.

- These amenities help increase the competitiveness of rural communities in attracting and retaining businesses that provide employment and services for their residents.

- These facilities improve the basic quality of life and assist in the development and sustainability of rural America.
Community Facilities Programs Overview

- Offers direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities
- Eligible Purposes: Construct, expand, renovate, or improve essential community facilities
Community Facilities Program Overview

- **Essential Community Facilities**
  - Health Care Facilities & Equipment
  - Education & Cultural Facilities
  - Public Buildings & Equipment
  - Public Safety Facilities
  - Other (Natural Gas Distribution, Fairgrounds, Levees, Dams, Farmers Markets,...)
Community Facilities Programs Overview: Who’s Eligible

• An applicant must be:
  • A public body
  • A not-for-profit organization
  • Native American tribe on Federal or State Reservations or other Federally recognized tribes

• Facility must be located in a town/city/village with a population:
  • Under 20,000 for a direct loan and/or grant
  • Under 50,000 for guaranteed loans.

• Projects must primarily serve rural residents residing in communities with a population:
  • Under 20,000 for a direct loan and/or grant
  • Under 50,000 for guaranteed loans.

• Applicant must be unable to finance the project from their own resources or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms.
Community Facilities Programs Overview: Direct Loans

CF Direct Loan Rates and Terms

- Interest rates currently at 2.5% (Interest rates change quarterly)
- 40-year term or useful life
- Adequate security to protect the interest of the Government
- Repayment ability
CF Regular Grants

• Limited grant funds available for the most-needy communities
  o Average grant obligated in FY21 was $42,000

• Same eligibility requirements as the direct loan program

• Grant funds cannot exceed 75 percent of the cost of project and authorized on a graduated basis

• Grant funding limitations are based on population and income, economic feasibility and availability of grant funds

• Projects are selected based on a priority point system. Points are assigned based on population, income and other priorities

• Maximum grant assistance cannot exceed the lower of the qualifying percentage of eligible project cost determined, minimum amount sufficient to provide for economic feasibility as determined, and either 50 percent of the annual State allocation or $50,000, whichever is greater
Community Facilities Programs

- Healthcare: $6.2 Billion
- Education: $3.6 Billion
- Public Buildings: $1.2 Billion
- Public Safety: $1.0 Billion
- Other: $0.5 Billion
Community Facilities Direct Loan Program Guidance Book for Applicants

Community Facilities Direct Loan Program Guidance Book for Applicants is a step by step guide to help applicants apply for a Community Facilities Direct loan.

This guide book outlines the application process, financial feasibility requirements, construction and closing of an essential community facility for small towns and rural areas.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/community-facilities-programs
Emergency Rural Health Care Grants
American Rescue Plan Act

This program provides up to $500 million in grant funding to help broaden access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines, rural health care services, and food assistance through food banks and food distribution facilities.

Funding was made available to eligible applicants through two tracks:

- **Track One: Recovery Grants** provide immediate relief to address economic conditions arising from the COVID-19 emergency. Grants range from $25,000 - $1 million.

- **Track Two: Impact Grants** advance ideas and solutions to solve regional health care problems to support the long-term sustainability of rural health. Grants range from $5 million - $10 million.

Applications accepted until funding no longer available

Deadline October 12, 2021; Applications no longer accepted

[https://rd.usda.gov/erhc](https://rd.usda.gov/erhc)
Rural Community Development Initiative - RCDI

- Grants to build capacity for housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects
- Rural for this program is a population of 50,000 or less
- RCDI has the “train the trainer” concept
- RCDI program has a dollar-for-dollar match requirement
- Grant amounts range from $50,000 - $250,000
- Funding announcement is published in the Federal Register
- $6 Million is generally available
Technical Assistance and Training Grants - TAT

Grants can be used to:

- Assist communities in identifying and planning for community facility needs
- Identify resources to finance community facility needs from public and private sources
- Prepare reports and surveys necessary to request financial assistance to develop community facilities
- Prepare applications for Agency financial assistance
- Improve the management, including financial management, related to the operation of community facilities
- Rural for this program is a population of 20,000 or less
Project Examples
Project: Fayette County Courthouse Restoration (OH)
- CF Direct Loan

CF Direct: $1.85 million

• Renovate and restore a historic landmark constructed in 1834 and is still in use today.

• CF loan Funds used to upgrade mechanical systems that improve the buildings safety and energy efficacy. Also, to improve the buildings ADA compliance.
Project: Fort Edward Rescue Squad (NY)  
- CF Direct Loan

CF Direct: $12.3 million

• Construction of a new building to house the rescue team.

• Former facility was not compliant with current codes and regulations and was not handicap accessible, provided inadequate overnight sleeping quarters and will not accommodate the replacement of the next vehicle due to ceiling height. It does not have adequate space for storage or training.

• The new building has space for the squad's storage and training needs.
Project: City of Mercer (ND) - Direct/Grant Combination

CF Direct: $19,600
CF Grant: $4,800

• Funding used to purchase a Skid steer loader for snow removal

• It was not financially feasible for the city to contract to this work out and the current equipment is not dependable
Project: Nadeau Township (MI)
- Direct/Grant Combination

CF Direct: $160,000
CF Grant: $135,000

• Purchase of a new firetruck
• Towns existing fire truck was an outdated 25-year-old vehicle that did not have proper foaming capabilities.
Project: city of Aitkin (MN)  
- CF Direct Loan

CF Direct: $12.3 million

- Purchase of portable generators to aid in power outage and emergency power supply
Project: Upper Dauphin County Emergency Services (PA)  
- Direct/Grant Combination

CF Direct: $78,500  
CF Grant: $15,000

• Purchase of new Ambulance and other rescue equipment such as defibrillators to replace failing equipment
Project: Village of Palestine (IL)  
- Grant  

CF Grant: $10,600  

- Emergency warning systems to alert the public of impending weather dangers.  

- Critical for a town that has a history of tornados in the area. Would also be used to warn the public of other dangers such as chemical spills.
Project: Wild Rose Fire District (WI)  
- Direct/Grant Combination

CF Direct: $710,000  
CF Grant: $100,000

• Construction of a new fire station to replace outdated and unsafe existing facility

• New Building includes drive through bays for fire and emergency vehicles. Office and meeting room spaces for trainings and debriefings and adequate storage space for tools and equipment
Contact Information

Contact your local USDA Rural Development office for more information.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program

https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices

Chad Parker ----- chad.parker@usda.gov

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