



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Tennessee—Rural Housing Service

Strategic Partners

Partnership lowers costs, expands opportunities at Tusculum College

Outline Of Need:

Tusculum College is the oldest college in Tennessee and the 28th oldest in the nation. About 2,100 students benefit from course offerings on the main campus in Greeneville and three off site locations. The college's debt service was eating into funds better directed to improvements to the college's academic facilities and programs.

How Rural Development Helped:

Rural Development provided a \$39 million community facilities loan. The affordable terms significantly reduce the cost of debt service the college pays, opening up opportunities for needed improvements while maintaining a the current, sustainable debt/student ratio. The affordable financing also helped attract additional private donations to assist in needed facility improvements.

The Results:

"Tusculum College is a key economic driver for Greene County and Northeast Tennessee," said

Fast Facts

Program: Community Facilities Direct Loan

Investment: \$39 million

Congressional District: TN 1

Partners: Tusculum College, Niswonger Foundation, Ronald H. and Verna June Meen Family Trust, USDA

Impact: Large reduction in debt service, allows renovation and construction of needed science & math facilities to provide curriculum targeted to regional workforce needs.



Dr. Angelo Volpe, Dr. Tom Garland and Dr. Kenneth A. Bowman, members and chair of the Board of Trustees of Tusculum College with USDA Admin. Tammye Treviño

USDA Administrator Tammye Treviño. "Tusculum's faculty and staff have a long, distinguished history of ensuring that businesses have a homegrown source of well educated workforce to keep the region competitive and our rural communities healthy."

Rep. Phil Roe, philanthropist and local business owner Scott Niswonger, and Tusculum President Nancy Moody joined Treviño and many local leaders celebrating the new partnership that allows the college to move forward with needed renovations to historic Tredway Hall and construction of a state-of-the-art science and math facility.

Niswonger, a member of the Board of Trustees, agreed, "This partnership allows us to positively impact students and increase their educational opportunities. It will also have a tremendous local economic impact."

According to Tusculum staff, they have already had success securing matching funds for the new Science and Math Building that will provide room necessary for the college to expand course offerings and add programs in nursing and criminal justice.