



Maryland —Rural Housing Service

Regional Collaboration

USDA Helps Tri-County Council Fund New Headquarters Building

Outline Of Need:

Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore (TCCLES) of Maryland provides regional community and economic development services to Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico Counties. The organization leases five facilities located in Salisbury and Snow Hill, MD.

The lease for the main administrative office was nearing expiration and it was determined by TCCLES that it was more financially viable to begin the search for a permanent facility to purchase.

How Rural Development Helped:

Through the Community Facilities Program, USDA Rural Development provided \$4.6 million through the direct loan program, and Hebron Savings Bank provided \$2.5 million with the support of Rural Development's community facilities guaranteed loan program.



The loan funds were used to purchase a 75,000 square foot office building, located on a 25-acre parcel in Salisbury.

The Results:

Worcester and Somerset Counties have long been considered economically distressed areas with low MHI and high poverty and unemployment rates in the State.

The community based services that are provided and supported by TCCLES is highly needed in the region and their work can now be accomplished all under one roof.

The new location has allowed TCCLES to consolidate their five offices and administrative facilities along with transportation services offered by Shore Transit and a Greyhound bus station. Career counseling and job assistance services are also housed at the location and provided by The Lower Shore Workforce Alliance and One Stop Job Market.

Fast Facts

Program: Community Facilities

Congressional District: MD—1

Investment: \$4.6 million direct loan and \$2.5 guaranteed loan
Partners: Hebron Savings Bank.

Demographics: Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset Counties
Rural Population served: 155,934

Rural Population—Impact:

- Better service for rural residents

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