

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development's Community Facilities program offers direct and guaranteed loans and grants to finance and facilitate the development of more than 80 different types of essential community facilities serving rural areas.

These include hospitals, nursing homes, health clinics, police, fire or rescue facilities, equipment or vehicles; libraries; and municipal or county buildings.

Since 2001, Michigan has received more than \$198 million to assist rural communities through the Community Facilities program.

Applicants must have the legal authority to borrow and repay loans, to pledge security for loans, and construct, operate, and maintain the facilities. They must also be financially sound and able to organize and manage the facility effectively.

Contact Rural Development for information about programs and advice on how to assemble information to determine engineering feasibility, economic soundness, cost estimates, organization, financing and management matters. We can also help with your application.

Our mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for all rural Michigan residents.



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Community Facilities Program Summary

Objective

Provide essential community facilities for rural communities.

Applicants

Applicants must be public bodies, non-profit corporations or federally recognized Indian tribes. For guaranteed loans, apply to intermediary lender. Direct loan and grant applications are processed by RD.

Uses

Build, renovate or purchase equipment for public safety, libraries, hospitals, distance learning and telecommunications, farmers markets, or other essential community facilities. Not for recreational activities.

Population

Assistance may only be provided to rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

Loan/Grant

Direct loan or loan guarantee or grants.

Terms/Conditions

May apply for up to 100 percent of market value. Loans can be for up to 40 years or life of security.



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Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food



Contact us at (800) 944-8119
On the Web: www.rurdev.usda.gov/mi

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We can build a community from the ground up.



‘Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food’ is a USDA-wide effort to create new economic opportunities by better connecting consumers with local producers. It is also the start of a national conversation about the importance of understanding where your food comes from and how it gets to your plate.

The 'Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food' initiative includes supporting local farmers and community food groups; strengthening rural communities; enhancing direct marketing and farmers' promotion programs; promoting healthy eating; protecting natural resources; and helping schools connect with locally grown foods.

Do you see an opportunity where you live?

Do you need funding to move forward?

Consider the Community Facilities Program

The Community Facilities Program offers direct and guaranteed loans and grants designed to finance the development of over 80 different types of essential community facilities serving rural areas.

Facilities include, but are not limited to:

- Hospitals,
- elderly care facilities,
- child care centers,
- fire and rescue stations,
- vocational and medical rehabilitation centers,
- Schools,
- public transportation infrastructure, and
- **projects that support local and regional food systems.**

Eligible applicants include rural communities and non-profit organizations.

Loans are made at below-market, fixed interest rates. Grants are limited to projects with high financial need that serve low income communities. Grants range from 15%-75% and require matching funds.

Eligible expenses include land acquisition, construction of facilities, necessary fees, and equipment. Communities must be under 20,000 in population.



Eligible projects that support local and regional food systems include:

Food Banks/Shelves – purchase building and equipment, purchase vehicles for food delivery, renovations, and new construction.

School Cafeterias – purchase equipment, renovations, and central processing and distribution centers.

Farmers Markets - purchase building, renovation, and new construction.

Community Gardens – purchase real estate and infrastructure to connect to the water sources and/or provide irrigation.

Community Kitchens – purchase equipment, renovations, or new construction.

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