

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, D.C.

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USDA ANNOUNCES \$50 MILLION IN COMMUNITY FACILITY DISASTER ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON, April 5, 2001 - USDA Rural Development announced this week that \$50 million in loans and grants are available to develop essential community facilities - including schools, libraries, fire and rescue, public safety, hospitals, clinics, and multipurpose community centers - in Presidentially or Secretarially declared disaster areas.

\$25 million in disaster assistance will be made available in North Carolina to assist in ongoing recovery efforts resulting from hurricanes Floyd, Dennis, and Irene. The remaining \$25 million will be available for other declared disaster areas. The \$25 million, in both instance, will be divided into \$10 million in direct loans and \$15 million in grants. The essential community facility must be located in a county with a disaster declared on or after September 1, 1999.

Applications for funding in North Carolina disaster areas must be submitted to the USDA Rural Development state office in North Carolina. Competitive applications will be considered on a month-to-month basis until funds are exhausted. Applications for the remaining \$25 million must be submitted to the Rural Development state office, in which the facility will be located, by 3:00 p.m. CDT on May 11, 2001, for the first round of funding, and 3:00 p.m. CDT on August 17, 2001, for the second round of funding.

Applications for facilities located in Nebraska are to be submitted to USDA Rural Development State Office Attn. Business and Community Division Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Nebraska 68508.

USDA's Community Facilities programs are administered by USDA Rural Housing Service. For additional information visit the following Web address: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/cp.htm>

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