

RD AN No. 4426(1942-A)
(3570-B)
(3575-A)
April 6, 2009

TO: State Directors
Rural Development

ATTN: Community Programs Directors

FROM: James C. Alsop (*Signed by James C. Alsop*)
Acting Administrator
Housing and Community Facilities Programs

SUBJECT: Eligibility of YMCA, YWCA, Boy and Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls for
Community Facilities Loans and Grants

PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME:

This Administrative Notice (AN) is being issued to provide uniform and consistent Agency interpretation on issues regarding Community Facilities (CF) loans and grants applications for projects where the applicant is the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Boy, or Girl Scouts, or Camp Fire Girls.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS AN:

This AN updates RD AN No. 4295 (1942-A, 3570-B, and 3575-A) that was dated July 17, 2007, which expired on July 31, 2008.

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES:

We continue to receive a number of inquiries about the eligibility of organizations that are not open for both male and female participants. While it has been the stance of Community Facilities that any project that utilizes CF funds must be open to all citizens and not discriminate on the basis of sex, there is a United States Department of Agriculture exemption to that rule at 7 C.F.R. 15a.14 (b), Membership practices of certain organizations, which provides:

EXPIRATION DATE:
March 31, 2010

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:
Preceding RD Instructions 1942-A,
3570-B, and 3575-A

YMCA, YWCA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls. This part [which precludes sexual discrimination] does not apply to the membership practices of the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Girl Scouts, the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls.

If you have any questions, please contact Chad Parker, Director, Direct Loan and Grant Division, Community Programs, by phone at (202) 720-1490 or by fax at (202) 690-0471.