



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP

LUBBOCK, TEXAS, June 17, 2004 - USDA Rural Development unveiled a new faith-based and community organization pilot program to help educate nonprofit organizations on USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program and connect them to local lending institutions. USDA Rural Development will help faith-based and community organizations to have equal access to programs and benefits and obtain information they need about available resources to enhance their capacity to serve their communities.

"To further support our nation's rural communities, these workshops will help faith-based and community organizations get the information they need about available resources," said State Director Bryan Daniel.

"USDA Rural Development remains committed to helping faith-based and community organizations get access to federal resources to enhance their capacity to serve their communities."

USDA Rural Development's community facility loan guarantee program allows lenders to finance and facilitate essential community facilities such as health care clinics, police and fire stations, schools and child/adult care centers. Through this program, USDA Rural Development can provide a lender a guarantee of up to 90% of the total loan amount.

An educational funding workshop will be held Thursday, June 24, 2004, from 1:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Texas A& M Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, 1102 East FM 1294, Lubbock, Texas 79403. This location is just north of the Lubbock International Airport. The workshop will provide valuable information on the numerous fund uses, who may apply, application processing and other information regarding the community facilities guarantee program.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that will support increasing economic opportunity and enhance the quality of life of rural residents.

If you are interested in attending the educational funding workshop, please call (806) 785-5644 extension 4, by June 22, 2004, to assure available seating. We look forward to seeing you in Lubbock on June 24th. For additional program information, you may also access the USDA Rural Development website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

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USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes business programs, housing programs, and utilities programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's rural residents.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).