



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP

HILLSBORO, TEXAS - JUNE 16, 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.

"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 USDA Rural Development 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, hospitals, schools, shelters, food recovery and distribution centers 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 Monday, June 28, 2004, at 1:00 p.m. in the Hilton Hotel, Town Square South Ballroom, 113 South University Parks Drive, Waco, Texas. This workshop will provide valuable information on the numerous fund uses, who may apply, application processing and other information regarding the community facilities guarantee program.

To register, please contact the Hillsboro Local office at 254-582-7328 extension 4. USDA Rural Development is the economic development agency for USDA, and the lead federal entity for rural development. For additional program information, you may also log onto the state's Rural Development website at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that will support increasing economic opportunity and enhance the quality of life of rural residents. The best opportunities for federal assistance to faith-based and community organizations are outlined on USDA's faith-based and community initiatives Web site at <http://www.usda.gov/fbci>.

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.

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).