

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES FOR HEALTH CARE CAPITAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN RURAL AREAS

I. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT DIVISION, GSA

Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Programs, Federal Supply Service

The General Services Administration (GSA) coordinates this program, which donates surplus federal property to public agencies, nonprofit health or educational organizations and public or nonprofit programs serving elderly populations. The donated property may be items such as communications and electronic equipment, medical supplies, furniture, motor vehicles, airplanes, hardware and tools, construction equipment, etc.

For more information, call the Federal Supply Service of the GSA Property Management Division at (703) 305-5234 for the location of the nearest GSA Regional Office, or see the state Contact List at http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA_BASIC&contentId=10790.

II. HHS PROGRAMS

DIVISION OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, DHHS

Federal Surplus Real Property for Health Purposes

Under this program, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is authorized to deed or lease surplus real properties for public health purposes. The surplus real property will vary, but could include land, office buildings or public facilities such as hospitals. Eligible applicants must demonstrate their ability to maintain the property and carry out the proposed health program. Title V of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act requires that a priority be placed on homeless assistance programs for use of the properties. If homeless assistance programs do not apply, applications can then be considered for health-related programs. Both public and non-profit institutions may apply. The DHHS Division of Health Facilities Planning publishes a list of health programs that would be eligible to use the surplus real property.

For more information, contact the Division of Property Management, DHHS, Program Support Center, Room 5B--41, Park lawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443-2265; (301) 443-0084 (fax).

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA), HHS BUREAU OF HEALTH RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF FACILITIES AND LOANS, HRSA

New Delivery Sites and New Starts in Programs Funded Under the Health Centers

The purpose of this program is to support the establishment of new service delivery sites in each of the Health Center programs funded under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act. These programs include: (1) Community Health Centers; (2) Migrant Health Centers; (3) Health Care for the Homeless program; (4) Public Housing Primary Care; and (5) Healthy School, Healthy Communities program. Public and private nonprofit entities are eligible to apply.

For more information concerning Community Health Centers, contact Tonya Bowers, (301) 594-4329; email: tbowers@hrsa.gov. For Migrant Health Centers, contact George Ersek, (301) 594-4303; email: gersek@hrsa.gov. For Health Care for the Homeless, contact Jean Hochron, (301) 594-4437; email: jhochron@hrsa.gov. For Public Housing Primary Care, contact Evan R. Arrindell, (301) 594-4334; email: earrindell@hrsa.gov. For Healthy School, Healthy Communities, contact Sheri Downing-Futrell, (301) 594-4468; email: sdowning-futrell@hrsa.gov.

BUREAU OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (BPHC), HRSA

New Access Point Grant Program

This program makes available grant funding for public and non-profit entities for operational support of a new access point under any of the BPHC programs authorized under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act. The five programs include: Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care for the Homeless, Public Housing Primary Care, and Health Schools Healthy Communities. This program is a competitive grant application for “new starts” organizations and expansions of currently funded organizations. The entire guidance for the application process is available through Policy Information Notice 2001-18.

For more information contact the Bureau of Primary Health Care at 301-594-4329 or visit <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/recovery/>.

Expanded Medical Capacity at Existing Primary Care Sites Program

This program makes available grant funding to support the expansion of medical capacity to increase the number of people served in a health center’s existing service area at sites currently operated by organizations receiving Community Health Center, Migrant Health Center, Health Care for the Homeless, and/or Public Housing Primary Care grants. This program is a competitive grant application for “new start” organizations and expansions of currently funded organizations. Strategies for expanded medical capacity can include but are not limited to expanding existing primary care medical services, adding new medical providers where excess facility capacity exists, expanding hours of operations, providing additional services through contractual relationships, renovating sites, or replacing and expanding existing sites at a location proximate to the current health center.

For more information call the Bureau of Primary Health Care at: (301) 594-4340 for Community & Migrant Health Centers in Regions I-V; (301) 594-0287 for Community & Migrant Health Centers in Regions VI-X; (301) 594-4455 for Healthcare for the Homeless Program grantees; and (301) 594-4334 for Public Housing Primary Care grantees.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

National Library of Medicine (NLM), NIH

The National Library of Medicine has several types of grant programs to fund equipment and related costs enabling health care institutions to connect to the Internet.

For information, contact the National Library of Medicine, Division of Extramural Programs at: (301) 496-4621; (301) 402-2952 (fax); or contact your Regional Medical Library by calling 1-800-338-7657. Website URL: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ep/extramural.html>

OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH POLICY (ORHP), HRSA

Rural Health Outreach Program

The Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP) allows projects receiving funds under the Rural Health Services Outreach Grant Program to purchase equipment or vehicles, provided that: (1) the equipment or vehicle is an essential component of the outreach program, and (2) the purchase does not exceed 40 percent of the federal grant amount. The funds may not be used for the purchase, construction, renovation or improvement of a building or property.

For information on eligibility and available funding, call ORHP at (301) 443-0835 or visit their website at <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/outreach.htm>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)

Prevention/Early Intervention Services Cooperative Agreement

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration announces funding for cooperative agreements to help cities, counties and tribal governments build the service system infrastructure necessary to address serious local or regional mental health problems through prevention and early treatment interventions having a strong evidence base.

For questions concerning program issues, contact Gail F. Ritchie, M.S.W., Special Programs Development Branch, Division of Program Development, Special Population, and Projects, CMHS/SAMHSA, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 17C-05, Rockville, MD 20857. (301) 443-1752. gritchie@samhsa.gov. For questions regarding grants management issues: Steve Hudak, Division of Grants Management, OPS/SAMHSA, Rockwall II, 6th Floor, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. (301) 443-9666, shudak@samhsa.gov.

III. HUD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, HUD

Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) Program

Eligible applicants for this program are local rural non-profits, community development corporations (CDCs), state housing finance agencies (HFAs), state community and/or economic development agencies, and Indian tribes. Funds are available in two categories:

- Capacity Building and Support for Innovative Housing and Economic Development activities. Possible activities include hiring and training staff, purchasing software and other tools, obtaining expertise from outside sources, developing an accounting system, conducting asset inventories, developing strategic plans, and seeking technical assistance.
- Support for Innovative Housing and Economic Development activities, including preparation of plans, architectural drawings, acquisition of land and buildings, demolition, provision of infrastructure, purchase of materials, construction, use of local labor markets, and job training.

FHA Hospital Mortgage Insurance Program

Hospitals can obtain mortgage insurance through the Federal Housing Administration to finance new construction and modernization or to purchase major movable equipment (e.g., hospital beds, wheeled equipment, office machines, etc.). Hospitals can enhance their credit-worthiness for loans and tax-exempt bonds, and obtain favorable interest rates by obtaining FHA mortgage insurance. The program is administered by the Bureau of Health Resources Development of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) through an agreement between HUD and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Website:

http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?_pageid=73,1826910&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

For additional information, call the Health Facilities Program Branch, Division of Facilities and Loans, Office of Special Programs, HRSA, (212) 264-4624.

State Community Development Block Grant Program, Office of Block Grant Assistance

Often referred to as the "small cities" program, the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program supports projects in "non-entitlement areas," defined as cities with populations of 50,000 or less, and counties with populations of 200,000 or less. The CDBG program funds may be used for a variety of purposes, including: property acquisition; facility construction or rehabilitation; construction of streets, water and sewer facilities; planning activities; and public services. The program also provides assistance to nonprofit entities for community development activities and to private, for-profit entities for economic development activities. Website URL:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/stateadmin/>

To learn more about CDBG funds, call the HUD State and Small Cities Division at (202) 708-1332 to locate a HUD State Office. State Office contacts are listed at the HUD Website: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd>

OFFICE OF INSURED MULTIFAMILY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DIVISION, HUD

Mortgage Insurance for Nursing Homes and Assisted-Living Facilities

Nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, board and care homes and assisted living facilities can enhance their credit-worthiness by obtaining mortgage insurance through this program. The program offers insurance for facility construction or renovation, for the purchase or refinancing of projects, with or without repairs, and for loan insurance to install fire safety equipment.

For more information, call your local housing authority or planning office for the nearest HUD field office. State Offices are listed at the HUD Website: <http://www.hud.gov/local/>. For further information, contact the Policies and Procedures Division, Office of Insured Multifamily Housing Development, HUD, (202) 708-2556.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND

The Community Development Financial Institutions Program

The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Program uses limited federal resources to invest in and build the capacity of private, for-profit and non-profit financial institutions to provide capital and services to underserved people and communities. The Fund invests in CDFIs using flexible tools such as equity investments, loans, grants, and deposits, depending upon market and institutional needs.

The CDFI Program has three separate components: the Core/Intermediary Component; the Small and Emerging CDFI Assistance (SECA) Component; and the Native American CDFI Technical Assistance (NACTA) Component. Each component serves both rural and urban areas in local, regional, statewide, and multi-state markets.

The Bank Enterprise Award Program

The Bank Enterprise Award (BEA) Program provides incentives for banks and thrifts to invest in CDFIs and to increase their lending and provision of financial services in distressed communities. The BEA Program supports the community reinvestment efforts of these financial institutions.

For more information on both of these Treasury Department programs, please visit the CDFI Fund's website at <http://www.cdfifund.gov>, or call the CDFI Fund at (202) 622-8662.

V. USDA PROGRAMS

RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE (RBS), USDA

Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans

Loan guarantees of up to \$10 million are available through RBS to develop businesses or industry, increase employment or control pollution in rural areas. Rural medical practices, clinics and pharmacies are examples of rural health-related businesses that are eligible to benefit from this program. More information can be found on the web at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/bprogs.htm>

Business and Industry Direct Loan Program

The Business and Industry Direct Loan Program provides loans to public entities and private parties who cannot obtain credit from other sources to improve develop or finance business and industry, create jobs, and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. More information can be found on the web at:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/bprogs.htm>

Rural Business Enterprise Grants Program

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service makes grants under the Rural Business Enterprise Grants Program to public bodies, private non-profit corporations, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribal groups to finance and facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises located in areas outside the boundary of a city or unincorporated areas of 50,000 or more and its immediately adjacent urbanized or urbanizing areas. The public bodies, private non-profit corporations, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribal groups receive the grant to assist a business, grant funds to not go directly to the business. Funds are used for the financing or development of a small and emerging business.

For more information, please visit the Rural Development website for more information about all USDA programs.

The address for this program is <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbeg.htm>

RURAL DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, USDA

Rural Housing Community Facilities Program

This program offers direct and guaranteed loans and grants designed to finance and facilitate the development of over 80 different types of essential community facilities serving rural areas. These facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, elderly care facilities, child care centers, fire and rescue stations, vocational and medical rehabilitation centers, schools, and public transportation infrastructure.

Community Facilities Direct Loan Program

The Rural Housing Service makes direct loans to nonprofit and public entities for the construction of essential facilities. Most loans are made at below-market interest rates and are aimed at serving financially challenged rural areas.

Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program

Through this program, the Rural Housing Service guarantees up to 90% of the amount of a loan from a private lender to a public or nonprofit entity to be used for the construction of an essential community facility.

Community Facilities Grant Program

The Community Facilities Grant Program is typically used to fund projects under special initiatives, such as Native American community development efforts; child care centers linked with the Federal government's Welfare-to-Work initiative; Federally-designated Enterprise and Champion Communities, and the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative area.

For more information on any of the above programs, go to <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>.

Rural Economic Development Loan Program

USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan Program provides zero-interest loans to electric and telephone utilities financed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, to promote sustainable rural economic development and job creation projects.

Eligible uses of funds include, but are not limited to, community infrastructure necessary for economic development and job creation purposes, community facilities and services necessary for economic development and job creation purposes, medical facilities and equipment to provide medical care to rural residents, and business incubator projects to assist in developing emerging enterprises.

Please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/FL/redfact.htm> for more information.

Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Program

The Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program (EZ/EC) is designed to afford communities real opportunities for growth and revitalization. The framework of the program is embodied in four key principles: economic opportunity, sustainable community development, community-based partnerships, and strategic vision for change.

- **Champion Communities:** Many communities organized and completed the valuable strategic planning process as part of their application for Round I of the EZ/EC Initiative, but were not selected. To assure that the communities' important work produced continuing benefits USDA designated them as Champion Communities and provided assistance to them.

The homepage for Rural Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities is <http://www.ezec.gov>. Find information and links to all of the Rounds designated communities at <http://www.ezec.gov/Communit/ruralezec.html>, and a corresponding map at <http://www.ezec.gov/ezec/mainmap.html>.

Find out more about Champion Communities at <http://www.ezec.gov/Communit/champions.html>.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE (RUS), USDA

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant and Loan Program

This program replaces the RUS (formerly known as REA) Distance Learning and Medical Link Grants program. The program allows for capital equipment purchases (i.e., purchase of end-user telemedicine equipment), but not for building construction or renovation. More information is available on the Web at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm>.

VI. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Small Business Administration Certified Development Company (504) Loan Program

This program offers guaranteed loans to for-profit health care providers in rural areas. For more information, contact <http://www.sba.gov/services/financialassistance/sbaloantopics/cdc504/>.

VII. STATE BOND ISSUING AUTHORITIES

State Bond Issuing Authorities

Many states have agencies that act as the vehicle for providing financial assistance to public and non-profit health care providers through loans funded by the issuance of tax-exempt bonds. The diversity of the nature of facilities funded by state-based programs is a function of the mission of the agency. Many state bond-issuing authorities are diversifying entities that are eligible for loans funded through tax-exempt bond issuances, and this reflects the changing health care environment.