

United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20250 www.rd.usda.gov

News Release

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Trump Administration Invests in Non-Profit Victim Advocacy Group with Loans & Grants Totaling \$468,000

Investment to Help Turning Points Network Support Survivors of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

CLAREMONT, NH, August 19, 2020 – The Trump Administration today announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing \$468,000 in combined loans and grants to renovate and modernize the headquarters of Turning Points Network, a non-profit organization that supports victims of stalking, sexual assault and domestic violence in Sullivan County, N.H.

Trump Administration Official & New Hampshire State Director Anthony Linardos was pleased to make the recent announcement. "Turning Points Network is a lifeline for victims of violence in Sullivan County," he said. "It plays a vital role in the area by helping people stand up and take back their lives, and we are proud to support its critical mission through this project. Under the leadership of President Trump and Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA is focused on serving and helping the most vulnerable in our distressed communities. This investment exemplifies our mission to improve the lives of rural Americans in New Hampshire."

Funds will be used to renovate the organization's Claremont headquarters, which lacks adequate floor space and facilities to accommodate its growing staff and service needs. Upgrades will include new restrooms, a conference room, kitchen, reception area and integrated spatial divisions to ensure privacy for victims and counselors. The facility will also receive more efficient lighting, heating and cooling systems, handicap-accessible parking, and new security cameras and coded entryways.

USDA Rural Development provided a portion of funding—a \$332,000 loan and \$59,700 grant—through its Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant program, and an additional \$76,300 through its Economic Impact Initiative Grant. Contributions from local donations, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and a federal Community Development Block Grant round out the project's \$1.41 million cost.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit <u>www.rd.usda.gov</u>. If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our <u>GovDelivery subscriber page</u>.