

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

## USDA Announces Availability of Funding for Grants to Help Repair Affordable Housing in Rural Communities

**WASHINGTON, April 19, 2023** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small today announced the availability of funding for grants to help repair or rehabilitate homes, rental properties or co-ops occupied by low- and very-low-income rural residents.

USDA is providing the funding through the <u>Housing Preservation Grant</u> program.

Eligible applicants include most State or local governmental entities, federally recognized Indian tribes, nonprofit groups and faith-based organizations.

Approximately \$18.5 million is being made available to eligible participants. Approximately \$2.5 million of this funding is available for disaster assistance (\$50,000 maximum award).

For example, funds may be used to:

- Repair or replace electrical wiring, foundations, roofs, insulation, heating systems and water/waste disposal systems.
- Support accessibility features.
- Purchase construction materials.
- Finance administrative expenses up to 20%.

USDA is particularly interested in applications that will advance Biden-Harris Administration priorities to:

- Reduce climate pollution and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.
- Ensure all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development (RD) programs and benefits from RD-funded projects; and
- Help rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.

Additional information on these key priorities is available at www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points.

The number of awards to be made will depend on the number of eligible participants and the total amount of requested funds. USDA expects to make approximately 100-150 awards based on the Department's prior experience with this program.

Completed preapplications for grants must be submitted by paper or electronically by 4:30 p.m. local time June 5, 2023. For additional information, see page 24148 of the April 19, 2023, <u>Federal Register</u>.

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