STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications to Improve Health Care for People in the Delta Region

WASHINGTON, **June 12, 2024** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Dr. Basil Gooden today announced that USDA is inviting grant applications to improve health care for people who have experienced generations of poverty in the Delta Region.

The region is comprised of 252 counties and parishes in Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

Today, USDA is making up to $3 million available through the Delta Health Care Services Grant program to help address health care needs in the region through economic development, higher education, health care and research organizations.

Funds may be used to develop health care services, education programs and job training programs. Funds may also be used to develop and expand public health facilities in the region.

The minimum grant award is $50,000. The maximum award is $1 million. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis.

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 https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points.

Applications must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Aug. 12, through Grants.gov.

For additional information, see page 49826 of the June 12, 2024, Federal Register.

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