



Rural Development



USDA Rural Development

ARIZONA 2016 PROGRESS REPORT



2016 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

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Often in a work day so many things come across my desk that I don't have much time to appreciate the tremendous diversity and beauty of Arizona. Out in the spreading glory of our vast desert expanses, our snow-covered mountains, our canyon rocks that look like they've been turned on some giant lathe, our stone trees, water colored cliffs and liquid landscapes it is difficult to think that anyone here could be considered impoverished in any way.

But tucked among the spectacular beauty are pockets of poverty that need not a hand out but a hand hold to pull themselves up.

In 2016 our USDA Rural Development staff helped nearly 2,000 rural families, communities or individuals with basic needs that most of us take for granted. We invested over \$25 million into rural business assistance; one and a half million for rural renewable energy projects; \$270,471,792 in housing loans and repair grants; \$18 million in community facilities and over \$55 million in utility infrastructure. Altogether \$362,703,952 in rural Arizona, most of it in low interest loans.

Our work makes water safer, helps families get into a home of their own to build equity and wealth, builds hospitals, clinics, senior centers, libraries, schools, and shelters; invests in business development, creates jobs, and connects some of Arizona's most remote communities via broadband and telecom. Thanks to staff and our partners for helping us make Arizona beautiful and prosperous.

Rural Business and Cooperative Programs

Business and Cooperative Programs (B&CP) funded nearly \$30 million in projects in rural Arizona in fiscal year 2016.

Under the direction of Gary Mack, B & CP Program Director, USDA provided loan guarantees for projects from a \$9,950,000 retail and restaurant complex on the Salt River Pima Indian Community to a \$355,000 commercial real estate office in Kingman. Altogether USDA provided over \$25 million in loan guarantees for eight businesses, bringing jobs and economic vitality to rural communities.

B&CP also provided funding for three Rural Microentrepreneurial Assistance Program (RMAP) projects for revolving loan funds and technical assistance for businesses. Seven Rural Business Development Grants went for such projects as tourism development, equipment, co-op development and a community college expansion. Five Native American grants were also awarded to Chinle, Cornfields, Tolani Lake, San Xavier Co-op and the Little Colorado Community Development Corp.

Value-Added Producer Grants helped a goat ranch, two wineries, a dairy, and a farming operation with a total of \$841,158 in grants.

Our Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) guaranteed three solar projects totaling nearly a million dollars and REAP grants went for solar arrays for businesses in Cochise, Navajo, Santa Cruz, Gila, Graham and Greenlee Counties. A Pinal County business received a \$444,000 grant for an anaerobic digester.

The International Sonoran Desert Alliance (ISDA) in Ajo, Arizona, received a \$30,000 Rural Business Development Grant for planning around the historic Ajo Plaza. The Plaza was built between 1916 and 1947 and the center park there became a welcoming haven for locals, train passengers and travelers. The train station has been restored to feature a Visitor Center, a café, an art gallery and other shops. ISDA renovated the historic Curley School to serve as a Community Learning Center where students 16 to 24 years old can study for the GED test. Evening sessions are offered for adults. The center also offers art

instruction and cooking. Curley School renovations included artisan apartments and art studios and a commercial kitchen. The Ajo Cooks classes allow small gatherings of women (and sometimes men) who share their family recipes and traditions to prepare dishes for one another. Some women begin catering and

others use ISDA's food carts to sell their food at the plaza to the million plus tourists who visit Ajo every year heading to Organ Pipe National Monument or Mexico. Rural Development has used the historic Curley School for community outreach and to help businesses and residents learn about our programs.



Rural Business-Cooperative Service

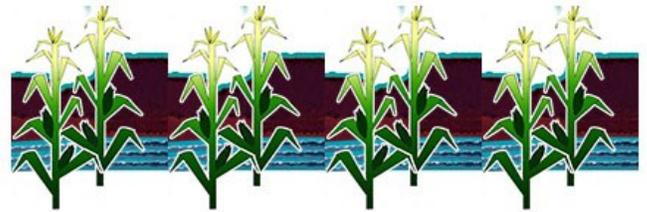
	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	Create jobs/stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses.	Lenders/Businesses.	Real estate, buildings, equipment, supplies, working capital, and some debt refinancing.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loan guarantee.	Lender and borrower negotiate terms. Up to 30 years for real estate, 15 years for machinery and equipment, and 7 years for working capital.
Rural Business Development Grants	Help startup or expand small and emerging private businesses and/or non-profits in rural communities. Note: This program, created through the 2014 Farm Bill, combines the former Rural Business Enterprise Grant and Rural Business Opportunity Grant programs.	Public bodies, government entities, nonprofit entities, and Federally recognized tribes.	Acquire or develop land, buildings, plants and equipment; build or improve access roads, parking areas, utility extensions, and water and waste disposal facilities; provide technical assistance; establish revolving loan funds; and support rural distance learning programs that provide educational or job training.	All areas rural in character except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	Establish revolving funds for business facilities and community development projects.	Public bodies, nonprofit corporations, Native American tribes, and cooperatives.	Community development projects, establish or expand businesses, create or save rural jobs.	Rural areas and incorporated places with populations of less than 50,000.	Direct loan.	The intermediary makes loans to businesses from its revolving loan fund on terms consistent with security offered. Intermediary pays 1% for 30 years.
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	Establish revolving funds to target assistance to small rural enterprises.	Microenterprise Development Organizations (MDOs).	Loans, technical and capacity-building assistance to businesses with 10 or fewer employees and sole proprietorships.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loans, grants.	Rural microenterprises apply directly to the intermediary.
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	Finance economic development and job creation in rural areas.	Rural Utilities Service-financed electric and telephone utilities.	Business startups or expansion projects that create rural jobs.	Rural areas with priority for places with populations of 2,500 or less.	Direct loan or grant to establish revolving loan fund.	Intermediary makes loans to for-profit or nonprofit businesses and public bodies. Loans are 0% for 10 years.
Rural Cooperative Development Grants	Establish/operate centers for cooperative development.	Nonprofits and institutions of higher education.	Establish centers to provide technical assistance, training, applied research, and collection and interpretation of data, for the purpose of cooperative development.	All areas except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Minimum 25% fund match (5% for 1994 Institutions). Grants awarded competitively.
Socially Disadvantaged Groups Grants	Provides funds to eligible co-ops or co-op associations, or co-op development centers to provide technical assistance to small, socially disadvantaged groups in rural areas. Note: formerly known as the Small, Socially Disadvantaged Producer Grant Program.	Cooperatives and co-op development centers that serve socially disadvantaged groups where a majority of the board of directors or governing board is comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups.	Technical assistance.	All areas, except cities over 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. There is no matching requirement.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (continued)

	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Value-Added Producer Grants	Help independent agricultural producers enter into activities that add value to their crops.	Independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.	Feasibility studies, business plans; working capital.	All areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Funds cannot be used to build facilities or purchase equipment. Funds must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Loan Guarantees and Grants	Provide assistance for energy efficiency improvements or purchase a renewable energy system for operations.	Rural small businesses and agricultural producers.	Energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy systems, land acquisition, and working capital.	Cities, towns, unincorporated areas with populations less than 50,000. Population limits do not apply to agricultural producers.	Loan guarantee and/or grant.	Grants up to 25% of project costs not to exceed \$250,000 for energy efficiency projects and \$500,000 for renewable energy. Loan guarantees up to 75% of project cost not to exceed \$25 million.
REAP Audit/Development Grants	Provide grant to entity to pass through to a small business or agricultural producer for 75% of the cost of an energy audit or renewable energy development assistance.	State, tribal, or local government institutions of higher education; rural electric cooperatives; or public power entities.	\$100,000 grant to entities, smaller ones to small business and agricultural producers for 75% of energy audit or renewable energy development assistance.	Cities, towns, unincorporated areas with populations less than 50,000.	Grant.	\$100,000 to entities and up to 75% of the cost of energy audit for renewable energy development assistance.
Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program Loan Guarantees	Provide loan guarantees to develop and construct commercial-scale biorefineries or retrofit facilities using eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels. Note: The program was formerly known as the Biorefinery Assistance	Individuals; Indian tribes; State or local governments; corporations; farm cooperatives; associations of agricultural producers; national laboratories; higher learning institutions; rural electric co-ops; public power entities; or consortiums of any of the entities.	Loan guarantees to develop and construct commercial-scale biorefineries or retrofit facilities to use eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels.	No restrictions.	Loan.	90% (maximum) guarantee on loans up to \$125 million; 80% (maximum) guarantee on loans less than \$150 million; 70% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$150 million but less than \$200 million; 60% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$200 million up to \$250 million.
Repowering Assistance Program	Provide payments to biorefineries to replace fossil fuels with biomass.	Biorefineries.	Grant to biorefineries, including ethanol and biodiesel plants that use electricity generated from natural gas and coal and require this for the fermentation process.	No restrictions.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review. Grant awards determined by National Office.
Advanced Biofuel Payment Program	Provide payments to producers of advanced biofuels.	Eligible producers of advanced biofuels.	Grant to producers of advanced biofuels (non-commercial-based).	No restrictions.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review. Grant awards determined by National Office.

For direct loans and grants, apply to Rural Development. For loan guarantees, apply to participating intermediaries such as eligible banks, etc. For revolving funds (RMAP, IRP, and REDLG), intermediaries apply to Rural Development, others to the intermediaries.

Rural Business & Cooperative Service:



TOLANI LAKE ENTERPRISES INC.

Tolani Lake Enterprises (TLE) on the Navajo Nation was awarded one of only four national Rural Business Development Grants for Native Americans in FY16.

The funds will be used to conduct a feasibility study for an USDA certified animal harvest facility and feed lot in Leupp and Winslow, Arizona.

According to William Edwards, Board President of the Tolani Lake Enterprises, the facility would create a sustainable, environmentally friendly, Navajo-owned facility to harvest local, range-fed Navajo and non-Native beef and lamb for local, affordable and healthy consumption.

In their application TLE said that traditional agricultural knowledge once sustained Navajo, Hopi and non-tribal members in northern Arizona. "We remember our grandmothers and grandfathers' dry farming, adapting to climate change and raising livestock," the application explained, "but those critical values and teachings have gone with many of the farmers and ranchers and we no longer are able to sustain our families. We are dependent on short term government assistance, and unhealthy,



addicting, low quality food options in towns far from our homes."

Gary Mack, Business Program Director for USDA Rural Development in Arizona, said that Tolani's application provided a powerful narrative on the lack of business opportunities on the Navajo Nation and the high unemployment rate that hovers near 50%.

Rural Housing Service:

The many programs within our Rural Housing Service offer a variety of programs including no down payment home loans, guaranteed home loans, home repairs, self-help technical assistance, multifamily housing loans, and rental assistance to families in our apartment complexes.

In fiscal year 2016, home financing for very-low, low- and moderate-income families in rural Arizona was \$234,597,687—by far the biggest program within the agency. If you add in our home repair program, our rental assistance and multifamily programs, USDA Rural Development's investment in housing for rural Arizonans in Fiscal Year 2016 was nearly \$260 million!

"If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own back yard. Because if it isn't there, I never really lost it to begin with." — [L. Frank Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz](#)

James Nez and his wife live a sweet life in the sweeping expanse of desert on the Navajo Nation near St. Michaels, AZ. The couple's home is a Navajo hogan.

Hogans are traditional homes. They are not only a place to live but also a place of spiritual and religious significance. The Nez family have lived in their hogan for years. The harsh Arizona climate has taken its toll on the roof of the structure and the lack of insulation made the home too hard to keep warm in the cold winters of northern Arizona and to keep cool in the hot summers. The family had to leave the hogan for some of the year.



The Nez family heard about the USDA Rural Development's 504 repair loan and grant program. With help from Shirley Yazzi and Carol Nelson of the St. Michaels USDA RD staff, they applied for the grant and received funding to repair the roof and to add insulation and wall covering on the inside.

With the repairs completed, the family now can live year round in their comfortable hogan.



James Nez relaxes in the comfort of his renovated hogan after a new roof and insulation were installed through a USDA Rural Development 504 repair grant.



Summary of USDA Rural Development Major Programs

Rural Housing Service

	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Single-Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)	Safe, well-built, affordable homes for very-low- and low-income rural Americans.	Families and individuals.	Buy, build, improve, repair or rehabilitate a rural home as the applicant's permanent residence.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of market value or cost. Loan term of 33/38 years. Applicant may be eligible for payment assistance (subsidy) on the loan.
Single-Family Housing Loan Guarantees	To assist low- to moderate-income applicants/ households in buying their homes by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders.	Families and individuals.	Purchase new or existing homes and refinance existing Rural Development guaranteed or direct loans.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Loan guarantee.	30-year, fixed. The interest rate is negotiated between lender and borrower. Loans up to 100% of market value plus the amount of the up-front guarantee fee being financed.
Single-Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants	To help very-low-income applicants remove health and safety hazards or repair their homes.	Families and individuals who currently own their home.	Repair/replace roof, winterize, purchase or repair heating system, structural repair, water/sewage connect fees, etc.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan and grant.	Loans up to \$20,000 up to 20 years at 1%. Grants available to very-low-income applicants 62 years or older unable to pay 1% loan.
Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants	Assist lower income families in building their own homes.	Nonprofits and public bodies.	Technical assistance to help small groups of families to build each other's homes.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Grant.	Grant agreement.
Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans	Safe, well-built, affordable rental housing for very-low-income individuals and families.	Individuals, trusts, associations, limited partnerships, for-profit and nonprofit entities, tribes, public bodies.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of total development cost (nonprofits); 97% (for-profits); 95% (for-profits with Low-Income Housing Tax Credits). 30-year term with up to 50-year amortization.
Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees	Provides guarantees on loans to build or preserve affordable housing for very-low- to moderate-income tenants.	For profit and non-profit lenders.	Build or rehabilitate affordable rental housing.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Loan guarantee.	At least 25-year term with fixed interest rate. Loan guarantees up to 90% of the principal.
Housing Preservation Grants	Repair and rehabilitate housing owned or occupied by very-low- and low-income rural families.	Public bodies and nonprofit organizations.	To operate a program that finances repair and rehabilitation activities for single-family and small rental properties.	Rural areas with populations of up to 35,000.	Grant.	Grant agreement.
Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants	Safe, well-built affordable rental housing for farmworkers.	Individuals, public and private nonprofit organizations.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	Not applicable.	Direct loan and grant.	Up to 102% of total development cost. Up to 33 years to repay at 1% interest.
Community Facilities Loans and Grants	Improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities.	Public bodies, nonprofits, and Federally recognized tribes.	Construct, enlarge, or otherwise improve essential community facilities, such as public safety, fire and rescue, telecommunications, schools, libraries, hospitals, other healthcare facilities, etc.	City, town, or unincorporated area of not more than 20,000 in population. Facilities must primarily serve rural residents.	Direct loan, loan guarantee, or grant.	Up to 100% of market value. Term is for useful life of the facility or equipment, the State statute, or 40 years. Maximum grant 75% of project cost. Grant eligibility based on income, population, and need.
Rural Community Development Initiative	To facilitate housing, community facility, and community and economic development projects.	Private nonprofit or public organizations, philanthropic foundations, low-income communities.	Technical assistance grants of \$50,000 to \$300,000 to develop the capacity and ability of awardees to carry out needed projects.	City, town, or unincorporated area of not more than 50,000 in population.	Grant.	Matching funds required for grant.

For direct loans and grants, apply to Rural Development. For loan guarantees, apply with an USDA approved lender.

First home helps young family build equity and a future thanks to USDA Rural Development home loan program



“That’s cute!” 21/2 year old Rory declared when shown a picture of herself in the new home that she and her parents Cody and Beth Edwards live in.

She was right!

The precocious toddler was already comfortably “at home” in the house her folks recently purchased with help from USDA Rural Development’s homeowner-ship program.

The Edwards were selected by Arizona USDA Rural Development staff as the 2016 Arizona Homeowner-ship Month Family of the year.

Acting State Director Ernie Wetherbee and staff visited the home to present a plaque to the family to mark the event. June is national Homeownership Month.

The Edwards family had been renting for years, sometimes taking on roommates to keep costs under control. Rents in the area often exceed \$1,000 a month.

Their modest new home has three bedrooms and two baths...and a nice fenced backyard where Rory can play.

“We could not have had a home of our own without the help of USDA Rural Development,” Beth said. “I hope folks in the area will take advantage of this program.”

Beth says she actually took her first steps in a USDA Farmers Home Administration home that her parents purchased through the agency years ago. The Farmers Home Administration was the forerunner of Rural Development.

USDA Rural Development provides a path to homeownership for qualifying families living in rural areas who have no other way to make affordable homeownership a reality. Providing these affordable homeownership opportunities promotes prosperity, which in turn creates thriving communities and improves the quality of life in rural areas.



Community Facilities Programs

The Community Facilities Program provides direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to qualified organizations to develop, build and equip essential community facilities in rural areas. Examples of essential facilities include public safety, fire and rescue and telecommunications buildings, schools, libraries, hospitals and health care clinics. In Arizona CF also handles water and wastewater projects.

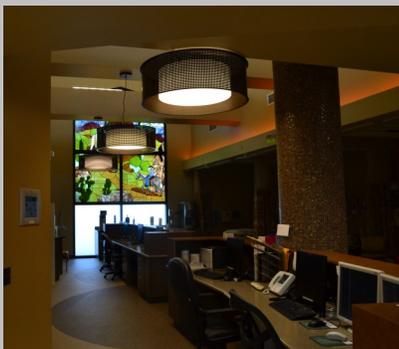
In FY2016, Rural Development helped expand school facilities in the small town of Cornville; remodel an historic theater in Willcox; purchase a 77 passenger school bus for a border town; and remodel a building to be used as housing for homeless veterans.

Prestamos, a CDFI associated with Chicanos por la Causa, received a \$15,000,000 Relending Program loan. The money will be lent out to entities who will then use the funds for projects to benefit rural communities and businesses where access to capital is limited.

The Tohono O'odham Community College in Sells, Arizona, received a \$143,000 Native American Tribal Grant to upgrade and/or repair their roof, air conditioner, parking and fencing at the west and main campuses.

Wickenburg Hospital Opens State-of-the-Art Surgical Unit

Wickenburg Hospital cared for the health needs of folks in this small western town for 60 years, but 14 years ago the hospital quit offering surgical services and town folks had to travel the 60 miles to Phoenix, a burden on the families and often a delay that added risk for the patients. With a combined effort of



community fundraising and two USDA Rural Development loans, the community recently completed a facility that rivals those in larger metropolitan areas in terms of equipment and personnel. CEP Jim Tavary said that the surgeons recruited for the new surgical unit were smitten by the idea of a small community hospital, but adamant about having the latest and best equipment. The hospital additions included not only modern diagnostic and surgical amenities, but special attention to making the hospital stay less traumatic and more conducive to healing.

Water and Wastewater Projects

USDA Rural Development invested nearly \$15 million into water and wastewater projects in rural Arizona communities in 2016. The Water and Waste program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

The program has long-term, low-interest loans and some grants. It assists towns with fewer than 10,000 people, tribal lands and Colonias with funding.

Communities assisted include Fort Defiance on the Navajo Nation, Somerton, Alhambra District in Globe, and Douglas. As well, Northern Arizona University received a \$140,000 grant to provide training and technical assistance for solid waste management programs for tribes; the Inter Tribal Council received a \$119,400 grant to provide training and certification for solid waste management; and the Painted Desert Demonstration Project received a \$115,000 grant for water and waste training for the Navajo Nation.

Serving those who served us

USDA Rural Development recently made a \$336,000 loan and \$150,000 grant to Vetraplex Vets4Hire to rehabilitate a multi-unit building which they call the Patriot House. The complex will contain several separate bedrooms, a common kitchen, living room, bathrooms, and laundry room. Vetraplex Vets4Hire bought the fixer-upper and their trained work crews are working on the rehabilitation. Home Depot not only donated much of the building materials, but also hires the trained veteran crews to do installation work, such as doors and windows, for them.

Over 4,300 Arizona veterans are homeless. Many of those men and women who proudly served their country are struggling just to find a job so they can pay for shelter.

One of those was Robert Johnston.

Robert and his family of six were living in a small camper in northern Arizona. He hustled up work when he could, but the lack of steady, dependable income made paying rent for an apartment for the four kids and two adults in the household impossible.

Rob was directed to Vetraplex Vets4Hire.



Vetraplex Vets4Hire is the brainchild of Gary Rideout. Rideout, a Marine veteran, was driving through Arizona several years ago and liked it. He decided to stay.

His commitment to veterans led him to leave the insurance business he had been in and take a job as a consultant for the non-profit Housing for Heroes. Through that work he created a wide network of contacts. When the non-profit folded, Gary felt committed to continuing his work to help veterans find housing and work.

At a community event, Gary was approached by the president of Friends of the Verde River Greenway to see if he knew of any local veterans who would be interested in being crew members for a project to remove invasive plants along Oak Creek and the Verde River.

That became the first project for Vets4Hire...a project that still employs veterans, including Rob.

Vets4Hire provided training and the schooling necessary for the work. Rob was able to get his family into an apartment complex and is on his second cycle of working on the river crew. "A little bit of shelter and food goes a long way," he said.

Before heading back through the bushes to the river's edge to get to work, Rob added "What I really appreciate about this is the camaraderie of the



workers and residents and the fact that we can take care of ourselves while helping others."

Rural Utilities Service

USDA Rural Development's Rural Utilities Service provides loans and grants for water, wastewater, solid waste, distance learning and telemedicine, telecommunications and broadband, and electric. Check the chart on page 14 for who may apply for the program.

Arizona Rural Development received \$39,340,052 in telecom and electric funding last year, including \$205,052 for telecom and \$39,135 for two electric projects. Since 2009 Arizona rural communities received \$731,125,631 in RUS funding to upgrade critical infrastructure.

Water and wastewater programs are handled in Arizona by the Community Facility staff. Water and wastewater projects are reported on page 11.

It is said that no one pays attention to water until the well is dry. Native American tribes have been paying attention for quite some time now.

On the Navajo Nation, America's largest reservation, access to clean water has been an ongoing struggle.

Driving through the beautiful landscape with its red earth, occasional green dots of Western wheatgrass, and the remnants of hogans and trading posts, it is easy to see how water is the driving force in this land. Reminders litter the landscape.

USDA Rural Development has been a long standing partner with the Navajo Nation's efforts to mitigate both water quantity and quality issues. Nearly \$14,000,000 in USDA water and waste funds have been invested in the past four years. Over \$8,000,000 of the funding has come as grants, an important element given that 43% of Navajos live below the poverty line.

To celebrate Earth Day 2016, USDA Rural Development officials in Arizona traveled to Lower Greasewood on the Navajo Nation to announce the funding of \$5,720,000 in loan and grant funds to upgrade the water systems for Ganado, Lower Greasewood and Dilkon, which service a remote segment of the Nation.



The original systems were built during the 1970s and 80s and the harsh conditions have taken a toll on the facilities. Many of the wells were taken out of service due to water quality issues, including high arsenic concentrations. Rural Development funding will be partnered with funds from the Environmental Protection Agency and will be used to construct a treatment facility in Lower Greasewood, to drill new wells, and lay new pipe.

USDA Rural Development officials joined representatives of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority for Earth Day to announce the nearly \$8 million funding for water upgrades. Acting State Director Ernie Wetherbee presented NTUA officials with a plaque and a tree to plant at the new treatment facility.



Rural Utilities Service

	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes and nonprofit corporations.	Build, repair, and improve public water systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Direct loan and grant.	Repayment period is a maximum of 40 years. Grant funds may be available.
Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes and nonprofit corporations.	Construct, repair, and improve water supply and distribution systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Loan guarantee.	Eligible lenders obtain up to a 90% guarantee on loans they make and service.
Solid Waste Management Grants	Provide technical assistance and/or training to those who operate and maintain active landfills.	Public bodies, private nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, and academic institutions.	Technical assistance and training to improve landfill conditions and protect against threats to nearby water resources.	Rural areas, and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Grant.	Applications accepted year-round. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
Technical Assistance/ Training/Circuit Rider	Provide technical assistance and training.	Public, private, and nonprofit organizations.	Provide technical assistance and training to assist with management of water and waste projects.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	Deployment of broadband service to eligible rural communities. Note: The 2014 Farm Bill revised program provisions. An interim rule was published in FY 2015.	Entities seeking to provide broadband services in rural areas.	Funds to construct, improve, and acquire facilities and equipment to provide broadband service in eligible rural communities.	Rural areas. Refer to the rule for specific definition and population limits.	Minimum and maximum loan amounts published annually in the Federal Register.	Refer to the rule for loan terms and conditions.
Electric and Telecommunications Loans	Help rural communities obtain affordable, high-quality electric and telecommunications services.	Nonprofit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities.	Generation, transmission facilities, and distribution of electric power, including alternative, renewable, conservation, and energy efficiency programs. Enhance 911 emergency service, digital switching equipment, and fiber optic cable, along with traditional main system telecommunications service.	Electric: areas served by an existing rural electric borrower, or rural areas other than a city or town of more than 20,000. Telecommunications: areas or cities with populations under 5,000.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.	Interest rates are established in accordance with 7 CFR 1714. Contact RUS at www.rd.usda.gov or 1 (800) 670-6553.
Distance Learning and Telemedicine	Develop and deploy advanced telecommunication services throughout rural America to improve education and healthcare.	Incorporated entities, including municipalities, for-profit, and nonprofit corporations that operate rural schools, libraries, healthcare clinics, and other educational or healthcare facilities.	To provide end-user equipment and programming that delivers distance learning and telemedicine services into eligible areas.	Rural areas outside incorporated or unincorporated cities with populations up to 20,000.	Grant.	Awards range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. A minimum of 15% in matching funds is required.
Community Connect Grants	Provide public access to broadband in otherwise unserved communities.	Public bodies, tribes, cooperatives, nonprofits, limited dividend or mutual associations; corporations, and other legally organized entities.	To build broadband infrastructure and establish a community center that offers free public access to broadband for two years.	A single community, outside incorporated or unincorporated cities, with a population over 20,000 and that does not have broadband.	Grant.	Minimum: \$50,000; Maximum: \$1 million. Amounts are published in Notices of Funding Availability and may vary.

Electric and Telecom Programs: Contact the Rural Utilities Service Administrator; Water Programs: Contact the Rural Development State Office. CFR refers to Code of Federal Regulations.

Summary of Funding Purposes

	Land & Bldgs.	Mach. & Equip.	Working Capital	Infrastructure	Tech. Asst./Train.
Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs					
Single-Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)	♦				
Single-Family Housing Loan Guarantees	♦				
Single-Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants	♦				
Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants					♦
Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans	♦			♦	
Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees	♦			♦	
Housing Preservation Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	♦			♦	
Community Facilities Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants*	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Community Development Initiative					♦
Rural Business and Cooperative Programs					
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Business Development Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	♦	♦	♦		
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Cooperative Development Grants				♦	♦
Socially Disadvantaged Groups Grants					♦
Value-Added Producer Grants			♦	♦	♦
Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants	♦	♦		♦	♦
Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program Loan Guarantees					
Repowering Assistance Program					
Advanced Biofuel Payment Program					
Rural Utilities Programs					
Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants	♦	♦		♦	
Solid Waste Management Grants					♦
Technical Assistance/Training/Circuit Rider					♦
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	♦			♦	
Electric and Telecommunications Direct Loans/Loan Guarantees	♦	♦		♦	
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans/Grants		♦		♦	
Community Connect Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	

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Rural Development

USDA Rural Development is committed to the future of rural communities.

Rural Utilities Service

	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes and nonprofit corporations.	Build, repair, and improve public water systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Direct loan and grant.	Repayment period is a maximum of 40 years. Grant funds may be available.
Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes and nonprofit corporations.	Construct, repair, and improve water supply and distribution systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Loan guarantee.	Eligible lenders obtain up to a 90% guarantee on loans they make and service.
Solid Waste Management Grants	Provide technical assistance and/or training to those who operate and maintain active landfills.	Public bodies, private nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, and academic institutions.	Technical assistance and training to improve landfill conditions and protect against threats to nearby water resources.	Rural areas, and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Grant.	Applications accepted year-round. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
Technical Assistance/ Training/Circuit Rider	Provide technical assistance and training.	Public, private, and nonprofit organizations.	Provide technical assistance and training to assist with management of water and waste projects.	Rural areas and towns with up to 10,000 in population.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	Deployment of broadband service to eligible rural communities. Note: The 2014 Farm Bill revised program provisions. An interim rule was published in FY 2015.	Entities seeking to provide broadband services in rural areas.	Funds to construct, improve, and acquire facilities and equipment to provide broadband service in eligible rural communities.	Rural areas. Refer to the rule for specific definition and population limits.	Minimum and maximum loan amounts published annually in the Federal Register.	Refer to the rule for loan terms and conditions.
Electric and Telecommunications Loans	Help rural communities obtain affordable, high-quality electric and telecommunications services.	Nonprofit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities.	Generation, transmission facilities, and distribution of electric power, including alternative, renewable, conservation, and energy efficiency programs. Enhance 911 emergency service, digital switching equipment, and fiber optic cable, along with traditional main system telecommunications service.	Electric: areas served by an existing rural electric borrower, or rural areas other than a city or town of more than 20,000. Telecommunications: areas or cities with populations under 5,000.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.	Interest rates are established in accordance with 7 CFR 1714. Contact RUS at www.rd.usda.gov or 1 (800) 670-6553.
Distance Learning and Telemedicine	Develop and deploy advanced telecommunication services throughout rural America to improve education and healthcare.	Incorporated entities, including municipalities, for-profit, and nonprofit corporations that operate rural schools, libraries, healthcare clinics, and other educational or healthcare facilities.	To provide end-user equipment and programming that delivers distance learning and telemedicine services into eligible areas.	Rural areas outside incorporated or unincorporated cities with populations up to 20,000.	Grant.	Awards range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. A minimum of 15% in matching funds is required.
Community Connect Grants	Provide public access to broadband in otherwise unserved communities.	Public bodies, tribes, cooperatives, nonprofits, limited dividend or mutual associations; corporations, and other legally organized entities.	To build broadband infrastructure and establish a community center that offers free public access to broadband for two years.	A single community, outside incorporated or unincorporated cities, with a population over 20,000 and that does not have broadband.	Grant.	Minimum: \$50,000; Maximum: \$1 million. Amounts are published in Notices of Funding Availability and may vary.

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Housing Preservation Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	♦			♦	
Community Facilities Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants*	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Community Development Initiative					♦
Rural Business and Cooperative Programs					
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	♦	♦	♦	♦	
Rural Business Development Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	♦	♦	♦		
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Rural Cooperative Development Grants				♦	♦
Socially Disadvantaged Groups Grants					♦
Value-Added Producer Grants			♦	♦	♦
Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants	♦	♦		♦	♦
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Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	♦			♦	
Electric and Telecommunications Direct Loans/Loan Guarantees	♦	♦		♦	
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans/Grants		♦		♦	
Community Connect Grants	♦	♦	♦	♦	

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