Distance Learning and TeleHealth, Community Facilities, and e-Connectivity Programs

Presenter: Jeff Hays, Arizona Acting State Director
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

Help rural communities connect teachers, students, and medical providers over distance
How May Distance Learning and Telemedicine Funds Be Used?

- Capital equipment, wiring, software, and other distance learning assets
- Instructional programming
- Technical assistance
What kind of Distance Learning and Telemedicine funding is available?

• Grant funds only
• Awarded through nationally competitive process.
Who is eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine funding?

- Towns
- Communities
- State agencies
- Authorities
- Nonprofit Corporations
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Federally recognized Tribes
- Rural Cooperatives
Funding to Improve Rural Communities
Community Facilities

- Food banks
- Schools
- Hospitals
- Ambulances
- Domestic violence shelters
- Community kitchens
- Street improvements
- Community gardens
- Town halls
- Garbage Trucks
- Nursing homes
- Child-care centers
- Libraries
- Bookmobiles
- Clinics
- Fire Stations
- Senior centers
- First responder equipment
- Greenhouses
- Airport hangers
- Court houses
- Museum
- Charter schools
What is available?

- Direct Low interest loans up to 40 years
- Grants typically $50,000
- Guaranteed Loans
Eligibility for Assistance

- Population up to 20,000
- Direct and Guaranteed loans
e-Connectivity is crucial to rural prosperity
Of adults in rural areas say that access to high-speed internet is a problem for them.

58%
Want to build rural broadband? We may be able to help.
Who can apply for ReConnect?

- Cooperatives, non-profits, or mutual associations
- For-profit corporations or limited liability companies
- States, local governments, or any agency, subdivision, instrumentality, or political subdivision thereof
- Territories or possessions of the U.S.
- Eligible Indian tribes
How may ReConnect funds be used?

• Construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities
• Acquisition of an existing system not currently providing sufficient access to broadband
USDA Rural Development has numerous financial assistance programs available to help meet the needs of your rural community.

Contact your local Rural Development office for more information, or go to www.rd.usda.gov

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