
"USDA plays an important role in the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiatives by providing nutrition assistance, housing and family care programs to organizations as they work to compassionately meet the needs of their communities."

Ann M. Veneman
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives strengthens partnerships with faith-based and community organizations by connecting resources to needs more effectively and efficiently. The goal is to help eliminate hunger, revitalize communities and protect and restore lands.

USDA has a history of partnership with nonprofit organizations to carry out its diverse programs. USDA's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives will build on this history and continue to help America T.H.R.I.V.E. by:

Teaching faith-based and community organizations about opportunities to participate in USDA programs

Harnessing the commitment and energy of these organizations and connecting them to USDA programs and partners on the local level

Rejuvenating USDA programs with new ideas and fresh perspectives

Improving the provision of services and resources to those most in need

Vanquishing hunger

Encouraging protection of natural resources.

Alleviating Hunger

In Your Community...

Do you run a summer program for low-income children that provides meals?

Do you run a licensed child or adult day care facility or homeless shelter?

Does your organization distribute food to low-income families and individuals?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then USDA's Food and Nutrition Service has programs for you:

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) allows children, during summer months, to have a nutritious meal when school is out by providing reimbursement to schools and other nonprofit organizations providing qualified meals.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides healthy meals and snacks to children and adults receiving day care, children in after-school programs, and displaced families in homeless shelters.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) helps supplement the diets of low-income needy persons, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance.

For more information, visit www.fns.usda.gov/fns.
For SFSP and CACFP, call 703-305-2590.
For TEFAP, call 703-305-2680.

...And Around the World

Does your organization have international programs focused on sustainable agriculture and development?

Do you sponsor international emergency feeding operations?

Food for Progress donates commodities to foreign governments, private voluntary organizations (PVOs), nonprofit and intergovernmental organizations, and cooperatives to assist developing countries and emerging democracies committed to introducing and expanding free enterprise in the agricultural sector.

The **Section 416(b)** program donates surplus commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to foreign governments, PVOs, cooperatives, and the World Food Program to carry out programs of assistance in developing and friendly countries.

The **McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program** provides agricultural commodities and financial and technical assistance to PVOs, cooperatives, intergovernmental organizations, and governments of developing countries to provide preschool and school food for educational programs and maternal, infant, and child nutrition programs to reduce hunger and improve nutrition and education.

For information about these three international food programs, visit www.fas.usda.gov/food-aid.html or call 202-720-4221.



Revitalizing Communities

Does your organization assist families and individuals in finding or building safe and affordable housing?

USDA Rural Development can help!

Self-Help Housing is a method of building homes that empowers low-income individuals and families to build their own homes, and that teaches valuable skills. USDA Rural Development provides grants to qualified nonprofit and public organizations to support these innovative efforts.

Multi-Family Housing provides loans and loan guarantees to nonprofit and for-profit developers to build affordable rural rental housing.

Farm Labor Housing provides decent, safe, and sanitary low-rent housing to domestic farm laborers through loans and grants to States, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and others.

Community Facilities programs provide grants, loans, and loan guarantees to public entities, nonprofit organizations, and tribal governments to develop essential community facilities such as schools, libraries, medical clinics, community centers, and fire and rescue stations in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population.

Visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs or call (202) 690-1533.



Helping the Environment

Are you interested in helping to conserve and restore our nation's land, water and other natural resources?

USDA offers a number of opportunities for volunteers who wish to help protect and restore America's land:

Earth Team members help reduce soil erosion, conserve water and improve its quality, and develop pride in our country's natural resource heritage. The program is managed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/volunteers/ or call 515-289-0325, ext. 21 or 1-888-LANDCARE.

Senior, Youth and Volunteer Programs provide work, training, and education to the unemployed, underemployed, elderly, and youth to help conserve public land. Through volunteer programs, thousands of private citizens are afforded the opportunity to contribute their time, talents and expertise toward helping the environment each year. These programs are managed by the USDA Forest Service. Visit www.fs.usda.gov/fsjobs/volunteers.html or call 202-205-8333.

For more information, visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs or call (202) 690-1533

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United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary

USDA Faith-Based and Community Initiatives— Helping America THRIVE

Alleviating Hunger, Revitalizing
Communities and Helping the
Environment

