

# Stand Up for Rural America - Rural Community Developers Network Reporter

Volume 7, Number 20 November 1, 2005

## STAND UP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The FY 2006 Agriculture Appropriations Bill contains \$6.35 million for the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI). Funding for this nonprofit and developer capacity building program, one of Stand Up's goals, now totals better than \$42 million.

## POLICY UPDATE

So far, every House and Senate committee that has considered the Administration's strengthening America's Communities Initiative proposal, combining 18 housing and community development programs, have rejected it. However, the Administration has not given up. It is preparing legislation to implement the idea. Stay tuned.

## FUNDING AND FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

**The National Gardening Association and Home Depot will award Youth Garden Grants** to schools and community organizations with child-centered, outdoor garden programs. The focus is on social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, service-learning, etc. **The deadline is Nov. 30.** More information is available at <http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp> or call 800-538-7476.

**The EPA has released the Proposal Guidelines for the next round of Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup Grants.** These grants are part of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act to help states and communities clean up and revitalize Brownfield sites. **Proposals are due to EPA by December 14.** The guidelines are at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm> or call 202 566-2777 for more information.

**The AARP Foundation will make grants of up to \$100,000 to nonprofit organizations assisting older victims** of the Gulf Coast hurricanes with health, long term care, housing, employment, transportation, legal, or other services. The deadline is Nov. 4. Application information is at [www.aarp.org/foundation](http://www.aarp.org/foundation) or by calling 202 434-6200.

**The Morris K. Udall Foundation Native American Congressional Internship Program is accepting applications.** Twelve awards will be made to Native Americans and Alaska Natives who have demonstrated an interest in fields related to tribal public policy. The deadline is January 31. For more information visit:

<http://www.nativephilanthropy.org/news.html#51>

**CharityAdvantage is now accepting proposals for NP Online Action, a \$4.2 million technology product and service program** to improve technology and web-related activities for U.S.-based nonprofit organizations. The application deadline is open. For more information, visit <http://www.charityadvantage.com/> or call 760-723-1985.

## TRAINING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

**BB&T is offering a New Market Tax Credits Course, facilitated by the National Development Council, Nov. 7-9 in Atlanta.** Contact LaNetta Wright at 800 577-3012 for more information.

**November offerings from LISC's Online Resource Library** include "Getting the Insurance You Need: Pro-Active Risk Management for CDCs, Nov. 3; "Housing Policies and Neighborhood Strategies to Strengthen Weak Markets," Nov. 8; "The Integrated Green Design Process - The Earlier the Better," Nov. 16; "What's the Bottom Line? Effectively Pricing Your Programs," Nov. 30. "A Woman's Place is in the House - of Representatives!" has been rescheduled to Dec. 12. Go to [http://www.lisc.org/resources/experts\\_index.shtml](http://www.lisc.org/resources/experts_index.shtml) for more information, call 212 455-9800 or contact [lrl@lisc.org](mailto:lrl@lisc.org).

**The Center for Farmworker Health will hold its Farmworker Health Forum in South Padre Island, Texas Nov. 10-12.** Migrant farm worker health providers will learn about identifying additional resources and share effective models of health care delivery. For more information call 512 312-2700 or visit: [www.ncfh.org](http://www.ncfh.org)

**A NeighborWorks Training Institute will be held December 5-9 in San Francisco.** It will offer education in Native American community development, affordable housing, asset management, community building and organizing, community economic development, home buyer education, construction and production management and more. A rural symposium will be held on Dec. 7, the second in the series titled "The New Rural America: Partners and Progress." It examines communities in rural America that are breaking all of molds. Community development practitioners, policymakers, local officials and residents will share stories of success and outline pitfalls. Visit [www.nw.org/network/training/eNewsletters/RuralSymposium.asp](http://www.nw.org/network/training/eNewsletters/RuralSymposium.asp) or [www.nw.org/training](http://www.nw.org/training) or call 800 438-5547 for more information.

**The Nebraska Food Processing Center is offering "From Recipe to Reality," Value-Added Food Processing Training,** in several locations in 2006: Lincoln, NE - January 20, March 18, May 22, August 18 & October 30; St. Paul, MN - April 11; Chicago, IL - August 11. For more information contact Jill Gifford at [jgifford1@unl.edu](mailto:jgifford1@unl.edu) or 402 472-2819.

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## INFORMATION AND OTHER RESOURCES

The DatelineERS newsletter offers concise summaries of the USDA's Economic Research Service's reports and events with links to areas on its website. A new issue was released October 28. Visit [www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinersNewsletter.htm](http://www.ers.usda.gov/News/DatelinersNewsletter.htm).

Only Eighty-eight percent of American households were food secure throughout the entire year in 2004, meaning that they had access, at all times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members. The remaining households were food insecure at least some time during that year. Visit <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/err11/>.

A program of The Aspen Institute known as FIELD (Fund for Innovation, Effectiveness, Learning and Dissemination) has released a publication "**Fulfilling the Promise: An Action Planning Kit for Practitioners.**" For more information and to download or obtain a copy of the kit visit: [www.fieldus.org](http://www.fieldus.org)

The Association For Enterprise Opportunity (AEO) has released Microenterprise Employment Statistics which include a Rural-Urban County Analysis and Microenterprise Business Statistics. Visit [www.microenterpriseworks.org/services/training/MEBS.htm](http://www.microenterpriseworks.org/services/training/MEBS.htm).

Impact of Medicaid Cuts on Rural Communities (2005) is a report released by the North Carolina Rural Health Research and Policy Analysis Center. Visit [www.shepscenter.unc.edu/research\\_programs/rural\\_program/](http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/research_programs/rural_program/)

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) has calculated that 71 percent of the 302,000 Gulf Coast homes destroyed and damaged by Hurricane Katrina were affordable for households making less than 80% of the area median income. For more information: <http://www.nlihc.org/research/05-02.pdf>.

Send information on funding opportunities, events, publications, resources or rural related policy issues to: [reporter@ruralamerica.org](mailto:reporter@ruralamerica.org). Announcements will be published at our discretion based on space and applicability. To receive the Network Reporter by email contact us at: [info@ruralamerica.org](mailto:info@ruralamerica.org).

