

correspondent to the address listed above.

Robert Johansson,
Chief Economist.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement

Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

AGENCY: Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Announcement of public meeting of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (ACBFR).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and rules and regulations of the USDA, the Office of Partnership and Public Engagement (OPPE) announces a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (ACBFR). The purpose of the ACBFR meeting is to deliberate upon matters concerning beginning farmers and ranchers that provide advice and recommendations through OPPE for the Secretary.

During this public meeting, the ACBFR will deliberate upon matters focused on, including but not limited to, the following: (A) The development of the program of coordinated assistance to qualified beginning farmers and ranchers under section 309(i) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act; (B) methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through the program; (C) methods of encouraging States to participate in the program; (D) the administration of the program; and (E) other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities.

The most up-to-date agenda details and documents will be made available to the public before and after the meeting at: <https://www.outreach.usda.gov/committees/ACBFR.htm>.

DATES: The ACBFR meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone).

ADDRESSES:

- (a) *Attendance in-person:* Omni Louisville Hotel, Olmstead Ballroom 4, 400 S 2nd Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202

(b) *Public Call Information—Listen Only:* Dial: 866-816-7252 Conference ID: 6188761

(c) *Comments may be sent to:*
ACBeginningFarmersandRanchers@usda.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) Maria Goldberg, OPPE, 202-720-6350, or email: maria.goldberg@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the public comment session. Commenters will be allowed a maximum of three minutes and will be scheduled on a first-come basis. If the number of persons requesting to speak is greater than what can be reasonably accommodated during the scheduled open public meeting timeframe; written comments may be submitted.

Written comments for the Committee's consideration may be submitted to Ms. Maria Goldberg, Designated Federal Officer, USDA OPPE, 1400 Independence Avenue, Room 533-A, Washington, DC 20250-0170; Fax (202) 720-7136; or email: ACBeginningFarmersandRanchers@usda.gov. Written comments must be received by OPPE within 30 days after the scheduled meeting.

Meeting Accommodations: USDA is committed to ensuring that all persons are included in our programs and events. If you are a person with a disability and require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Maria Goldberg, 202-720-6350 or email: maria.goldberg@usda.gov.

Dated: February 27, 2020.

Cikena V. Reid,

Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) for Fiscal Year 2020

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Housing Service (Agency), an Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announces the acceptance of applications under the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) program. Applicants must provide matching funds in an amount at least equal to the Federal grant. These

grants will be made to qualified intermediary organizations that will provide financial and technical assistance to recipients to develop their capacity and ability to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development that will support the community.

This Notice announces that the Agency is accepting fiscal year (FY) 2020 applications for the RCDI program. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded from funds appropriated for the RCDI program. The Agency will publish the amount of funding on its website at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/notices-solicitation-applications-nosas>.

DATES: Completed applications must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

The Agency must receive a paper application by 4 p.m. local time, May 18, 2020. Electronic applications must be submitted via [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by Midnight Eastern time on May 13, 2020. The application dates and times are firm. The Agency will not consider any application received after the deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX), electronic mail, and postage due applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to apply for assistance may download the application documents and requirements delineated in this Notice from the RCDI website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-community-development-initiative-grants>.

Application information for electronic submissions may be found at <http://www.Grants.gov>.

Applicants may also request paper application packages from the Rural Development office in their state. A list of Rural Development State offices contacts can be found via https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/CF_State_Office_Contacts.pdf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Rural Development office for the state in which the applicant is located. A list of Rural Development State Office contacts is provided at the following link: https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/CF_State_Office_Contacts.pdf.