Creating vibrant, healthy and enduring rural communities

Suzanne Anarde, Chief Executive Officer
RCAC’s mission

• RCAC provides training, technical and financial resources and advocacy so rural communities can achieve their goals and visions.

• Program areas: Environmental, Housing, Economic Development and Lending
Service area

- 13 western states and the Pacific Islands
Environmental services – regionalization

• Regionalization: creating economies of scale

• Regionalization comes in many forms including traditional consolidation, where multiple systems merge into one; or umbrella management organizations, JPAs or MOUs

• Today, RCAC is working with 62 communities to regionalize their systems, and 13 projects have been completed
Environmental services – technical assistance

- Training and technical assistance
- On-site support to rural water and wastewater staff and boards to build, improve, finance, operate and manage systems, and solid waste management technical assistance and training
Environmental services – EFC

• Environmental Finance Center is a think tank with implementation—one that creates models and tools and collects and shares resources to help small rural communities and Tribes move forward with innovative solutions to this great need

• Outreach, asset management, training, source water protection, decision tree and financial modules
Environmental services – Agua4All

- Agua4All provides access to safe drinking water to schools and communities throughout rural California
- 435 water bottle filling stations
- 177 point-of-use arsenic filters in schools and various community buildings and parks and distributed 11,616 reusable water bottles
Environmental services – Tribal Circuit Rider

• RCAC’s trained and experienced staff members are strategically located throughout the western states. Their work occurs primarily in the field, using a “circuit rider” approach. They provide about 800 technical assistance/training visits to Tribal communities annually.
Housing services – USDA Mutual Self-Help

- RCAC works with 50 USDA Section 523 grantees in 10 western states, Guam and the Marshall Islands
- Technical assistance provider
- Home Energy Confirmed Ratings (HERS) and Energy Audits for house plans in any state within RCAC’s region
Housing services – USDA Mutual Self-Help

- Innovative approaches to self-help housing
- Super energy efficient homes in Alaska
Housing services – USDA Mutual Self-Help

• Straw bale self-help homes in Utah
• Women-led self-help build sites
• First-ever self-help projects in Guam and Marshall Islands
Housing services – Development Solutions

• Development Solutions builds organizational capacity

• Ensures organizations are producing rural rental housing

• Adds partnership to RCAC’s traditional role
Housing services – Development Solutions

- Since RCAC launched the Development Solutions program in 2013, it has helped seven nonprofit organizations produce 280+ affordable housing units in the rural West.
Lending

- RCAC housing, environmental infrastructure, community facilities and small business financing
- Septic and household well loans/grants
- Community development loans available to Tribes, Tribal entities and individuals in the southwest
Lending

- Financing to expand the supply of safe drinking water, and construct and improve water and waste disposal systems in the rural West

- Loans supporting 110,654 individual water and wastewater connections for rural citizens

- Short, long and intermediate term loans

- Feasibility, predevelopment, construction and interim loans
Lending

- Loans for short-term acquisition, pre-development, site development and construction of single and multifamily affordable housing
- RCAC loans have supported 15,120 housing units
Rural Community Assistance Partnership, Inc.

Western
Rural Community Assistance Corporation
916/447-2854
www.rcac.org

Midwest
Midwest Assistance Program
952/758-4334
www.map-inc.org

Southern
Communities Unlimited
479/443-2700
www.crg.org

Northeast
RCAP Solutions
800/488-1969
www.rcapsolutions.org

Great Lakes
WSOS Community Action Commission
800/775-9767
www.glrcap.org

Southeast
Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project
866/928-3731
www.southeastrcap.org

800/321-7227
www.rcap.org