



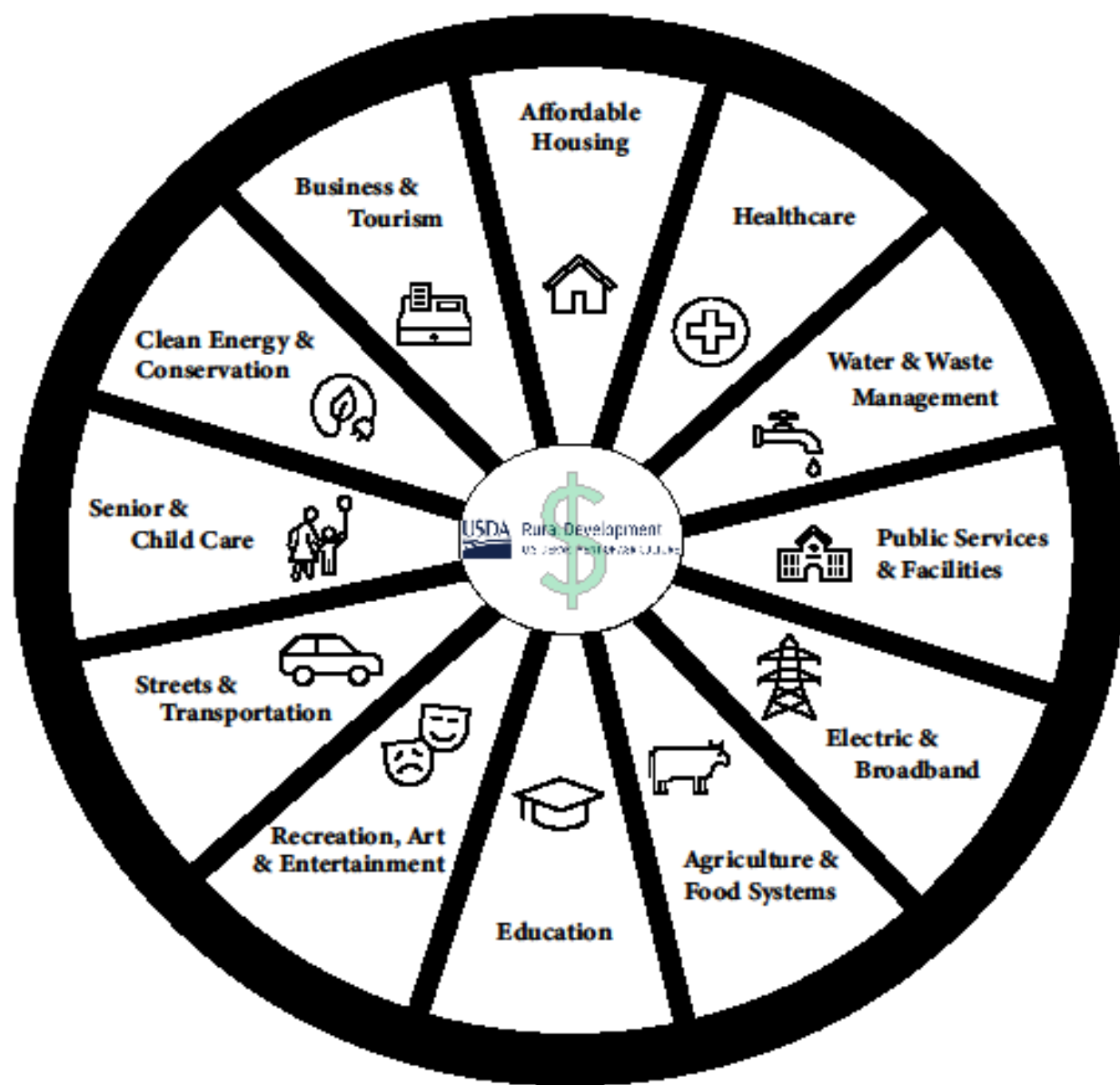
USDA Rural Development

“Internet for All” Local Coordination Workshop

April 17, 2023

The Hub of Rural Communities

With more than 50 loan, grant and loan guarantee programs to stimulate economic development, USDA RD funding supports and benefits every aspect of a rural community's health, safety and vitality



USDA Rural Development

Our experience with Healthcare Delivery and Telehealth was primarily shaped by our interactions with stakeholders during the pandemic.

Increased demand from communities and non-profits for assistance revealed gaps in access to internet services.

- No infrastructure in rural areas
- No ISP or commitment from an ISP to invest in a rural area

Communities, healthcare providers, businesses and educators could not pivot to telehealth, remote or distance learning without internet.

RUS Telecommunications Programs

| Program | Funding Type | Program Purpose | Eligible Entities |
|--|--|--|---|
| ReConnect Program | Direct loans, grants and loan/grant combinations Round 4 Open | Construction and expansion of broadband service in areas where sufficient access is not available to at least 90% of the households Rural communities of 20,000 or less. 90% proposed service area must be unserved | Non-profits, for-profit businesses, consortia, Federally recognized Tribes |
| Telecom Infrastructure Loan Program | Direct and guaranteed loans | Construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone and broadband service Rural communities of 5,000 or less | Non-Profits, businesses, coops, municipalities, Federally recognized tribes |
| Rural Broadband Program | Direct cost-of-money loans, grants and guaranteed loans | Construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of broadband service Rural communities of 20,000 or less | Non-Profit or for-profit entity |
| Community Connect Grant Program | Grants with 15% Matching Fund Requirement | Construction and expansion of broadband service where service does not currently exist Rural communities of 20,000 or less | Non-Profits, businesses, coops, Federally recognized Tribes |
| Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant Program | Grants with 15% Matching Fund Requirement Up to 20% of grant for broadband facilities supporting DLT & telemedicine | Equipment to deliver telemedicine service and distance learning curriculums Rural communities of 20,000 or less | Non-Profits, for profit businesses, consortia, Federally recognized Tribes |

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