



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development

RURAL GATEWAY PEER-TO-PEER CONFERENCE CALL
A Discussion of the Border Community Capital Initiative

Thursday, June 28, 2012

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 EST

The Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development (ORHED) invite you to take part in our next Peer-to-Peer conference call. Scheduled for **Thursday, June 28, 2012**, this call will offer participants the opportunity to learn about the Border Community Capital Initiative.

The Border Community Capital Initiative (BCCI) is a collaborative effort among three federal agencies – the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of the Treasury – Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) and the Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD). The BCCI's goal is to increase access to capital for affordable housing, business lending, and community facilities in the chronically underserved and undercapitalized U.S./Mexico border region. Specifically, it will provide direct investment and technical assistance to community development lending and investing institutions that focus on affordable, small business, and community facilities to benefit the residents of *colonias*.

HUD, CDFI fund, and USDA-RD leaders have all identified the lack of capacity among organizations serving the colonias and similar persistent poverty communities as a limiting factor in the effectiveness of federal programs. Inconsistent availability of limited public funding in any one region or community plays a role in this, because organizations specializing in affordable housing, small business support, and community facilities cannot sustain themselves and grow. The partnering agencies recognize that the targeted border population and communities receive insufficient services because they lack organizations with the capacity to effectively respond to community needs. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions about the BCCI.

Join HUD's Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development (ORHED), CDFI Fund, and USDA-RD staff as we engage in an open forum about BCCI.

Format of the call: Call-in instructions and additional materials will be emailed to participants on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. The 60 minute call will include presentations and a Q&A session.

Please **RSVP** by email to rhed@hud.gov no later than 10 a.m. EST on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. Please include your name, organization, city, and state.

If you have questions, call 1-877-RURAL-26 (1-877-787-2526).