

Improving lives in rural America...

In 1969, rural community activists, public officials, and non-profit developers formed the National Rural Housing Coalition (NRHC) to fight for better housing and community services for low-income rural families. Through our network of rural housing advocates and practitioners around the nation, NRHC works to educate the public about the importance of affordable housing and strong communities in Rural America.

...starts with affordable housing.



Together, we help empower rural families and strengthen communities.

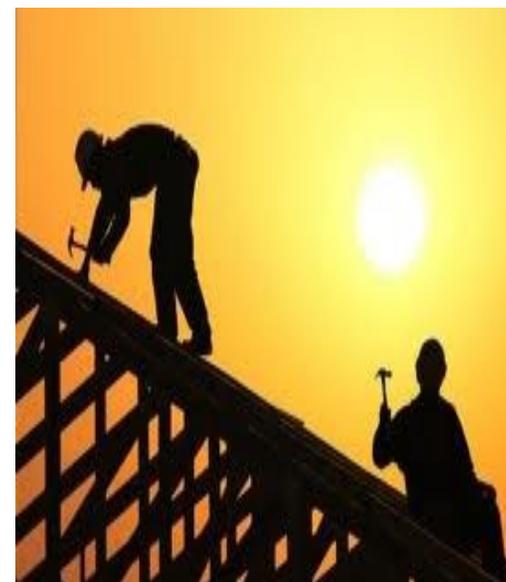
For more information about our Coalition and how you can help support rural families, please visit www.ruralhousingcoalition.org.



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Since 1969, *the voice for rural housing and community development.*

Our Mission

Since 1969, NRHC has promoted and defended the principle that rural people have the right, regardless of income, to a decent place to live or an affordable home, clean drinking water, and basic community services.

For over 40 years, we have fought for better housing and community services for low-income rural families.

Rural Needs

Even in strong economic times, the needs of rural America are too often overlooked. And, although our most recent economic crisis pushed many of these communities to the brink, their needs continue to be neglected by the mainstream media, traditional sources of capital, and federal policymakers.

Rural communities have severe housing and development needs. With some of the nation's lowest incomes, rural communities are 4 times more likely to have at least 20 percent of their population living in poverty. Ninety-eight percent of "consistently poor counties" are rural, as are nearly all communities with inadequate drinking water. As a result, rural families are far more likely to live in substandard housing or be overburden by rent. Housing in rural America is simply too expensive or overcrowded, or lacking certain basic facilities.

Effective Advocacy

NRHC is driven by the experiences of our member organizations in the field. By combining practical insight with research and direct advocacy, NRHC raises critical awareness of the needs of rural America.

As *the* voice for rural housing and community development, NRHC:

- ◆ **Analyzes** federal policies and programs in light of the need for better housing and community facilities in rural America;
- ◆ **Designs** new programs to serve the rural poor and improve existing ones. NRHC has successfully fought for programs to provide rental assistance, preserve rental housing units for low-income families, promote self-help housing, and help families repair their home;
- ◆ **Ensures** adequate funding for rural housing programs. Although current funding is by no means adequate, NRHC has played a key role in defending these essential programs from the extreme cuts suffered by many other federal programs; and
- ◆ **Supports** non-profit organizations that operate rural housing and community development programs. NRHC led the fight to increase the capacity of non-profit organizations that administer self-help housing, farm worker housing, and rural community assistance programs.

Join Us!

Through direct advocacy, policy research, and lobbying, the NRHC has successfully helped empower rural families and strengthen communities.

If you support rural housing and community development, become a NRHC member today!

Join together with consumers, advocates, public officials, community developers, and housing producers across the nation, and make your voice heard!

