

## Fast Facts!

## **Preserving Affordable Housing in Rural America**

Preserving affordable housing not only helps low-income families and seniors maintain access to clean, decent, and affordable housing and basic community services, but also protects millions of taxpayer dollars that have been invested in affordable rental housing over the past decades.

#### What it is:

- ◆ Congress must invest in innovative strategies like the Multi-Family Preservation and Revitalization Demonstration program to preserve affordable rental housing.
  - ⇒ In FY15, the demonstration program successfully used \$24 million in loan deferrals, zero percent loans, soft seconds, grants, and subsequent loans to keep more than 1,800 units affordable in rural communities. Overall, the program has preserved nearly 18,000 units.
  - ⇒ In FY15, the Rural Development Voucher Demonstration program helped more than 4,000 families remain in a Section 515 Rural Rental Housing unit after the owner pre-paid the mortgage and raise

515 Rural Rental Housing unit after the owner pre-paid the mortgage and raised their rent. Over \$14.1 million was obligated for these vouchers, with a 95 percent renewal rate.

### Why it Matters:

- Experts agree that a minimum of \$2.6 billion over the next 20 years is needed to preserve aging Section 515 properties and to rehabilitate or replace obsolete infrastructure.
- Today, the average Section 515 property is more than 27 years old. Nearly 90 percent are at least 10 years old, and nearly two-thirds are more than 15 years old.
- By 2024, 11,500 Section 515 properties are expected to be paid off.
- In the coming years, 90 percent of all Section 515 units will need additional funds to ensure adequate operation.

# Learn more about how the FY 2017 budget impacts rural communities by reviewing NRHC's other Fast Fact Sheets!

The National Rural Housing Coalition (NRHC) is national member organization of community groups, public officials, and non-profit developers who believe that rural people have the right, regardless of income, to decent, affordable housing, clean drinking water, and basic community services.

#### **Contact Us**

Multi-Family Preservation and Revitalization

FY17 Budget Request: \$37.36 M

**Rural Development Vouchers** 

FY17 Budget Request: \$18 M

\$37 M

\$40 M

\$40 M

\$15 M

\$18 M

\$18 M

FY16 Final:

FY17 House:

FY17 Senate:

FY16 Final:

FY17 House:

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