

Homeownership to Increase Racial and Wealth Equity (HIRWE)

To address racial and wealth inequity, Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) is launching an initiative to increase homeownership opportunities for those who historically had limited access or been left out of affordable homeownership programs.

Through the **Homeownership to Increase Racial and Wealth Equity (HIRWE) initiative**, RCAC will offer training, technical assistance, and resources to our existing and potential partners. The goal is to increase access to affordable homeownership for Indigenous households and households of color by building local capacity with our participating partners.

This three-year initiative includes training, technical assistance and small pass-through grants to support, create or expand your program to meet affordable homeownership needs of households of color and Indigenous households in RCAC's 13-state region. This initiative will increase homeowners of color and Indigenous homeowners, so some resources will only be available for those that work in communities with a higher diverse population, and who demonstrate a commitment to collect and report data on program results. However, we will provide additional training resources to all with a shared commitment to making affordable homeownership a tool to address the racial wealth gap.

Participants will have access to the following initiative resources.

Training Opportunities and Scholarships

For trainings with a registration fee, RCAC offers scholarships to HIRWE participants. The scholarships are limited and will be for those organizations that work in communities of color and Indigenous communities—either as a full or partial scholarship based on your organization's alignment with the HIRWE goals.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance will be based on requested and individualized scopes of work for increased homeownership and organizational capacity related to HIRWE goals.

General Support for HIRWE Partners

RCAC appreciates your partnership in this initiative and offers general support for your participation in HIRWE and required reporting. This support will be tied to the number of households assisted with borrowers of color and/or Indigenous borrowers. Since the reporting is only for those households assisted under this initiative, we anticipate the reporting requirements to be less than 15 minutes per household. The general support will be \$200 per household to assist with reporting, additional outreach and efforts at the local level.

Pass-through

Small pass-through grants are available to assist organizations with new or expanded programs aligned with HIRWE goals. These pass-through grants will range from \$5,000-\$15,000 per organization.

Down Payment Assistance (DPA)

RCAC is researching and exploring funding opportunities for DPA to cover the affordability gap for low-income homebuyers. Program design will factor input from HIRWE participants and will be focused on increasing local resources for DPA needs.

For more information or to receive an application for technical assistance, contact: homeownership@rcac.org.
Or visit: www.rcac.org/housing/homeownership-options