



Housing and services strategies that work for people.

Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) Rural Capacity Building (RCB) Success Stories

The Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) is the newest grantee to the HUD Rural Capacity Building (RCB) Program working under our first contract. Our public facing project activities began in the Fall of 2022.

The accepted TAC RCB proposal aimed to fill a niche area within the allowable RCB activities. Its focus is specifically on affordable housing activities related to the areas of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery, Young Adult Housing and Peer Networks.

We work directly with agencies who provide affordable housing in rural areas or are looking to expand into rural housing activities. Our staff and our partners agencies provide technical assistance to increase staff capacity to undertake housing activities for rural areas. Our aim is to build foundational knowledge within each focus area so communities can keep, improve and create rural housing units.

We have included two success stories for two of our activities with rural providers:

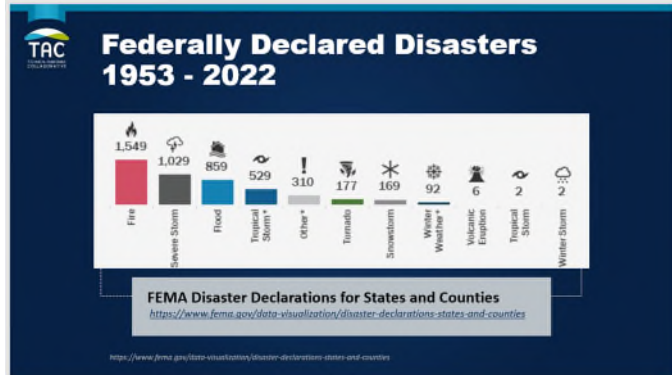
- Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery
- Young Adult Housing.

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery

Rural Capacity Building

For the Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery focus area, we have successfully hosted two webinars, which were attended by over 60 agency and organization supervisors, executives, and front-line staff from 32 states. Attendees were a combination of RCB eligible entities, including agencies currently providing or looking to provide rural housing, as well as their government, private and non-profit partners that work together to make affordable housing with supports available in rural communities. Rural Housing activities require many layers of public and private partnerships to be successful. Part of partnership building is understand the strengths and challenges specific to rural areas. For that reason, TAC RCB live and on-demand webinars are open to all agencies to foster this increased knowledge of encourage local partnerships.

The webinar content centered on rural affordable housing portfolios with emergency preparedness and disaster response action steps. Our goal was to help attendees gain an understanding of recovery resources so they can build the capacity and infrastructure necessary to rebuild and recover housing units when disasters strike.



During the first session, attendees were provided with an overview of steps that they could take pre-disaster to develop a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for housing projects. Additionally, presenters discussed how to develop a plan for addressing needs during and immediately post-disaster for people in rural housing units.

During the second session, attendees learned about post-disaster response to help them better understanding of the steps and potential timelines for rebuilding. Presenters reviewed the local and federal partners who would be part of disaster response decisions and what agencies could do to be prepare to compete for any funds that may be allocated to housing activities post disaster.

Survey results after the webinars showed that 88% of respondents felt they could start taking action to prepare for housing recovery activities and all attendees report increasing their knowledge base with 64% reporting a significantly increase post-webinar.

Young Adult Housing

Rural Capacity Building

For the Young Adult Housing focus area, RCB subrecipient to TAC, Collaborative Solutions, has successfully hosted two webinars, which were attended by over 110 agency and organization supervisors, executives, and front-line staff. Attendees were a combination of RCB eligible entities, agencies currently or looking to provide rural housing, as well as their government, private and non-profit partners that work together to make affordable housing with supports available in rural communities. Housing activities for young adults are successful when people understand how to lift up young people to be partners in housing projects to meet their unique needs. Part of understanding those needs is learning how to serve youth equitably. This work includes exploring options for shifting an agency's structure and approach to be more inclusive and welcoming to young people's voices.

The webinar content centered on creating equitable solutions for serving youth in rural areas. The goal was to help build a common language and understanding of how and why equity is imperative when working with young adults and how to authentically collaborate with youth in all aspects of the project development and implementation.

During the first session, attendees learned about equity principles and community agreement practices to create a welcoming environment for young adults in the development process.

Presenters also discussed equity terminology and inequity examples to increase knowledge about embedded system challenges. This knowledge helps people to be able to start assessing and addressing local issues to help remove barriers to successful housing projects.

During the second session, attendees explored options and techniques about how to move from understanding challenges to taking action steps to gather data on needs and characteristics of young adults needing affordable housing in their rural area. Presenters reviewed specific opportunities to build the capacity of young adults and embed them in agency processes so they can actively participate as rural housing funding opportunities became available.

