



GRANT CAMP WEEK
JUNE 7-11, 2021
DAY FOUR AM



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

WELCOME



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EILEEN LEUBY

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES OFFICER

*MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION*



GRANT CAMP WEEK

RURAL DEVELOPMENT & BROADBAND



MORPC

USDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

JOSH SMITH, USDA



MORPC



Community Programs

From USDA Rural Development

Community Facilities Program: Funding to Improve Rural Communities

- Hospitals
- Health Clinics
- Schools
- Daycares
- Firehouses
- First Responder Vehicles & Equipment
- Community Centers
- Libraries



What is Available?

- Funds can be used to purchase, construct and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses
- Low interest direct loans, grants, a combination of the two, as well as our loan guarantee program. These may be combined with commercial financing to finance one project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met



Advantages

- Complement to housing projects within a community
- Easy terms designed for rural communities with limited resources



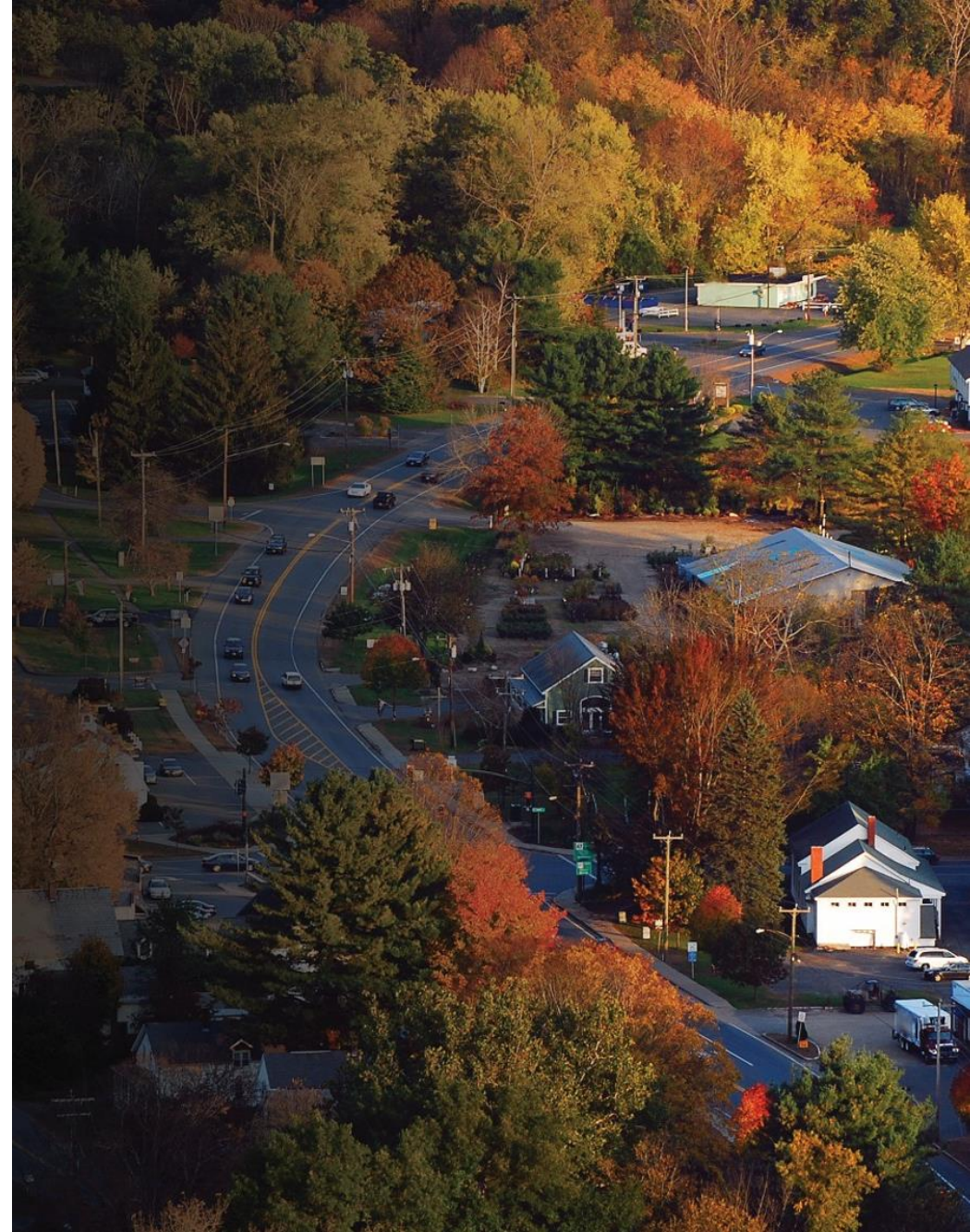
Who May Apply?

- Public body
- Not-for-Profit
- Federally recognized Indian tribes



Eligibility for Assistance

- Rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data
- Preference may be given to smaller communities and low-income communities with median household incomes below 80 percent of the State nonmetropolitan median household income



Water and Environmental Programs: Your Partner to Fund Clean, Reliable Water

Water and Waste Disposal Assistance

Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants

Purposes:

- Improve infrastructure
- Support public health and safety or
- Promote economic development
- Technical Assistance





Other Purposes

- Legal and engineering fees
- Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits and equipment
- Start-up operations and maintenance
- Purchasing existing facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service

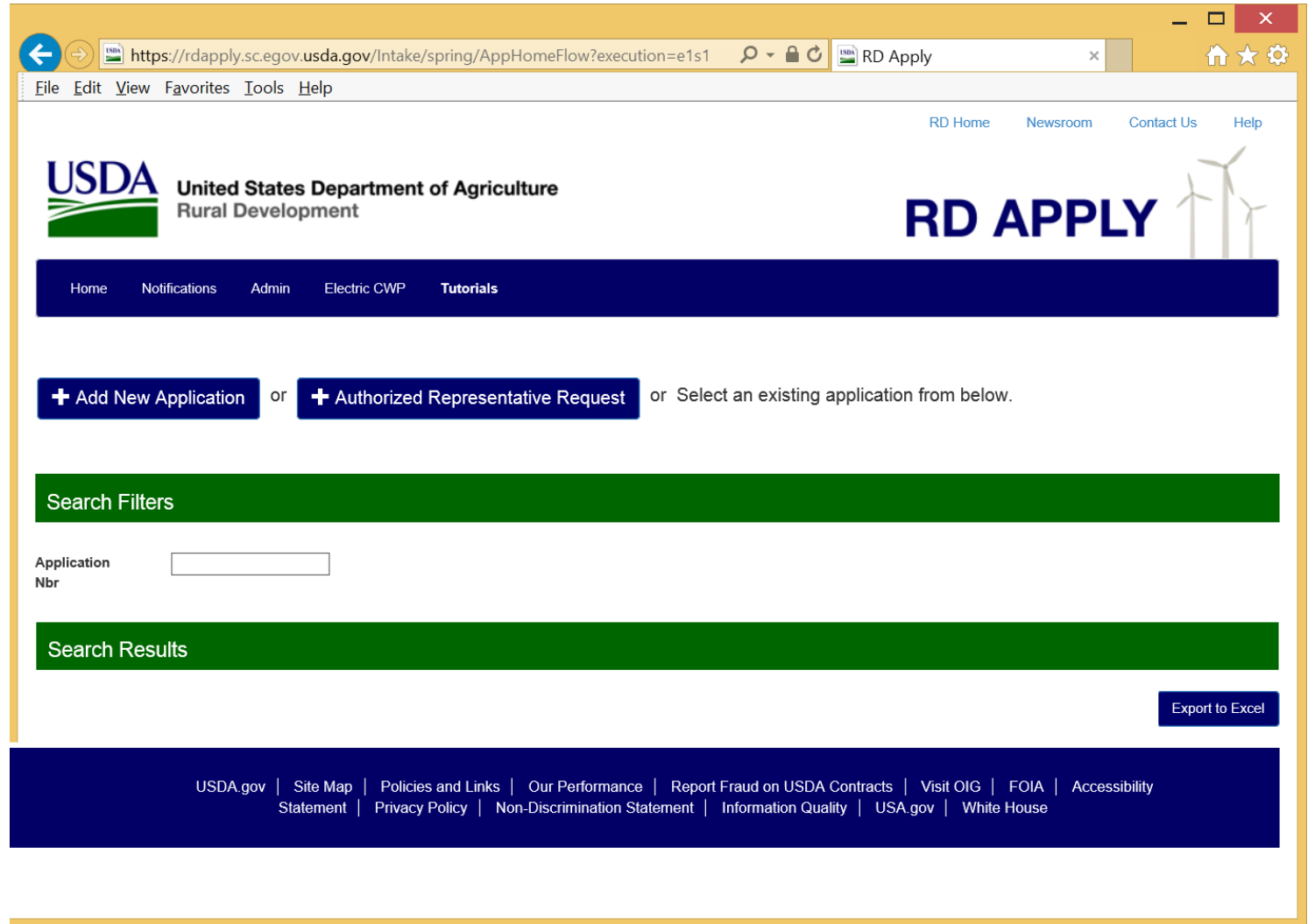
Easy Terms

- Long-term, low-interest loans
- If funds are available, grants may be combined with a loan



RD Apply

- Safe and secure
- Convenient and available 24/7
- Faster processing with less paper



Findlay

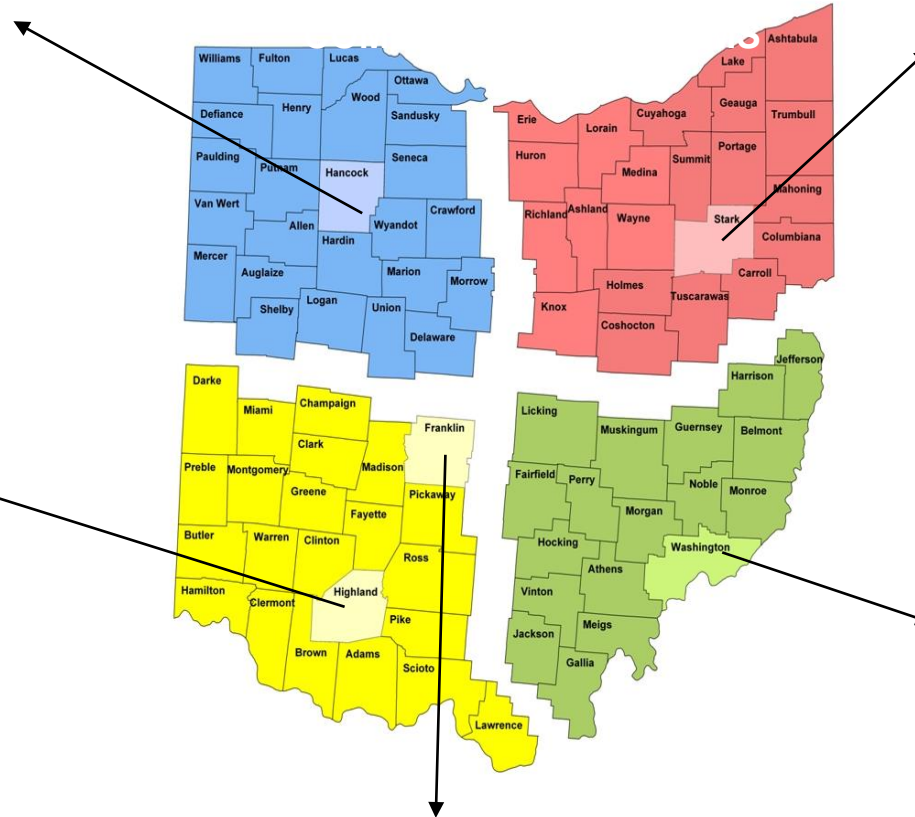
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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

USDA - BROADBAND

ANTHONY TINDALL, USDA





Your Partner for Broadband Deployment

USDA Rural Broadband Programs

- ReConnect Loans and Grants
- Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans
- Community Connect Grants
- Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants



ReConnect Program

Offers:

- Direct Loans
- Grants
- Loan/Grant Combinations

Who can apply?

- Cooperatives, non-profits, or mutual associations
- For-profit corporations or limited liability companies
- States, local governments, or any agency, subdivision, instrumentality or political subdivision thereof
- Territories or possessions of the U.S.
- Eligible Indian tribes



How may ReConnect funds be used?

- Construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities
- Acquisition of an existing system not currently providing sufficient access to broadband




Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans



How may these funds be used?

- New construction
- Improvements
- Expansions
- Acquisitions
- Refinancing



What types of Telecommunications Infrastructure loans are available?

- Cost-of-Money loans at current U.S. Treasury rates
- Guaranteed loans from the Federal Financing Bank (FFB)

Who is eligible for Telecommunications Infrastructure loans?

- Rural utilities
- Municipalities
- Commercial corporations
- Limited liability companies
- Public utility districts
- Indian tribes
- Cooperative businesses
- Non-profit businesses

*Note: Regardless of how your entity is organized, you need to be an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC)



Community Connect Grants

Helps fund rural broadband where service is not yet economically viable for the private sector.

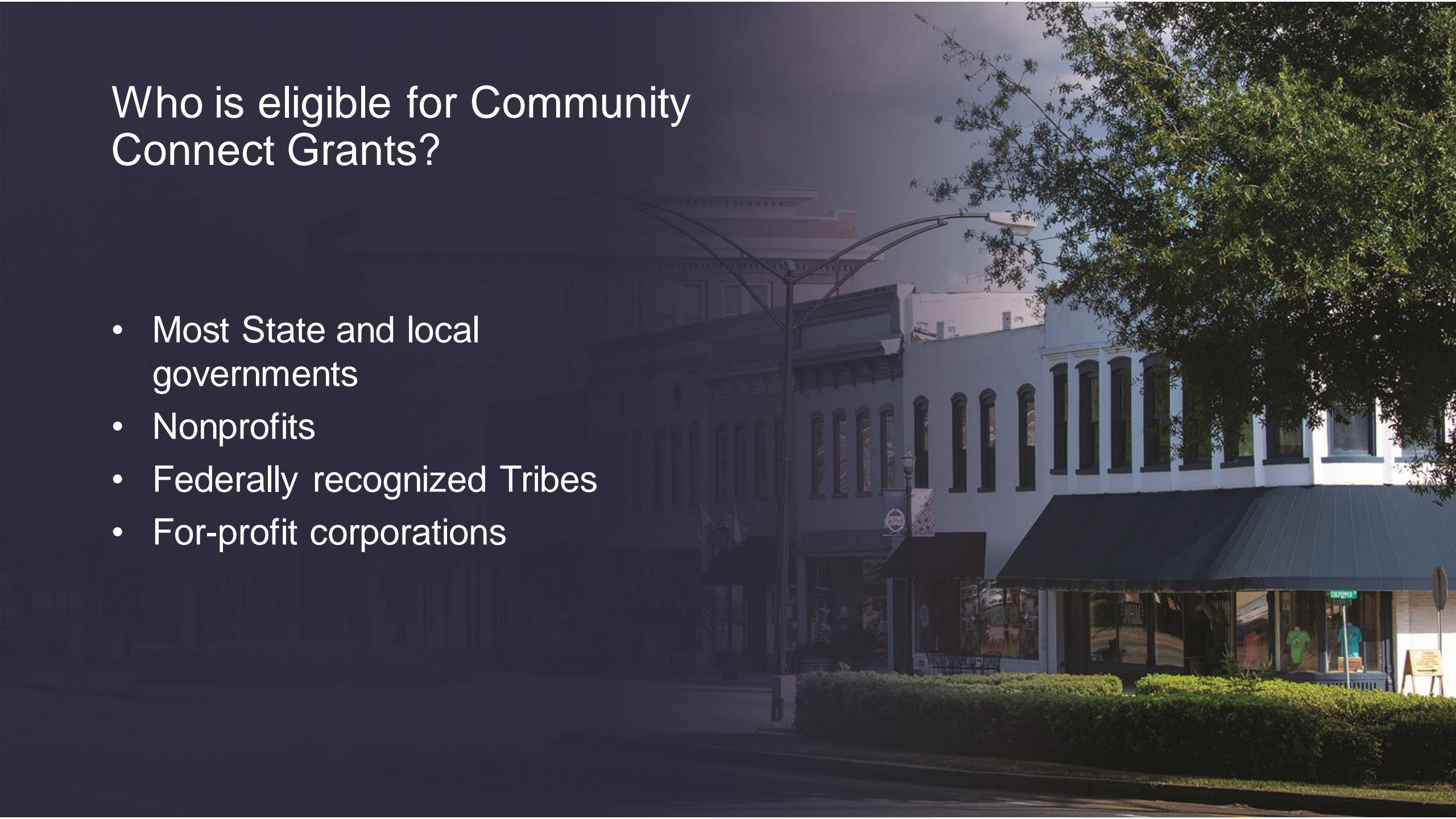
How may these funds be used?

- To buy, build, or lease facilities, spectrum, land or buildings
- To cover the cost of providing free broadband service to the critical community facilities for 2 years
- Up to 10% of the grant may be used for a community center providing online access to the public
- Non-federal matching funds of at least 15% are required



Who is eligible for Community Connect Grants?

- Most State and local governments
- Nonprofits
- Federally recognized Tribes
- For-profit corporations



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants



Help rural communities connect teachers, students and medical providers over distance

How may these funds be used?

- Capital equipment, wiring, software and other distance learning assets
- Instructional programming
- Technical assistance
- Broadband Facility possibilities

* Note: 15% match requirement

What kind of Distance Learning and Telemedicine funding is available?

- Grant funds only
- Awarded through nationally competitive process



Who is eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine funding?

- Towns
- Communities
- State agencies
- Authorities
- Nonprofit Corporations
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Federally recognized Tribes
- Rural Cooperatives





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BROADBAND CENTRAL OHIO REGION

AARON SCHILL, MORPC

&

**AMY HUFFMAN,
NATIONAL DIGITAL
INCLUSION ALLIANCE**



MORPC



City of Seattle, WA

NDIA
NATIONAL DIGITAL INCLUSION ALLIANCE
digitalinclusion.org

NDIA is...

A unified voice for home broadband access, public broadband access, personal devices and local technology training and support programs.

550+

Affiliates

44

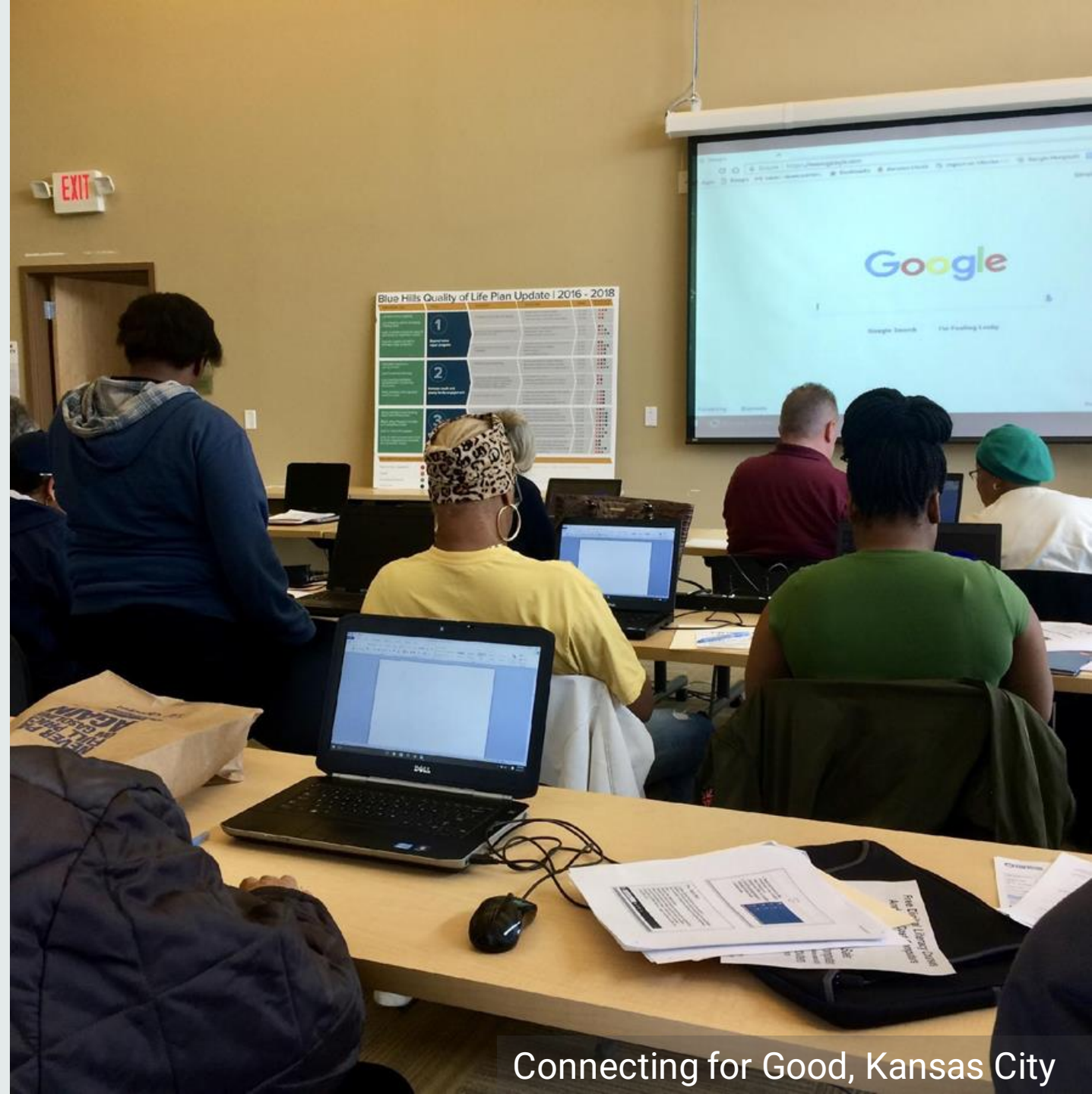
States



Human-I-T, Los Angeles

We are a
community of

Practitioners





We are a
community of

Academics

We are a
community of

Advocates



Free Geek, Portland OR

What We Do



Practitioner Support



Policy



Awareness



Data & Research

Federal Funding

- Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB)
- Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Broadband Infrastructure Program, Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA)

Emergency Broadband Benefit

- \$3.2 billion federal initiative, lowers internet costs for eligible households
- Launched May 12th, 2021
- Households submit applications via National Verifier, through the provider or via mail



EBB Updates

- 1 million households enrolled in first week
- More granular data on sign-ups forthcoming
- Opt-in requirements from providers
- Challenges with USAC map and locating providers
- Informing permanent broadband benefit discussions

Emergency Connectivity Fund

- \$7.171B provision within the American Rescue Plan Act
- Reimburses schools & libraries for providing free broadband service and/or devices
- Bulk purchase agreements possible

American Rescue Plan Act

- \$350 billion
 - Sec. 602: Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund
 - Sec. 603: Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund
 - Sec. 604: Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (\$10B)
- Broadband infrastructure included in the “Investments in Infrastructure” Section
- Digital Inclusion eligible expenses under “Assistance to Households” Section
 - Internet access
 - Digital literacy assistance

American Rescue Plan Act

- We interpret “internet access or digital literacy assistance” to include:
 - Covering the cost of a household’s broadband service, including through bulk purchases
 - Outreach for low-cost and subsidized broadband service
 - Digital literacy training
 - Digital navigation
 - Purchasing devices for households
 - Broadband infrastructure

Consolidated Appropriations Act

- Program: Broadband Infrastructure Program, \$288M
- Amount: Awards between \$5-\$30M
- Eligible Applicants: Covered Partnerships-partnership between a state, one or more political subdivision & fixed internet service provider
- Eligible areas: unserved by 25/3 and not going to be served by other grant funds

Figure 2. ARP funding to address the digital divide

ARP provision	Funding and expiration	Primary Recipients	Physical Network Build-Out	Device Support	Broadband Connectivity Subscription Support	Digital Literacy Training
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	\$122.775 billion through Sept 30, 2023	Local educational agencies		x	x	
Institute of Museum and Library Services	\$200 million until expended	State library administrative agencies	x	x	x	x
Economic Adjustment Assistance	\$3 billion through Sept 30, 2022	Department of Commerce, states, and communities	x			
Homeowner Assistance Fund	\$9.961 billion through Sept 30, 2025	States, territories, and Tribal governments			x	
Emergency Connectivity Fund	\$7.171 billion through Sept 30, 2030	Schools and libraries	x	x	x	
Coronavirus state fiscal recovery fund	\$219.8 billion through 2024	States, territories, and Tribal governments	x	x	x	x
Coronavirus local fiscal recovery fund	\$13.2 billion through 2024	Metropolitan cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties	x	x	x	x
Coronavirus capital projects fund	\$10 billion until expended	States, territories, and Tribal governments	x	x		
Local assistance and tribal consistency fund	\$2 billion through Sept 30, 2023	Revenue sharing counties and Tribal governments	x	x	x	x

Source: Brookings analysis of ARP.



Thank You

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@netinclusion

@angelasiefer



Byte Back, Washington DC

Additional Broadband Funding Sources



- Ohio HB 2 - Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Program
 - \$20M appropriated
 - Priority on unserved areas, but underserved areas eligible also
 - Applicants must be broadband providers, but local governments can partner/support applications
- Spectrum Digital Education Grant Program
 - Grants of \$2,500-\$50,000
 - Open to 501(c)(3) organizations
 - Application window for 2021 closes June 25
- CARES Act Local Government Recovery Funds
- Columbus Foundation Central Ohio Digital Divide Fund



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MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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CLOSING



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MEMBERSHIP SERVICES OFFICER

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COMMISSION*



OHIO UNIVERSITY – ADVANCED DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS

VIRTUAL MEET & GREET

Thursday June 17, 1:00-1:30 p.m.

- ✓ Executive Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program
- ✓ Online Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program
- ✓ Online Master of Sustainability, Security and Resilience degree and certificates (MSSR) Program

Contact Joe Wakeman wakemanj@ohio.edu or 740.593.2133

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

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Or call in (audio only)

[+1 614-362-3056](tel:+16143623056).,262346993# United States, Columbus

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MORPC members are
eligible for a

\$1,000

tuition scholarship.

onlinemasters.ohio.edu/MORPC



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

Voinovich School of
Leadership and Public Affairs



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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HARVESTING A MODERN RURAL GOVERNMENT

THE PUBLIC SECTOR OF THE FUTURE

Tuesday, June 22, 11 a.m. – Noon

Featured Speakers:

Heidi Voorhees, President

Laurie Pederson, Administrative Services Director
GovHR USA

- Microsoft Teams meeting
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- Phone Conference ID: 929 991 253#
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CULTIVATING YOUR NEXT LEADER



Tuesday, July 13, 11 a.m. – Noon



Debbie Phillips
CEO
Rural Action



Chris Schmenk,
Union County Commissioner
Attorney – Bricker & Eckler



Bryn Bird,
Granville Township Trustee
Bird's Haven Farms



Shanette Strickland
City of Reynoldsburg
Ward 1 – City Council

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HOW TO ADD ZONING RULES THAT BENEFIT YOUR COMMUNITY

Tuesday, August 3, 11 a.m. – Noon

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Catherine Cunningham, Esq.
Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter,
Director



Jon Melchi, BIA of Central Ohio
Executive Director



Scott Mallory, CEO
Highland Real Estate



SAVE THE DATE: SOCIAL MEDIA BEST PRACTICES FORUM

WHEN: AUGUST 4, 2021

WHERE: VIRTUALLY

TIME: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.



SIGNATURE EVENTS



OUR FUTURE ENVISIONED

MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION | 2021 STATE OF THE REGION



Summit On Sustainability Fall TBA

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