

N.C. Rural Economic Development Center

Annual Report



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INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center Inc. respectfully submits this report of activities to the Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division. As required, this report details the Rural Center's work during the period July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

All programmatic activity described here has been carried out in accordance with the center's mission, which is to develop, implement and promote sound economic strategies that improve the lives of rural North Carolinians, with a special focus on individuals with low to moderate incomes and communities with limited resources.

To accomplish its mission and comply with the funding requirements of the General Assembly, the center operates a multifaceted program that includes: conducting research into rural issues; testing promising rural development strategies; advocating for policy and program innovations; and building the productive capacity of rural leaders, entrepreneurs and community organizations.

Oversight for the annual development of the Rural Center's plan of work, for all funding decisions and for program implementation comes from the center's 50-member board of directors. (See Appendix B for a summary of board meetings.)

Summarized below are major initiatives of the Rural Center during the period covered by this report. These initiatives required substantial time and leadership by the board of directors, president and center staff.

Major Initiatives

Critical Water Needs: Awarded \$22 million in grants to fund critically needed water and sewer infrastructure projects. These projects aid 52 of the state's 85 rural counties and 95,300 utility customers.

Job Creation: Created 735 rural jobs with \$12 million in water and sewer grants that enable new business locations and expansions.

Building Reuse and Restoration: Awarded \$9 million to help communities return vacant buildings to productive use and create 735 jobs.

Rural Health Care Initiative: Awarded \$4.5 million to build or renovate 22 health care facilities, leading to 385 jobs in health care.

Rural Business Finance: In a tight lending market, made or leveraged 94 business loans totaling nearly \$2 million.

Entrepreneurship Development: Through a collaboration, operated federally funded project that helps laid-off rural workers start their own businesses. Sixty-nine business and 137 jobs have resulted since April 2009.

Recession Response: Launched federally funded program to bolster assistance for laid-off workers in 15 counties hard hit by the recession.

Small Town Revitalization: Funded development of a tool to provide small town managers with critical information on their fiscal performance. Coached 12 towns through economic development planning process and accepted 11 more towns into the Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program, bringing total participating towns to 56.

Family Farm Support: Established the Family Farm Innovation Fund to help farmers conduct energy audits, implement energy efficiency projects and develop new markets and value-added products.

RURAL CENTER APPROPRIATIONS: AN OVERVIEW

The N.C. General Assembly appropriates funds to the Rural Economic Development Center to support a variety of activities designed to improve the economic vitality and quality of life in North Carolina's 85 rural counties. This money is channeled directly into those communities, largely through grant programs, with the vast majority supporting the development of water and sewer infrastructure.

This report describes the programs and initiatives the center has carried out as a result of these appropriations and certain other activities the center undertook by leveraging state funding with additional investments by federal, private and nonprofit sources. The bulk of the report is organized along programmatic lines to provide the clearest explanation of the center's activities and accomplishments. Appropriations sometimes cross programmatic areas, and some programs receive funding through more than one channel. For this reason, it is useful to begin with an overview of state appropriations, the activities they support and where additional details may be found.

Base Appropriation Continuation Budget	FY10	FY10 Adjusted*
Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight	\$1,555,000	\$1,477,250
Research and Demonstration Grants	\$351,000	\$ 333,450
Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship	\$136,000	\$129,200
Community Economic Development Grants	\$987,436	\$938,064
Microenterprise Loan Program	\$185,000	\$175,750
Water/Sewer/Business Development Matching Grants	\$840,000	\$798,000
Statewide Water/Sewer Database	\$95,000	\$90,250
Agricultural Advancement Consortium	\$110,000	\$104,500
Economic Infrastructure Program	\$18,920,000	\$18,051,220
Economic Infrastructure Program - Administration	\$385,000	\$365,750
Subtotal	\$23,564,436	\$22,463,434
Administered Funds		
Opportunities Industrialization Center Funds	\$343,000	\$325,850
Nonrecurring Items		
Small Business Funds	\$500,000	\$500,000
Subtotal	\$24,407,436	\$23,289,284
e-NC Authority	\$475,200	\$451,440
Total	\$24,882,636	\$23,740,724

* Figures under FY10 Adjusted reflect reversions ordered as a result of a shortfall in state revenues.

Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight: This appropriation supports the center's general operating costs, including the work of the board of directors, the president's office, and the fiscal and communications staff (for more details, see page 9); technical assistance and oversight of the Research and Demonstration Grants Program (page 26); administration of Clean Water Bonds Act funds (page 17); administration of the Community Economic Development Grants Program (page 40); and administration of the Agricultural Advancement Consortium (page 42).

FY10 Adjusted Allocation

Technical Assistance and Center Administration of R&D Grants: \$400,900

General Administration: \$545,300

Administration of Clean Water Bond Act funds: \$418,000

Administration of Community Economic Development Grants Program: \$45,600

Administration of Agricultural Advancement Consortium: \$67,450

Research and Demonstration Grants: These appropriations support Rural Center-directed research and demonstration grants. Priority is awarded to projects that focus on critical issues identified by the Rural Center board of directors. For more details, see page 26.

Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship: Established in 2003, the institute works to boost development of small- and medium-sized businesses across rural North Carolina. It is a part of the center's business development program. This appropriation supports the overall work of the institute. For more details, see page 44.

Community Economic Development Grants: One of the longest-running programs of the Rural Center, this program provides grants for operational and staff support for community development corporations working in low-income and minority communities. The organizations raise additional money to carry out projects that encourage home ownership, promote small business development and provide educational and civic programming. For more details, see page 40.

Microenterprise Loan Program: In operation since 1989, the North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program provides rural people with small business loans to help them become self-sufficient through business ownership. It operates in all 85 rural counties. Loans are capped at \$25,000 and combined with business planning and technical assistance. The program is capitalized at \$2.3 million. Capital was provided by early appropriations and earnings on those funds. Annual appropriations support ongoing operations. For more details, see page 37.

Water/Sewer/Business Development Matching Grants: This money supports two programs.

FY10 Adjusted Allocation

Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program: \$609,900

Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development: \$188,100

The *Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program* enables local governments and qualified nonprofit corporations to improve water and sewer systems by providing funds to match grants and loans from other sources. It was established by the General Assembly in 1993-94. For more details, see page 16.

Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development help fund worthy emergency projects that might otherwise be outside the timeline or geographic area of a specific Rural Center grant program. For more details, see page 50.

Statewide Water/Sewer Database: The Rural Center’s Water 2030 Initiative collected extensive documentation on water and sewer infrastructure throughout North Carolina and identified \$16.6 billion in investments needed by 2030. It also assessed the availability and adequacy of the state’s water resources. Mapping and condition assessments were completed in 2005. Continuing appropriations cover maintaining and upgrading the water resources database. For more details, see page 20.

Agricultural Advancement Consortium: Established by the General Assembly and housed at the Rural Center, the consortium promotes the benefits of a strong farm sector and explores ways to increase farm profitability. It conducts original research and provides grants to promising research and demonstration projects. For more details, see page 42.

Economic Infrastructure Program: The General Assembly created the Economic Infrastructure Fund in 2004 in response to significant job losses from the recession and economic restructuring. It provides a multifaceted approach to encourage business growth and create jobs in struggling rural communities.

FY10 Adjusted Allocation

Job-Generating Infrastructure Grants: \$7,082,820

Economic Innovation Grants: \$525,000

Building Reuse and Restoration Grants: \$7,524,000

Small Towns Program: \$1,375,000

DENR – matching funds: \$1,544,400

Job-generating infrastructure grants assist communities with infrastructure projects tied directly to new business locations or expansions and related job growth. These funds are administered through the center’s physical infrastructure division. For more details, see page 18.

The Economic Innovation Grants Program is designed to test innovative approaches to stimulating the economies of small towns and rural communities hard hit by the effects of structural changes in the economy, natural disasters and persistent poverty. Grants are intended to spur business activity, job creation and public/private investment. These funds are administered through the center’s Office of Research and Innovation. For more details, see page 27.

The Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program helps communities create jobs through investments in real property. Building reuse grants help prepare vacant buildings for new private-sector businesses. Grants have been made for planning and, when new tenants have been secured, for redevelopment of properties. Under the umbrella of building reuse, rural health care grants assist in the construction and/or renovation of rural health care facilities if those projects create jobs. For more details, see page 30.

The *North Carolina Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program* combines grantmaking and technical assistance to spur economic revitalization of small towns. For more details, see page 22.

“*DENR – matching funds*” refers to a portion of the appropriation required to be transferred to the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources to provide the state match to draw down maximum

funding available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA money supports the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

Economic Innovation Program, administration: These funds support administration and oversight of economic innovation grants. See the description on page 8 for more details.

Opportunities Industrialization Centers: The Rural Center administers funds appropriated to the Opportunities Industrialization Centers on behalf of the General Assembly. A brief explanation of the program may be found on page 51 with additional details on funded centers in Appendix Q.

Small Business Funds: In FY10, the General Assembly appropriated \$500,000 to the Rural Center to support existing small businesses. The Rural Center, in partnership with Self-Help, established the Small Business Assistance Fund. The fund is a loan loss reserve pool that will leverage the \$500,000 appropriation into \$5 million in new loans for small businesses. For more details, see page 38.

e-NC Authority: The e-NC Authority is a state authority housed and staffed by the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center. The authority is governed by its own board of directors and reports separately to the General Assembly on the use of state appropriations.

This report also covers progress in some ongoing programs not funded through FY10 appropriations:

Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program: The General Assembly created the Clean Water Partners Program in FY08 as part of its continuing commitment to help rural and low-wealth communities finance critical water and wastewater projects. It has made two one-time appropriations, totaling nearly \$150 million, for this purpose. For more details, see page 11.

Rural Venture Fund: The Rural Venture Fund offers flexible financing options for qualified businesses in economically distressed rural counties of North Carolina, with an emphasis on Tier 1 counties. The fund was created in 2007 and capitalized in part by \$3.8 million in state funds. For more details, see page 36.

Each chapter of this report includes a program description and a summary of activity for Fiscal Year 2010. For grant programs, the narrative will be followed by a table listing all grants awarded by fiscal year. A corresponding appendix offers a brief summary of each grant. Rural Center financial information and other background material are included in the appendices.

RURAL CENTER GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The General Assembly allocated \$1,477,250 to the center in FY10 for Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight. These funds, augmented by approximately \$1.7 million from other sources, have supported the work of the board of directors, administrative management, and the fiscal, research and communications staff as well as standard administrative operating costs.

For FY11, the center's adjusted appropriation for Center Administration, Technical Assistance and Oversight of \$1,432,382 must again be supplemented by approximately \$1.7 million from other sources for the center to continue to provide high quality oversight and administrative support services as the reach of the center's programs expands and its policy efforts generate visible statewide impact.

WATER & SEWER GRANTS PROGRAMS

Supplemental Grants Program; Planning Grants Program; Unsewered Communities Grants Program; Economic Infrastructure Grants Program; Water 2030 Initiative Funds

Program Statement: The Physical Infrastructure Office operates four grant programs and engages in water resource data and policy development. The grant programs are designed either to address infrastructure problems affecting public health and the environment or to assist in job creation in the private sector.

- ❑ The *Supplemental Grants Program* provides direct support for the construction of water and sewer infrastructure projects. Sources of funding may be from the Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program, recurring appropriations or the Clean Water Bond Program. Depending on the source of funding, priority may be given to projects that eliminate verifiable threats to public health, achieve significant environmental protection or retain jobs in the private sector. Funding for this program is intended to be supplemental to other state or federal funds or funds from the grantee's capital improvements budget. The grant caps range from \$400,000 to \$1 million, depending on the source of funding, the economic status of the applicant and the overall cost of the project.
- ❑ The *Planning Grants Program* helps local governments pay for planning activities associated with infrastructure construction in rural areas. These grants continue the work of the earlier Capacity Building Grants Program by partially financing preliminary engineering reports, capital improvement plans, feasibility studies, environmental assessments or other studies needed for infrastructure construction. The grant cap is \$40,000. This program is funded through the Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program and recurring appropriations. Grants are occasionally made under the Capacity Building Program as previously obligated money is released for new purposes.
- ❑ The *Unsewered Communities Grants Program*, largely closed out, assisted local governments in providing central and publicly owned wastewater service where none previously existed. To qualify for the program, local governments were required to have a population of fewer than 5,000, to have a median household income of less than \$37,794 (90 percent of national median household income, according to the 2000 Census) and to agree by resolution to establish a combined customer water and sewer rate equal to at least 1.5 percent of the applicant's median household income. The original grant cap was \$3 million; the Rural Center Board of Directors raised the cap to \$3.2 million in November 2005 in response to the rising cost of petroleum-based products, concrete and steel. The last competitive grants were awarded in February 2004.
- ❑ The *Economic Infrastructure Fund Water and Sewer Grants Program* provides funds to local governments to assist with water and sewer infrastructure construction that will serve businesses. This program is capitalized with recurring appropriations. The program makes grants to communities with expanding businesses or businesses locating to the community that promise to create jobs. The award is based on the number of jobs created, at \$10,000 per job. The maximum

award is \$1 million or one-half of the infrastructure project cost, whichever is less. A 5 percent cash match is required from the local government, and the remaining funds may come from other grants, other loans or private enterprise. Jobs are counted at the time of the award, within two years of the contract execution date and a final time six months after all jobs have been created. Job verification comes from the NC U1 101 form supplied by the Employment Security Commission or by certified letter from the project site's human resources department.

- ❑ *Water 2030 Initiative Funds.* The Rural Center's Water 2030 Initiative created an extensive database of water and sewer infrastructure maps, condition assessments and estimates of the state's available water resources. The General Assembly has made a recurring appropriation of \$100,000 annually to the center for maintaining and upgrading the water database.

CRITICAL NEEDS GRANTS PROGRAMS

Critical needs grants programs include those funded from the Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program, from a recurring appropriation to the center and from the 1998 Clean Water Bonds. These programs were developed to help mitigate public health threats and environmental contamination problems posed by failing private wells and septic systems or by failing public water and sewer systems.

Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program

The Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program was first capitalized in FY08 with a \$100 million appropriation. A second cash infusion of \$43.5 million came in FY09. The program provides for two types of grants: supplemental (construction) and planning.

Supplemental Grants. Supplemental grants are designed to complement other local, state or federal funds for infrastructure construction projects. Eligible applicants are rural counties or communities in rural counties. In addition, the applicant must pass a resolution to set the household user fee for water and sewer service in the area to be served by the project at least equal to 1.5 percent of the median household income. Grants are capped at \$500,000. A dollar-for-dollar match is required unless the applicant meets certain criteria. For applicants meeting the criteria, the grant cap also may be waived. These criteria are:

1. The applicant is an economic Tier 1 county or is a community in a Tier 1 county.
2. The applicant's poverty rate is 150 percent of the state's poverty rate or higher.
3. The applicant's ability to pay, as calculated by the N.C. Department of Commerce, is less than 50 percent of the ability to pay of the county in which it is located.

FY10 Summary. The first competitive FY10 grants round began October 15, 2009, with the receipt of 84 supplemental grant applications requesting \$38.1 million. Three early awards were made in December 2009, totaling \$2.5 million, leveraging \$19.7 million. From the remaining 81 applications, the Rural Center board approved 41 awards, totaling \$19.1 million on April 29, 2010. These projects leveraged \$38.5 million. In total, 44 awards were made from the October 2009 intake, amounting to \$22.2 million, and leveraging \$58.2 million.

One crisis grant award was made to the Town of Aberdeen out-of-cycle to assist with the installation of filters on a well to mitigate radium contamination of the public water supply, and one project previously

deferred was awarded funding. This latter project, located in Hoke County, will rehabilitate a pump station serving a business and residential area.

Additions to previously awarded grants also were made. The Town of Grimesland received an additional \$223,551 to perform further rehabilitation to the water system, and the Town of Mars Hill received \$10,000 to complete rehabilitation costs on a sewer main.

The total amount awarded from the Clean Water Partners’ Supplemental Grants Program was \$22.5 million. Altogether, these 48 awards will serve more than 95,000 customers and leverage \$58.9 million in other local, state and federal funds. One community with a special order by consent was awarded funds to help with SOC compliance. Thirteen communities were assisted in solving problems documented in Notices of Violation.

One grantee requested a change in scope from an original award. Macon County received ARRA (federal stimulus) funds that covered the entire cost of a water system extension that was to be partially funded by Rural Center grant funds. Instead, a sewer line repair project was proposed, and center funds shifted to the sewer project. Another grantee requested that previously awarded grant funds be moved from a county to a sewer district. This request resulted in Hertford County deobligating funds to the Tunis Sewer District. No new funds were awarded in these cases.

Clean Water Partners—Supplemental Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Alexander	Alexander County	Church Road Water Line	\$317,907	\$317,908
Alexander	Town of Taylorsville	Hiddenite Sanitary Sewer Project	\$229,095	\$108,247
Anson	Town of Lilesville	Phase 3 Water System Improvements	\$416,667	\$125,000
Avery	Town of Crossnore	Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement	\$498,500	\$330,000
Bladen	Town of Bladenboro	2009 Inflow & Infiltration Improvements	\$500,000	\$280,000
Bladen	Town of Clarkton	Town of Clarkton 2009 Water System Improvements	\$215,942	\$53,986
Bladen	Town of Elizabethtown	Meter Replacement and Water/Energy Conservation Project	\$500,000	\$443,978
Burke	Town of Rhodhiss	Wastewater System Interconnect with Town of Granite Falls and I/I Reduction	\$500,000	\$175,000
Camden	Camden County	Sewer Extension to Serve S Mills and NC Visitor Center	\$649,875	\$1,949,625
Chatham	Town of Goldston	Town of Goldston Wastewater Collection System	\$1,000,000	\$5,245,628
Chatham	Town of Pittsboro	Credle Street Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 3 & 4	\$496,126	\$372,094
Columbus	Town of Chadbourne	Phase 1 Water System Improvements	\$500,000	\$125,000
Dare	Dare County	Roanoke Island Water System Improvements	\$500,000	\$2,241,376
Edgecombe	Edgecombe County	Wastewater Collection and Transport System to Serve Town of Speed and Vicinity, Edgecombe, NC	\$1,000,000	\$4,000,000

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Graham	Town of Robbinsville	Main Street Water System Improvements	\$500,000	\$130,000
Granville	Granville County	Granville Athletic Park Water Reuse	\$500,000	\$1,714,400
Halifax	Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District	Bells Creek Outfall Rehabilitation	\$400,108	\$211,881
Halifax	Town of Weldon	2009-2010 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project	\$306,007	\$107,102
Harnett	Town of Lillington	Harnett County Correctional Facility Pump Station and Sewer Replacement	\$500,000	\$175,000
Haywood	Junaluska Sanitary District	Rogers Cove Water and Sewer Infrastructure 2009	\$500,000	\$1,125,000
Haywood	Town of Waynesville	Dayton Drive Water System Improvements	\$213,333	\$106,667
Hoke	Hoke County	Rockfish Road Pump Station Force Main	\$412,986	\$412,986
Jackson	Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority	Dilliardtown Area Sewer	\$225,000	\$225,000
Lenoir	City of Kinston	Pollock Street Sewer Rehabilitation Project	\$500,000	\$125,000
Macon	Town of Franklin	Sludge Digester	\$500,000	\$500,000
Madison	Town of Mars Hill*	College Sewer Line Replacement	\$10,000	\$10,000
Madison	Town of Marshall	2009 Comprehensive Water Improvements Phase II	\$500,000	\$700,000
McDowell	McDowell County	Harmony Grove Water Line Extensions	\$152,220	\$152,220
Moore	Town of Aberdeen	CRISIS NEED: Water Supply Well Radium Removal Project	\$180,000	\$250,000
Nash	Central Nash Water and Sewer District	Central Nash Water and Sewer District Phase 4 Water System Improvements	\$500,000	\$5,790,000
Northampton	Town of Rich Square	Phase 1 Water System Improvements	\$507,281	\$137,029
Pasquotank	City of Elizabeth City	Water Transmission Main Replacement	\$500,000	\$363,262
Pitt	Contentnea Metropolitan Sewage District	CMSD Phase 2 WWTP Improvements	\$1,000,000	\$13,297,000
Pitt	Pitt County	Chicod Elementary School Pump Stations and Force Mains	\$500,000	\$1,368,844
Pitt	Town of Farmville	Outfall Sanitary Sewer Replacement	\$500,000	\$175,000
Pitt	Town of Grimesland*	Critical Needs Water System Improvements	\$223,551	\$16,000
Pitt	Village of Simpson	Phase 1B Wastewater Collection System Improvements	\$500,000	\$4,249,500
Richmond	City of Hamlet	Water Lake Dam Repairs	\$500,000	\$525,791
Richmond	Town of Ellerbe	Ellerbe Regional Wastewater Connection to Rockingham	\$847,613	\$2,390,450
Robeson	Town of Pembroke	2010 Water System Improvements	\$388,408	\$97,102
Rockingham	Town of Mayodan	2009 Water and Sewer Improvements NCRC Supplemental Grant Application	\$500,000	\$175,000

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Rutherford	Broad River Water Authority	BRWA Water Treatment Plant Modernization	\$1,000,000	\$6,273,000
Surry	Town of Elkin	Water System Improvements	\$107,539	\$37,650
Transylvania	City of Brevard	Brushy Creek Basin Sewer Infrastructure Project 2009	\$394,072	\$197,038
Vance	City of Henderson	Replacement of UV Disinfection System at Henderson Water Reclamation Facility	\$500,000	\$1,476,000
Warren	Town of Norlina	Sewer System Rehabilitation	\$392,593	\$137,407
Wilkes	Town of North Wilkesboro	Improvements to Raw Water Impoundment Sluice Gate	\$377,920	\$94,480
Wilson	Town of Black Creek	Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation	\$500,000	\$400,000
Total FY10 Clean Water Partners / Supplemental Grants			\$22,462,743	\$58,913,651

*Additional funds to previously awarded projects.

Please refer to Appendix C for project descriptions.

Planning Grants. Planning grants assist rural communities in funding activities that must occur prior to construction. Examples of projects include feasibility studies for new sewer systems, leak detection in water lines, preliminary engineering reports and smoke testing in sewer lines.

Eligible applicants for planning grants are economically distressed rural counties and economically distressed units of local government in rural counties. Regional councils of government and regional planning commissions also are eligible for planning grants for regional projects.

The maximum award for planning grants is \$40,000. A dollar-for-dollar match is required unless the applicant meets certain criteria. These criteria are:

1. The applicant is an economic Tier 1 county or is a community in a Tier 1 county.
2. The applicant's poverty rate is 150 percent of the state's poverty rate or higher.
3. The applicant is in a county that experiences an actual or imminent loss of jobs equal to or greater than 5 percent of the total number of jobs in that part of the county.

FY10 Summary. On October 15, 2009, the center received 47 planning grant applications, requesting more than \$1.5 million. Thirty-one projects received funding, totaling \$1 million and leveraging more than \$630,000. One additional award was made on June 30, 2010, to the Town of Tryon. The award was in the amount of \$40,000 and was matched by \$20,000. In sum, 32 awards were made for a total of \$1.06 million and leveraging nearly \$670,000.

Several funded projects will allow small communities to come into compliance with drought bill requirements and to determine where water lines may be leaking. Saving water translates into revenue gained for many small communities. An award to Rutherford County funds the study of a defunct sewer district's infrastructure, to allow the county to be fully informed should it decide to assume operation and maintenance of the failing system. Several projects continued to work on inflow and infiltration in sewer

collection lines, and one project in Halifax County will allow a remote, unincorporated community to examine alternative wastewater treatment technology.

Clean Water Partners—Planning Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Alexander	Town of Taylorsville	Taylorsville Water Audit & Leak Detection Program	\$29,630	\$10,370
Anson	Town of Peachland	Water System Study	\$40,000	\$14,000
Bladen	Town of East Arcadia	Town of East Arcadia Regional Wastewater Study	\$32,000	\$8,000
Bladen	Town of White Lake	Water System Study	\$40,000	\$20,000
Burke	City of Morganton	Morganton I and I Study	\$40,000	\$85,000
Caldwell	Town of Granite Falls	Water System Leak Detection Program Development & Reclaimed Water Use Evaluation	\$17,037	\$5,963
Caswell	Town of Yanceyville	Water Leak Detection and Meter Replacement Study	\$25,000	\$14,000
Cleveland	Town of Lawndale	Lawndale Water Master Planning Project	\$24,360	\$6,090
Columbus	Town of Chadbourn	Water System Study	\$40,000	\$10,000
Columbus	Town of Lake Waccamaw	Water System Study	\$40,000	\$14,000
Duplin	Town of Calypso	2010 Planning Documents Update	\$40,000	\$20,000
Edgecombe	Edgecombe Water and Sewer District No. 5	Preliminary Report for Wastewater Collection and Transport System - NC 33 East/Logsboro Road	\$35,000	\$12,250
Halifax	Meadows Sewer District	Meadows Sewer District Study of Affordable Decentralized Wastewater Cluster Systems	\$40,000	\$21,425
Halifax	Town of Enfield	Water System Study	\$40,000	\$10,000
Johnston	Town of Selma	Water System Capital Improvement Plan	\$30,000	\$10,500
Jones	Jones County	Alternative Water Engineering Analysis	\$40,000	\$20,000
Madison	Town of Marshall	2009 Inflow/Infiltration Study	\$20,000	\$10,000
Martin	Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority	Pilot Study for Water Treatment Plant	\$40,000	\$195,000
Pender	Town of Surf City	Surf City Water Audit & Leak Detection Program	\$20,000	\$20,000
Polk	Town of Tryon	Town of Tryon Infiltration and Inflow Study	\$40,000	\$20,000
Randolph	Town of Liberty	Water Leak Detection and Water/Sewer Capacity Study	\$40,000	\$20,000
Richmond	Town of Ellerbe	Ellerbe Inflow & Infiltration Study	\$32,000	\$8,000
Robeson	Town of Maxton	Capital Improvements Plan	\$40,000	\$10,000
Robeson	Town of Parkton	Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance Project Including Water Quality Protection	\$14,815	\$5,185

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Robeson	Town of Pembroke	2010 CIP with Sanitary Sewer System Mapping	\$40,000	\$10,000
Rockingham	City of Reidsville	Reidsville Leak Detection Study	\$22,223	\$7,777
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Cliffside Sewer Plan, Future Project Prioritization, Review of Alternatives including Regionalization, Mapping and I/I Study	\$32,900	\$16,450
Rutherford	Town of Rutherfordton	Financial Planning and Rate Study	\$13,333	\$6,667
Sampson	City of Clinton	Clinton Water System Study / CIP	\$40,000	\$14,000
Stanly	City of Albemarle	Water System and Water Quality Improvements Study	\$40,000	\$22,500
Vance	City of Henderson	Rate Study and CIP	\$40,000	\$14,000
Wilkes	Town of North Wilkesboro	North Wilkesboro Water Audit & Leak Detection Program	\$32,000	\$8,000
Total FY10 Clean Water Partnership / Planning Grants			\$1,060,298	\$669,177

Please refer to Appendix D for project descriptions.

Recurring Appropriations

The General Assembly appropriates funds annually to the Rural Center to make matching grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations for water and sewer projects. The grants can fund necessary economic development projects in economically distressed counties, water and sewer projects needed to address public health or the environment, or projects that demonstrate alternative water and sewer management processes for local governments. Funds can be committed to capacity building projects as well as construction projects.

FY10 Summary. Four projects totaling over \$600,000 were funded in FY10. The City of Oxford was awarded \$450,000 to rehabilitate an outfall that had significant inflow and infiltration and had caused sanitary sewer overflows. The city had received a Notice of Violation for the overflows, and this repair will assist the city in mitigating conditions leading to the overflows. A water line relocation in Rutherford County, necessitated by a road widening project, also was funded. The water lines serve homes with petroleum contaminated wells. Finally, the Town of Harrellsville was given assistance for the purchase of a generator, which will help maintain water service during power outages.

Recurring Appropriation Grants—FY10

County	Awardee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Burke	Town of Valdese	Water & Sewer Rate Study, Development of Leak Detection/Repair Program & Reclaimed Water Evaluation	\$37,037	\$12,963
Granville	City of Oxford	Linden Avenue to Hancock Street Outfall Rehabilitation	\$450,000	\$225,000
Hertford	Town of Harrellsville	Harrellsville Water System Generator	\$21,648	\$10,000
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Water Relocation Due to US 221 Widening	\$98,601	\$49,300
Total FY10 Appropriation Grants			\$607,286	\$297,263

On June 9, 2010, the Rural Center accepted 67 planning grant applications, requesting over \$2 million in appropriations funds. Recommendations to the Rural Center board will be made in August 2010.

Clean Water Bonds

Of the \$800 million that the Clean Water Bond Act of 1998 earmarked for water and sewer infrastructure, the Rural Center received \$240 million to administer. Three programs were capitalized with these funds: capacity building grants, for planning activities associated with water and sewer construction; supplemental grants, to supplement other local, state and federal funds for construction; and the unsewered communities grants, to assist in the installation of sewer collection and treatment systems in communities where no central wastewater systems existed. The funds were granted on a competitive basis from 1999 to 2005. Grants awarded through this fund since 2005 have resulted from money deobligated from previously funded projects.

FY10 Summary. In FY10 seven awards totaling \$1.3 million were made from Clean Water Bond funds. Two water and sewer districts with previous unsewered communities grants, both in Tyrrell County, received additional awards to help complete revenues needed to begin construction of wastewater treatment and collection systems. These projects will mitigate failing septic systems in each district, serve a medical center and the 4-H center, and allow 284 homes to have public wastewater treatment and collection for the first time. Lee County received \$128,160 in supplemental funds to assist with extending a water line to an area with low-yielding wells. The City of Eden received \$291,352 to rehabilitate a pump station. The pump station serves a manufacturing facility that employs 13 people and produces an ingredient used in another local manufacturing facility, which employs several hundred. Finally, the Town of Sparta was assisted with the placement of a water booster pump serving an industrial area. The project will preserve 263 jobs at five companies.

Clean Water Bond Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Alleghany	Town of Sparta	Route 21 Water Pump Station Project	\$190,000	\$66,500
Lee	Lee County	North Plank Rd. Crisis Need Water Petition Project	\$128,160	\$32,040
Rockingham	City of Eden	Cargill/Dry Creek Pump Station	\$291,353	\$86,685
Tyrrell	Tyrrell County*	Tyrrell County & Creswell Wastewater Regionalization Project	\$250,000	\$11,095,236
Tyrrell	Tyrrell County Water and Sewer District No. 1*	Tyrrell County Water & Sewer District No. 1 Unsewered Communities Application	\$200,000	**
Tyrrell	Tyrrell County Water and Sewer District No. 2*	Tyrrell County Water & Sewer District No. 2 Unsewered Communities Grant Application	\$195,206	**
Vance	Vance County	Kittrell Sewer Project	\$40,000	\$4,400
Total FY10 Clean Water Bond Grants			\$1,294,718	\$11,235,981

* Additional award to previously funded projects. These three projects are components of a much larger regional project.

** The leveraged amounts for these awards is contained in the \$11,095,236 listed for the Tyrrell County project.

Please refer to Appendix F for project descriptions.

JOB CREATING GRANTS PROGRAM

Economic Infrastructure Grants

The Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program will fund a project up to \$10,000 per job created, for a maximum of \$1 million or one-half of the total infrastructure project cost, whichever is less. Positions created must be full-time jobs, paying at least minimum wage and conveying all benefits due other employees in the same classification. A performance agreement promising to create a specific number of jobs must be executed between the business creating the jobs and the local government applying for the grant. This contract contains a “claw-back” provision allowing the Rural Center to recapture any funds expended without correlating job creation. Currently, grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, providing that projects meet minimum criteria and go through a three-step process involving a preapplication, a preapplication conference and submission of a full application with an executed performance agreement.

FY10 Activity. Thirty-seven grants totaling \$12.2 million were awarded in FY10. With additional water and sewer infrastructure, a high-end furniture manufacturing plant in Randolph County will create 10 jobs. A poultry producer will be creating 65 jobs in Lenoir County. Alexander County will benefit from an expansion of a plant that produces stretch film used for palletizing products for shipment, creating 15 jobs. Three of the grants increased awards made to existing projects. Altogether, the \$12.2 million in grants will allow 37 businesses to open or expand and create 1,459 jobs. The grants leveraged nearly \$17.4 million in other public and private investments.

Because of difficulties in loan markets, the Rural Center anticipates an increase in demand for additional funds for previously funded projects. Overall, however, a reduction in total demand for these funds is likely until the recession eases and companies again look to expand or relocate.

The Rural Center board voted in June 2010 to reduce matching requirements for water and sewer grants awarded in the Economic Infrastructure Program to assist local governments with job-creating projects. The temporary rule, in effect through December 31, 2010, reduces the local match that governments must provide from 5 percent of the total project cost to 5 percent of the Rural Center grant award. The change is in response to the ongoing recession and resulting budgetary constraints for local governments.

Economic Infrastructure Program—Supplemental Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Alexander	Alexander County	Paragon Films Water Project	\$150,000	\$157,500	1	15
Anson	Anson County*	Anson County Hornwood Sewer Project	\$223,167	\$30,000		30
Bladen	Bladen County	'Black Swan' - Torrefied Wood Pellet Production Facility	\$650,000	\$657,500	1	65
Carteret	Town of Morehead City	Wildwood Road Project	\$40,000	\$200,000	1	4

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Chowan	Town of Edenton	Wendy's Economic Development Project	\$25,000	\$26,250	1	30
Chowan	Town of Edenton	Walgreen's Sewer Line Extension	\$23,500	\$23,500	1	30
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Spectrum Mills Water Line	\$105,000	\$105,000	1	62
Cleveland	Town of Polkville	Sewer Extension to serve Woods Diner and Corner Boutique	\$33,935	\$33,935	2	4
Columbus	Town of Tabor City	Water System Improvements - Atlantic Corporation	\$30,000	\$30,000	1	4
Duplin	Duplin County	Duplin County Pipeline Project	\$880,000	\$880,000	1	88
Edgecombe	Town of Tarboro	Sara Lee Generator Project	\$450,000	\$697,500	1	45
Franklin	Town of Bunn	Veterinary Hospital 8' Water Line Extension	\$20,000	\$20,000	1	2
Gates	Gates County	Gates County Family Fun Center Sewer Improvements	\$345,000	\$345,000	1	35
Halifax	Halifax County	Halifax County Sewer Line Upgrade Project	\$814,530	\$972,011	1	82
Harnett	Town of Lillington	First Choice Community Health Center Water, Sewer and Road Improvements	\$249,850	\$249,850	1	25
Haywood	Maggie Valley Sanitary District	Maggie Valley Health Care Center	\$53,411	\$53,411	1	55
Henderson	Town of Mills River	Jeffress Road Sanitary Sewer Project	\$301,000	\$301,000	1	33
Hoke	Hoke County	Sanitary Sewer Improvements - Pennsylvania Transformer Technology, Inc.	\$250,000	\$312,500	1	25
Johnston	Johnston County	Meadow NC I-40/NC 96 Sewer Extension	\$160,000	\$230,000	2	16
Johnston	Johnston County	Johnston County US 70 East Clayton Industrial Area Water Transmission Main	\$1,000,000	\$1,155,835	1	100
Johnston	Town of Clayton*	Building Blocks Child Care Water, Sewer & Road Improvements	\$152,692	\$152,692	1	12
Johnston	Town of Clayton	North East foods East Clayton Industrial Area Elevated Water Tank	\$700,000	\$2,215,000	1	70
Johnston	Town of Four Oaks	Four Oaks Business Park - Distribution Center Site Infrastructure Extensions	\$737,958	\$787,950	1	74
Jones	Jones County	Pollocksville Coastal Beverage Water System Improvements	\$110,000	\$263,850	1	11
Jones	Jones County	Pollocksville Industrial Park Water & Sewer Sanitary Sewer Improvements	\$380,000	\$727,300	1	38
Lenoir	City of Kinston	Spirit Aero Systems, Inc.	\$98,429	\$98,428		10
Lenoir	City of Kinston	Sanderson Farms Water & Sewer	\$560,888	\$560,887	1	65

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Lenoir	Lenoir County	Sanderson Farms Natural Gas Pipe Line	\$1,000,000	\$2,400,000	1	100
Lincoln	Lincoln County	HYDAC Technology Corporation	\$580,000	\$966,810	1	58
Moore	Moore County	Manning & Company, LLC - Water System Improvements	\$150,000	\$159,625	1	15
Onslow	Town of Swansboro	Swansboro Hampton Inn & Suites	\$120,000	\$139,220	1	12
Pender	Town of Surf City	Surf City Fun Center	\$107,724	\$107,725	2	53
Randolph	City of Trinity	Trinity Furniture Sewer Project	\$100,000	\$570,000	1	10
Robeson	Robeson County	Mountaire Farms Expansion Project	\$510,000	\$853,500	1	51
Rockingham	Town of Stoneville	W&S Improvements - SANS Technical Fibers, LLC	\$250,000	\$387,500	1	25
Sampson	City of Clinton*	Sanitary Sewer Improvements - Dollar Branch and Lucky Interceptor	\$300,000			30
Wilkes	Town of Wilkesboro	Tyson Foods Water and Sewer Improvements	\$508,589	\$508,589	1	75
Total FY10 Economic Infrastructure / Supplemental Grants			\$12,170,673	\$17,379,868	37	1,459

* Additional funds for previously awarded projects creating additional jobs.

Please refer to Appendix G for project descriptions.

STATEWIDE WATER/SEWER DATABASE

In 2004, the Rural Center collaborated with AMEC Earth and Environmental Inc. to develop water and sewer infrastructure maps and infrastructure condition assessments and to estimate the state's available water resources as part of the Water 2030 Initiative. Infrastructure mapping and condition assessment were completed in 2005, and the data were used to make a case for the \$100 million Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program in 2007. The General Assembly has made a recurring appropriation to the center for maintaining and upgrading the water database.

FY10 Summary. The lack of useful agricultural water-use data for North Carolina has slowed completion of the water resources database. Previous water-use estimates in the agricultural sector came from the state of Texas. Texas agriculture, however, is quite different from North Carolina agriculture. The state of Georgia also has posted agricultural water-use data online. While Georgia's agriculture is similar to North Carolina's, that state's data do not provide the level of detail needed.

The Rural Center continues to contract with AMEC to refine the water resources research begun in the Water 2030 Initiative. Work is ongoing, and AMEC is updating the water resources database and developing the database into an interactive, Web-based resource. Ultimately, this new product will allow the public to view water resource data and to change water use assumptions to account for population or industrial growth, including agricultural water use. Rural Center staff continues to meet with AMEC personnel to refine the water database.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Program Statement: Since its creation in 1987, the Rural Center has served as North Carolina's leading organization for rural innovations. Through research and development activities, the center and its partners develop practical knowledge about the underlying economic and social conditions affecting rural communities, identify critical issues, and test promising strategies for improving the rural economy and quality of life. All of this informs the development of the center's policy recommendations and advocacy at the state and federal levels. Some successful demonstrations with statewide implications have led to the creation of permanent programs within the Rural Center; others have been adopted by other organizations or spun off into independent entities.

The center carries out its research and demonstration function in two ways.

First, it undertakes its own large-scale research and demonstration initiatives. These projects address issues of critical importance to rural North Carolina or economic development strategies that hold promise for widespread replication. Priorities stem from issues and rural needs identified through discussions with rural leaders, work in communities, and other research on emerging trends and enduring issues. The center's data collection and analysis activities also constitute an important part of the R&D effort and contribute to projects and products led by other divisions of the Rural Center.

Second, the center encourages other organizations to think creatively and test promising strategies of local or regional importance. Two grant programs have been established for this purpose.

- *Research and demonstration grants* provide resources to explore and evaluate the development of ideas and innovations that can become practical innovation projects with economic development outcomes.
- *Economic innovation grants*, originated in 2004, focus on innovative, ready-to-implement projects that support business activity and job creation.

As part of the grants process, the center has established a twice-a-year competitive cycle for economic innovation grants. It assists some applicants in refining proposals and closely monitors all project execution. The Rural Center Board of Directors makes all funding decisions. Project results are evaluated to determine a subsequent course of action, with possibilities including reports and policy recommendations.

The effectiveness and efficiency of the Research and Innovation Office are enhanced through ventures with public agencies at all levels of government and with the private sector. These partnerships result in joint planning for project initiation, financial contributions to match center resources, participation in project implementation or oversight, and assistance in developing policy responses and advocating for policy changes or modifications.

N.C. SMALL TOWNS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY PROGRAM (NC STEP)

NC STEP is designed to spur economic activity, innovation and job creation through strategic resource investments. It has three primary goals: (1) to support economic recovery and revitalization in small towns; (2) to implement a comprehensive model of capacity building, technical assistance and grantmaking to aid in revitalization efforts; and (3) to provide information vital to the development of public policies that support long-term investment in the economic vitality of North Carolina's small towns.

STEP began as a three-year demonstration in 2006 targeting 33 economically distressed small towns. These phase I towns have continued to implement project plans. In June 2008, 12 additional sites were selected to be a part of a phase II demonstration. In June 2010, 11 more towns were added as phase III sites.

FY10 Summary:

Training scholarships. Two STEP sites received scholarships to the 2010 Rural Economic Development Institute, a leadership development program of the Rural Center. There were six representatives from NC STEP communities in attendance.

Coaching assistance. STEP sites received coaching and technical assistance from assigned community development coaches, who worked with leadership teams within the communities to identify critical needs and community assets, design potential economic development initiatives, prioritize projects and seek out financial resources. The phase I sites received follow-up staff assistance through FY10. Five of those towns will receive an additional two years of assistance on economic development projects through a cooperative arrangement with three UNC institutions. Phase II demonstration sites completed the planning process and are moving into project implementation. Their coaching assistance continued through June 2010, when they began project implementation. Coaching begins in FY11 for phase III towns.

Planning grants. Each phase II site received a \$30,000 grant to use in the planning phase of its project. Sites may use funds for assessments, feasibility studies, coordination and other activities. The sites were involved in the planning phase through June 2010. Planning grants for phase III towns were \$25,000.

Project implementation grants. Phase I sites were eligible to receive up to \$200,000 while Phase II sites are eligible to receive up to \$100,000 in grants to implement priority economic development projects developed by their strategic planning processes. The original sites are in various stages of project implementation, which we project to be completed by December 2010. The phase II sites have all concluded their strategic planning work and are starting project implementation. Phase III towns will be eligible for up to \$100,000 in implementation grants.

Priority consideration in other Rural Center grants programs. STEP towns receive priority consideration for other grants programs within the Rural Center during their formal participation

in the program. During FY10, STEP communities received 70 Rural Center grants, totaling more than \$13 million, over and above STEP funding.

Strengthening capacity and peer learning. STEP leadership team members attend two workshops each year to share progress and receive additional information on strategies and tools. The center sponsored two regional sessions of a grant-writing workshop for STEP towns in October and December 2009. There were 25 attendees at the western regional training and 48 at the eastern regional training. In June 2010, NC STEP held an orientation and announcement ceremony for the 11 towns joining the program. Sixty representatives of the towns attended.

All phase I STEP sites have entered the implementation phase. As implementation can be long-term, success and ultimate outcomes cannot be fully assessed, although projects contain projections for job and business creation and revenue generation for the town.

Program sites submit monthly or quarterly progress reports and financial reporting forms and materials. Rural Center staff members conduct periodic site visits.

Demonstration sites

Phase I towns (2006)

Each site in the original demonstration received a \$20,000 planning grant and was eligible for up to \$200,000 in implementation grants. All have moved into the implementation phase. A summary of those plans may be found in Appendix H.

Individual sites:

Candor, Montgomery County
Columbia, Tyrrell County
Grifton, Pitt and Lenoir counties
Marion, McDowell County
Marshall, Madison County
Maxton, Robeson County
Mount Gilead, Montgomery County
Pinetops, Edgecombe County
Plymouth, Washington County
Robbins, Moore County
Scotland Neck, Halifax County
Sparta, Alleghany County
Swan Quarter, Hyde County
Valdese, Burke County
Yanceyville, Caswell County

Cluster sites (These towns participate as part of a cluster of communities under the direction of a lead organization, county or town.):

Bladen County Cluster: Bladenboro, Clarkton, Elizabethtown, White Lake in Bladen County.

Lead: Bladen's Bloomin' Inc.

East Columbus Cluster: Bolton and Sandyfield, Columbus County; East Arcadia, Bladen County.

Lead: Town of Bolton.

High Country Small Towns Cluster: Bakersville, Mitchell County; Crossnore, Avery County;

Todd and West Jefferson, Ashe County; Old Fort, McDowell County. Lead: HandMade in America.

Surry Cluster: Elkin, Dobson, Pilot Mountain in Surry County. Lead: Surry County Economic Development Partnership.

Western Small Towns Cluster: Bryson City, Swain County; Village of Chimney Rock, Rutherford County; Hayesville, Clay County; Mars Hill, Madison County; Andrews, Cherokee County.

Lead: HandMade in America.

Phase II towns (2008)

Towns in the phase II group received planning grants of \$30,000 and will be eligible for up to \$100,000 in implementation grants. All are beginning the implementation phase.

Bayboro, Pamlico County

Boonville, Yadkin County

Erwin, Harnett County

Forest City, Rutherford County

Franklin, Macon County

Lansing, Ashe County

Rowland, Robeson County

Tabor City, Columbus County

Weldon, Halifax County

Whitakers, Nash and Edgecombe counties

Old Fort (joining HandMade in America's High Country Cluster), McDowell County

Andrews (joining HandMade in America's Western Cluster), Cherokee County

Phase III towns (2010)

Towns in this phase receive planning grants of \$25,000 and will be eligible for up to \$100,000 in implementation grants. These towns were inducted in June 2010. During the next two months, they will host a community kickoff event to publicize the NC STEP program to the community, recruit participants for the community leadership team and solicit input from community members on what they envision for the community. The leadership team will work with the community coach in an economic development planning process. The planning process will last approximately one year to 15 months.

Burnsville, Yancey County
Canton, Haywood County
Hertford, Perquimans County
Maysville, Jones County
Ramseur, Randolph County
Red Springs, Robeson County
Robbinsville, Graham County
Siler City, Chatham County
Star, Montgomery County
Warsaw, Duplin County
Windsor, Bertie County

RURAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE

Poverty, low educational achievement and other persistent social challenges generally defy improvement through traditional economic development strategies. The Rural Economic Opportunity Initiative is a multifaceted approach to addressing barriers to economic opportunities for those who live in poverty or teeter on the edge. The goals of the initiative are to (1) profile economic distress in rural North Carolina; (2) identify and document barriers to economic opportunities in rural North Carolina; (3) identify and document successful wealth- and asset-building strategies that have moved individuals and communities toward economic security and stability; (4) develop and test a model of community wealth building that benefits community members often left out of traditional economic development activity; (5) develop leadership training to focus attention on strategies for wealth building and poverty reduction; and (6) advocate for policies that promote equity in rural economic development.

FY10 Summary: Research begun in FY09 culminated with drafts of two reports. Under contract, the Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis (CERPA) at Appalachian State University produced qualitative and quantitative data that describe rural and urban residents living on the economic margins in the state and define the barriers that interfere with economic well-being. In addition, the researchers identified and wrote descriptions of successful strategies and best practices both nationally and within North Carolina to help leaders and small communities decrease poverty rates and improve economic conditions. A report on the 25 best practices will come from this work.

The Rural Economic Opportunity Initiative staff advises to a Rural Center-funded demonstration project through which the poverty reduction program called Circles™ Campaign is being implemented in Anson, Yadkin and Wilkes counties. In addition, initiative staff works with six NC STEP communities to ensure that their economic development planning processes and strategies open opportunities for low-income individuals and neighborhoods.

DATA AND INFORMATION

The Rural Center regularly updates and refines its rural information base, which assists North Carolina leaders, rural citizens and the Rural Center in making sound decisions for effective policy and practices. One of the most widely used products is the Web-based Rural Data Bank. The Data Bank now has more than 200 data categories for all counties and many regions. It also includes individual county profiles and substantive analyses of key rural issues, such as employment and education. The Data Bank is located at <http://www.ncruralcenter.org/databank/index.html>.

RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION GRANTS

Research and demonstration grants support the development of research and/or policy initiatives in workforce development, business development, physical infrastructure and civic/social infrastructure. Special emphasis is given to (1) projects that lead directly to job or business creation, (2) projects that can be easily replicated in other rural communities and (3) projects that target low- and moderate-income citizens. Grant awards vary in size based upon the scope of the project and the amount of funding available.

FY10 Summary: During FY10, Rural Center staff administered 19 active research and demonstration grants, including four (totaling \$145,700) awarded in FY10. Also in FY10, a previous grant recipient was awarded an additional \$10,000 to complete an expanded scope of work. The overall project portfolio contained grants involving studies or activities in areas such as environmental education, workforce training and development, small town community and economic development, downtown revitalization, wealth- and asset-building strategies, and regional economic planning.

An example of work funded through the Research and Development Grants Program is the development of a user-friendly online system that provides small towns with a tool to manage town finances and benchmark performance against other municipalities. The information presented in this system includes key financial data for each municipality, such as fund balance, enterprise fund health, rate structures, balance sheets and the status of any capital improvement plan. With such a tool, small town officials can easily track their financial data over time and benchmark that data against that of other small town governments. The snapshot is accessible over the Internet and presents information in an easy-to-use format. Increased access to this data will enable small town leaders to make more efficient and informed decisions regarding town finances. Training on how to use this tool will be available as part of the UNC School of Government's classes for newly elected officials and will be used by the Rural Center to support its work with rural communities.

Research and Demonstration Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged
Durham	Corporation for Enterprise Development	Adapting a 'Work-Ready' Certification Process for North Carolina	\$30,000	
Other	RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship	Youth Engagement - Rural Youth Survey	\$78,000	
Wake	Department of State Treasurer	Local Government Financial Indicators Dashboard	\$17,700	\$70,000
Wake	Office of the Governor, Scientific Advisory Panel on Offshore Energy	Scientific Advisory Panel on Offshore Energy - Panel to Explore Possible Renewable Energy Sources in NC	\$20,000	
Watauga	Appalachian State University	Rural Economic Opportunity: Barriers, Resources and Best Practices for the North Carolina Rural Economic	\$10,000	
Total FY10 Research and Demonstration Grants			\$155,700	\$70,000

Please see Appendix I for project descriptions.

ECONOMIC INNOVATION GRANTS

Economic innovation grants are designed to spur business activity, job creation and public/private investment in North Carolina's rural communities. Projects must show that private sector jobs will be created and/or business activity increased within 24 months of the grant award. During FY10, grants were awarded in four priority funding areas: rural manufacturing innovation; growth of the green economy; community-based economic innovation; and pathways out of poverty.

Within the four priority funding areas, two types of grants are made through this program.

- "Seed grants" support new, creative practices and strategies that are being tested in communities for the first time. They are smaller-scale efforts to test a concept or practice. Seed grants have a maximum award amount of \$75,000. Applicants for seed grants must show at least a 10 percent match for the requested grant in additional public and private investments.
- "Scale grants" support larger-scale projects that use innovative solutions proven in one place, rural or urban, and take them to scale across rural North Carolina in ways that bring widespread impact. Scale grants have a maximum award amount of \$400,000. Applicants for scale grants must show at least a 20 percent match for the requested grant in additional public and private investments.

Eligible recipients are units of local government, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions located within North Carolina's 85 rural counties or within the most economically distressed counties (Tier 1) as designated by the N.C. Department of Commerce. Statewide and regional organizations and agencies serving such regions and communities also are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants may vary depending on the particular program.

FY10 Summary: During FY10, Rural Center staff continued to manage all aspects of reporting, payment and evaluation of results for 67 active grants issued from prior appropriations. Quarterly progress reports

were solicited and financial requests reviewed and processed accordingly. Technical assistance continued to be provided to these grantees.

One round of economic innovation grant funding was available in FY10. A revised set of program guidelines, application procedures and priority funding areas was released in November 2009. Letters of intent were solicited throughout the final months of 2009 and were due December 31, 2009. Following receipt and review of 152 letters of intent to apply to the program, the Rural Center invited 45 projects to submit full proposals by February 16, 2010. Applications were reviewed by an internal team, and projects receiving funding were recommended to and approved by the board. In April, 23 projects received a total of \$3 million in funding. One additional project that had been in development was awarded funding in November 2009 prior to the announcement of the new funding cycle. These 24 projects are expected to create 1,874 jobs and 92 businesses in rural North Carolina. Included are projects that will work with displaced textiles workers to build entrepreneurial businesses and a comprehensive initiative to maintain the vibrancy and competitiveness of traditional coastal economies.

An example of a project funded through the Economic Innovation Grants Program is the Economy, Energy, and Environment (E3) Project being implemented by the Industrial Extension Service. This project will maximize energy efficiency and waste reduction in a pilot project with Burke and Cleveland County manufacturers. E3 is designed to coordinate federal, state and corporate technical assistance resources to help communities work with their manufacturing base to adapt and thrive in a new business era focused on sustainability. E3 project outcomes include introducing innovative approaches in environmental and efficiency practices, enhancing profits and strengthening the vitality of the community through job retention and growth. All E3 company projects will focus on achieving the following goals: increase energy efficiency and sustainability; provide valuable technical training, assessments and support; improve profitability; enable growth; and create and retain manufacturing jobs. The targeted counties have a strong manufacturing legacy and high unemployment rates. The project is expected to result in 50 jobs created and 150 or more jobs retained in rural and highly distressed counties.

Economic Innovation Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Alamance	Friends of W. Kerr Scott Lake	Regional Environmental Education Center Project	\$7,000	\$103,600		
Buncombe	Land-of-Sky Regional Council	Building the Clean Energy Economy in Western North Carolina	\$220,000	\$380,000	5	20
Camden	Camden County	Camden Gateway Eco-Business Complex	\$160,000	\$40,000		260
Carteret	Core Sound Waterfowl Museum	Sustaining Communities and Natural Economies in Coastal North Carolina	\$350,000	\$303,868	5	5
Chowan	North Carolina's Northeast Economic Development Foundation, Inc.	Construction of New Pilot Extraction Facility	\$400,000	\$3,340,566		600
Durham	NC Real Enterprises, Inc.	Rural Home Healthcare Self Employment Project	\$66,000	\$11,000	20	20

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Edgecombe	ConnectInc.	The Benefit Bank of North Carolina	\$200,000	\$11,177,212		257
Graham	Stecoah Valley Arts, Crafts & Educational Center, Inc.	Stecoah Textiles Project	\$50,000	\$10,000	10	16
Halifax	The North Carolina Zoological Society, Inc.	Youth Conservation Training Program	\$10,000	\$15,710		3
Johnston	Eastern Area Rehabilitation Network, Inc.	Eastern Area Rehabilitation Network (EARN) Business Development Initiative	\$119,924	\$35,090		40
Lenoir	North Carolina Aerospace Alliance, Inc.	Strengthening Aerospace Industry Opportunities in Rural N.C.	\$215,000			167
Pasquotank	Arts Of The Albemarle	Arts of the Albemarle: Creating a Community-based Creative Economy	\$100,000	\$914,690	3	20
Pitt	Mid-East Resource Conservation And Development Council	Innovative Approaches to Sustainable Tourism in North Carolina's Roanoke River	\$73,500	\$76,868	5	10
Rutherford	Foothills Connect Business & Technology Center	Gas to Green	\$300,000	\$881,000	20	25
Rutherford	Isothermal Planning and Development Commission	STEM Weatherization Program (Supplemental Training, Equipment and Marketing)	\$75,000	\$185,000	5	10
Surry	Surry County	Pilot Mountain Pride: A Local Food Movement	\$75,000	\$88,500		20
Tyrrell	Pocosin Arts, Inc.	Craft Metals Business Incubator	\$75,000	\$33,930	2	12
Wake	N.C. Community Development Initiative	Building Non Profit Partnerships to Use ARRA to Benefit Rural Communities	\$75,000	\$7,500		20
Wake	NC State University	Creativity Inc, Rural Sustainability Through Innovation	\$150,000	\$322,257		25
Wake	NC State University	E3: Economy, Energy and the Environment	\$73,000	\$7,300		50
Wake	North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc.	Farmhand Foods: An Innovative Enterprise to Help Build NC's Sustainable, Local Food Economy	\$75,000	\$298,000	1	15
Wake	North Carolina Indian Economic Development Initiative	Native Pathways Collaboratives in Economic Development	\$200,000	\$280,000	12	200
Wake	Small Business and Technology Development Center	SBTDC Rural Green Technology Devpt & Commercialization Assistance Project	\$75,000	\$180,797	4	4
Wilkes	Wilkes County	Yadkin River Heritage Corridor Phase One	\$125,000	\$175,000		75
Total FY10 Economic Innovation Grants			\$3,269,424	\$18,867,888	92	1,874

Please see Appendix J for project descriptions.

BUILDING REUSE AND RESTORATION GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Statement: The Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program is designed to spur economic activity and job creation by assisting in the reuse and restoration of vacant buildings in small towns, with a priority toward those with populations of fewer than 5,000. Funds are targeted for communities severely affected by the loss of businesses and jobs caused by major economic transitions.

The program originated in 2004 when the General Assembly created the Economic Infrastructure Fund. Two categories of grants are awarded: (1) pre-development grants for activities needed to solidify firm commitments from private businesses, investors and lenders, such as feasibility assessments, brownfield assessments and architectural/engineering analyses and (2) development grants for detailed projects ready to begin renovation with a commitment from a business in hand. Development grants must result in net job creation in the private sector. Pre-development grants are capped at \$25,000; most development projects are eligible for \$12,000 per job being created, up to a maximum of \$480,000.

Two other Rural Center projects are administered under the building reuse program: the Rural Health Care Initiative and a brownfields demonstration.

Since 2004, the Building Reuse Program, Rural Health Care Initiative and brownfields demonstration have funded 233 projects totaling \$30 million. The projects will assist 292 businesses, create 4,763 jobs and leverage \$290 million in other investments.

FY10 Summary: During five funding cycles starting in August 2009 and ending June 2010, the Building Reuse Program awarded 70 grants totaling \$9 million. They included the renovation and upfit of vacant industrial buildings for use by a plastics manufacturer in Raeford, a tire manufacturer in Norwood and an information technology service company in Lenoir. All together, the grants leveraged \$40 million in other investments, assisted 78 businesses and created 735 full-time jobs. Forty-three of the funded projects are located in Tier 1 counties.

Throughout FY10, Rural Center staff conducted outreach through approximately five training sessions and workshops targeting rural chambers of commerce, economic development commissions, local governments, nonprofit entities and other potential partners in building reuse projects. In response to the current recession, the center's board extended temporary program modifications that increased maximum grant amounts available and decreased local matching requirements. On an ongoing basis, center staff provides grant review and selection, contract development, site visits and technical assistance to prospective applicants and grantees.

The Rural Health Care Initiative, launched in March 2009, was developed to help local governments capitalize on potential new jobs in the health care industry. The program, modeled after the Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program, provides up to \$12,000 per job created in a new or renovated health care facility. Throughout FY10, the Rural Center has funded 22 grants that total \$4.5 million. The projects will create 385 jobs and leverage \$47 million. The funded projects include assistance to providers of primary care, psychiatric and mental health, services for the aging, urgent care, dental care, and hospital care. Fourteen of the funded projects are located in Tier 1 counties. The Rural Center also partnered with the Golden LEAF

Foundation and the Health and Wellness Trust Fund to increase available grant funding for health care facilities under the umbrella of Rural Hope. Those two agencies funded an additional 11 projects.

The brownfields demonstration project, also launched in FY09, was developed to support regional efforts to create multi-jurisdictional coalitions to study local brownfield properties. Three coalition grantees investigated the environmental conditions and redevelopment potential of 15 brownfield sites. All three coalitions applied for but did not receive federal Environmental Protection Agency funds. Funds originally reserved to match those federal dollars have been deobligated.

Building Reuse and Restoration Grants –FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Alexander	Alexander County	Piedmont Wood Products	Dev.	\$37,847	\$38,983	1	4
Alexander	Alexander County	Composite Fabrics of America	Dev.	\$19,000	\$19,570	1	2
Alleghany	Alleghany County	Village Park Bowling Center & Tavern	Dev.	\$72,000	\$76,673	1	6
Anson	Anson County	Wallace & Wallace Properties, LLC Project (Chic Hosiery)	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Anson	Town of Morven	Lemeul CTC Building Pre-Development Project	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Ashe	Ashe County	Blevins Building Supply	Dev.	\$168,000	\$1,482,000	1	14
Avery	Avery County Economic Development Commission	Cocoon Creations, LLC / Pro-Tek Covers	Dev.	\$155,000	\$165,000	1	13
Beaufort	Beaufort County	Pamlico Street Project	Dev.	\$24,000	\$24,000	1	2
Bertie	Town of Windsor	A2A Living Oil Building Renovation	Dev.	\$36,000			3
Bladen	Town of Elizabethtown	Coffee Shop	Pre-Dev,	\$20,000	\$5,000	1	
Bladen	Town of Elizabethtown	Elizabethtown Farmer's Market	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$13,000	1	
Burke	Burke County	Marves Industries Economic Development	Dev.	\$222,000	\$722,000	1	12
Burke	Town of Long View	Maple Springs Laundry Building Reuse	Dev.	\$480,000	\$3,008,614	1	40
Burke	Burke County	VSA, LLC	Dev.	\$480,000	\$2,099,400	1	40
Burke	City of Morganton	Fair Value - Morganton	Dev.	\$336,000	\$606,080	1	28
Caldwell	Caldwell County	Global Shippers Association	Dev.	\$16,000	\$16,000	1	2

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Caldwell	City of Lenoir	Dacentec, Inc.	Dev.	\$60,000	\$195,015	1	5
Caldwell	City of Lenoir	Demco Group, Inc.	Dev.	\$109,876	\$109,876	1	10
Caldwell	Town of Sawmills	Automated Solutions Economic	Dev.	\$312,500	\$752,500	1	25
Caldwell	Town of Granite Falls	Granite Falls - MSR Building Reuse Project	Dev.	\$60,000	\$61,800	1	5
Cleveland	City of Kings Mountain	Body Junction/Shapes by Jodi	Dev.	\$12,000	\$267,250	1	1
Cleveland	City of Kings Mountain	QualTech Industries	Dev.	\$82,678	\$82,678	1	5
Cleveland	City of Kings Mountain	Old Stone Steakhouse & Battleground Bar	Dev.	\$96,000	\$768,000	1	8
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Parker Farm Services Building	Dev.	\$240,000	\$388,370	1	20
Columbus	Columbus County	Project Dawn East (Discovery Textiles)	Dev.	\$42,210	\$42,210	1	3
Columbus	Town of Lake Waccamaw	Lake Waccamaw Marina, Restaurant & Convenience Store	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Davie	Davie County	A TEC LLC	Dev.	\$220,000	\$1,768,400	1	11
Franklin	Town of Louisburg	Clifton Building Restoration	Dev.	\$18,000	\$18,000	1	2
Franklin	Town of Franklinton	Franklin County Volunteers in Medicine Project	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Gaston	City of Cherryville	Farris Fabrication and Machine Company Project	Dev.	\$400,000	\$2,071,111	1	20
Graham	Graham County	Stecoah Valley Center Gymnasium	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$17,000	1	
Halifax	Town of Scotland Neck	Abram's BBQ and Seafood Kitchen Renovations	Dev.	\$198,250	\$354,250	1	17
Hertford	Hertford County	LaFayette's Tavern	Dev.	\$48,000	\$138,800	1	4
Hoke	City of Raeford	Raeford/Alpha, Inc. Building Reuse	Dev.	\$480,000	\$6,195,018	1	40
Iredell	Iredell County	Longitude 80 Building Renovation	Dev.	\$240,000	\$6,760,000	1	24
Iredell	Iredell County	Talon Systems Building Renovation Project	Dev.	\$240,000	\$467,975	1	24
Johnston	Town of Smithfield	Gabriel Johnston Hotel	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Madison	Town of Marshall	Capitola Mill Redevelopment	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Martin	Town of Williamston	Domino's	Dev.	\$37,900	\$212,805	1	4
Mitchell	Town of Spruce Pine	Reuse and Renovation of CITGO Service	Dev.	\$199,124	\$239,124	1	10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Montgomery	Town of Candor	Carolina Growler Project	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Moore	Town of Southern Pines	MoldStoppers	Dev.	\$100,000	\$123,627	10	10
Moore	Town of Carthage	Connectinc Project	Dev.	\$240,000	\$568,479	1	24
Moore	Moore County	K2 Project	Dev.	\$240,000	\$654,805	1	24
Nash	City of Rocky Mount	Four Seasons Restaurant & Conference Center	Dev.	\$250,000	\$899,488	1	21
Nash	City of Rocky Mount	J&J Bookstore	Dev.	\$24,000	\$34,720	1	2
Northampton	Town of Gaston	The Gaston Center for Business at Gaston School	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$149,200	1	
Onslow	City of Jacksonville	Onslow County Child Development	Dev.	\$7,808			1
Pasquotank	City of Elizabeth City	Project Millwright	Dev.	\$144,031	\$592,673	1	20
Pitt	Pitt County	Project Mustang	Dev.	\$480,000	\$480,000	1	40
Pitt	City of Greenville	State Theatre Restoration Study	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$69,850	1	
Polk	Town of Tryon	Marilyn's Melrose Inn - Artist Retreat Center	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$11,000	1	
Randolph	Town of Franklinville	Predevelopment Study of Franklinville Mfg. Co.	Pre-Dev,	\$20,000	\$10,000	1	
Randolph	City of Asheboro	Premiere Fibers	Dev.	\$40,000	\$114,000	1	2
Robeson	Town of Red Springs	Red Springs Business Center	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Rockingham	City of Reidsville	High Real Estate Holdings, LLC.	Dev.	\$216,000	\$738,088	1	18
Rockingham	City of Eden	National Banjo Museum Feasibility Study/Market Analysis	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Project AGI - Renovate Former Hanes Brand (National Textiles) Building)	Dev.	\$150,000	\$904,258	1	8
Rutherford	Town of Forest City	Fireside Books and Gifts	Pre-Dev,	\$25,000	\$5,000	1	
Rutherford	Rutherford County	Forest City Associates Park (River Textile Services)	Dev.	\$480,000	\$3,110,250	1	40
Scotland	Town of Gibson	Project Play (Woodlawn Swingsets/TSJ Properties LLC)	Dev.	\$36,000	\$38,160	1	3
Scotland	Scotland County	Project Mac	Dev.	\$49,000	\$51,940	1	5
Stanly	Stanly County	New Finish Building Renovation Project	Dev.	\$48,345	\$52,346	1	4

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Stanly	Stanly County	Michelin Plant Expansion	Dev.	\$480,000	\$1,220,000	1	74
Tyrrell	Town of Columbia	Hollis, LLC (Reuse Sales & Showroom for Modular Homes)	Dev.	\$30,000	\$130,000	1	3
Vance	Vance County	Harriet & Henderson Mill Reuse Project Phase II	Dev.	\$75,000	\$75,000	1	4
Vance	Vance County	Harriett & Henderson Mill Reuse Project Phase III	Dev.	\$117,305	\$117,305	1	10
Wayne	Town of Fremont	Sonny's Wrecker/C & S Auto Repair	Dev.	\$45,500	\$136,370	2	4
Wilkes	Wilkes County	The Storehouse - Regional Community Cold	Dev.	\$48,000	\$586,000	1	4
Wilson	City of Wilson	Fikewood Development Project	Dev.	\$100,000	\$163,334	1	10
Total FY10 Building Reuse Grants				\$8,958,374	\$40,267,395	78	735

Please see Appendix K for project descriptions.

Rural Health Care Initiative Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Beaufort	City of Washington	A.G. Dunston Manor	Dev.	\$120,000	\$4,792,147	1	10
Bladen	Town of White Lake	White Lake Family Medicine	Dev.	\$54,362	\$222,182	1	5
Caldwell	Town of Hudson	Hudson Hospice Project	Dev.	\$240,000	\$8,767,200	1	20
Camden	Camden County	Camden Town Center Phase 1	Dev.	\$168,000	\$1,805,040	2	14
Carteret	Carteret County	Snug Harbor Special Care Unit	Dev.	\$32,500	\$150,000	1	3
Cherokee	Cherokee County	IOI Expansion Project for Job Creation	Dev.	\$480,000	\$779,248	1	40
Cleveland	Cleveland County	Regional Detoxification Center	Dev.	\$336,000	\$1,248,000	1	28
Haywood	Haywood County	The Homestead at Haywood Regional Medical Center Hospice and Palliative Care	Dev.	\$132,000	\$3,266,567	1	11
Haywood	Town of Waynesville	Haywood Vocational Opportunities Facility Renovation	Dev.	\$240,000	\$4,427,512	1	24
Henderson	Henderson County	BRCHS - New Medical Building	Dev.	\$150,000	\$4,785,308	1	15
Lenoir	Lenoir County	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	Dev.	\$480,000	\$1,750,000	1	40
Macon	Town of Franklin	Angel Physician Practice Renovation	Dev.	\$22,747	\$22,747	1	2
Martin	Town of Williamston	Medical Employment Expansion / Martin General Hospital	Dev.	\$36,000	\$100,743	1	3
McDowell	McDowell County	Family Practice Office / OB-GYN	Dev.	\$120,000	\$338,000	1	10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Program	Award	Leveraged	Businesses served	Jobs created
Pender	Pender County	Pender County Port Facility	Dev.	\$144,000	\$863,705	1	12
Person	City of Roxboro	Roxboro MedAccess Primary Care	Dev.	\$192,000	\$280,600	1	16
Robeson	City of Lumberton	Comforcare Senior Services	Dev.	\$180,000	\$207,400	1	15
Robeson	Robeson County	Caring Touch Home Health	Dev.	\$480,000	\$2,200,701	1	40
Rutherford	Town of Spindale	Project Smile	Dev.	\$156,000	\$173,935	1	13
Scotland	City of Laurinburg	SHCS Multi Renovation Project	Dev.	\$144,000	\$5,701,592	1	12
Vance	Vance County	Rural Health Group-Health Center	Dev.	\$360,000	\$1,849,620	1	30
Wayne	Wayne County	Kitty Askins Hospice Center Expansion	Dev.	\$264,000	\$3,463,748	1	22
Total FY10 Rural Health Care Grants				\$4,531,609	\$47,195,995	23	385

Please see Appendix L for project descriptions.

BUSINESS FINANCE PROGRAMS

Program Statement: A primary focus of the Business Development Office of the Rural Center is to provide financing to new and growing businesses in rural counties. These financing programs increase access to capital for women, minorities and low-wealth entrepreneurs and provide flexible capital to companies that cannot access traditional bank financing or venture capital. The programs encourage the development and expansion of viable enterprises that create wealth for families and communities as well as provide living wage job opportunities.

The center currently operates two programs, the Rural Venture Fund and the North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program. These programs and their accomplishments are described in more detail below.

RURAL VENTURE FUND

The Rural Center created the Rural Venture Fund to offer flexible financing options for qualified businesses in economically distressed rural counties of North Carolina, with an emphasis on Tier 1 counties. Investments carry the expectation of a return, but on less demanding terms and over a longer period of time than required by traditional venture capital. Investments range from \$100,000 to \$350,000 and have a five-year life. Eligible businesses must demonstrate growth potential and must show that the owner would not receive financing “but for” this fund. Through collaboration with the Small Business and Technology Development Center, several UNC business schools assist in developing data, conducting due diligence research and preparing thorough analyses for potential RVF applicant firms. This collaboration also supports the center in providing targeted, post-deal technical assistance, to help clients in the successful management of their long-term growth.

Creation of the Rural Venture Fund was announced in fall 2007. It is capitalized at \$6.8 million, with investments from the N.C. General Assembly, Golden LEAF and the Rural Center. It made its first investment in January 2008. Since inception, the fund has approved 11 investments totaling \$3.2 million in rural companies. As a result, more than 472 jobs will be created within these 11 companies in the next four years, and more than \$3.4 million was leveraged from other sources, including traditional lenders.

FY10 Summary: During FY10, the fund approved two new investments, one for \$185,000 and the other for \$105,000. The two companies, both located in Tier 1 counties, anticipate creating 26 new jobs as a result of the investments.

On June 15, the investment advisory committee discussed the final draft of the Rural Venture Fund Policy and Procedures Manual. The policy guidelines were adopted and in place by year-end to ensure a successful audit for FY10. The policies established a Rural Venture Fund internal investment committee to review investment proposals with a dollar limit of \$200,000 and term of no greater than three years.

Rural Venture Fund—FY10

County	Project Title	Award	Jobs created
Vance	Rice Wrap Manufacturing, LLC	\$105,000	18
Montgomery	Bendiner Technologies, LLC	\$185,000	8
Total FY10 Rural Venture Fund Awards		\$290,000	26

Please see Appendix M for company profiles.

NORTH CAROLINA MICROENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAM

The North Carolina Microenterprise Loan Program, launched in 1989, helps rural people become self-sufficient by supporting opportunities for self-employment and small business growth. The program provides loans up to \$25,000 in combination with business planning and technical assistance for the start-up or expansion of small businesses by individuals who have sound ideas but may not qualify for traditional bank financing.

The program serves all 85 rural counties. It has offered two lending models:

Peer Lending. The peer lending program, operated by two sites, allowed entrepreneurs to participate by self-selecting into loan groups of four to 10 people. Each group participated in an intensive six-week certification process. Once certified, the group made credit decisions for its members. All loan payments had to be current for the group to consider making additional loans. Group members also supported the growth and development of one another's businesses. *A shortage of program funding forced the discontinuation of this lending model effective June 30, 2010.*

Individual Lending. Program staff members work one-on-one with potential borrowers to prepare loan applications based on the borrower's business plan, character and the local economy. Entrepreneurs may submit loan applications directly to the Rural Center, or they may submit applications through one of 74 microenterprise intake professionals across the state. The intake professionals provide program information and small business technical assistance and close approved loans. The center continues to operate the individual lending model.

Technical assistance to entrepreneurs and prospective entrepreneurs is an important element of the program's work. In addition to one-on-one assistance for borrowers, the Rural Center conducts financial literacy workshops that target women, people of color and low-income individuals who cannot access traditional credit. The workshops cover how individuals can improve credit worthiness, with an emphasis on increasing chances for business loan approvals.

FY10 Summary: During FY10, the program made 45 loans totaling \$253,450. The average loan size was \$7,028. Of the loans made, 51 percent went to women, 44 percent to minorities and 10 percent to households with low to very low incomes. Staff also conducted 21 financial literacy workshops attended by 566 individuals.

Microenterprise Loan Program Activity by Lending Model/Site – FY10

Lending Model	Local Lending Partner	Counties Served	Activity Summary
Peer	Microenterprise Loan Partnership/Lenoir Community College/Wayne Community College	Greene, Jones, Wayne and Lenoir	10 loans totaling \$65,750 to fund businesses such as lawn care, music production, beauty salons, retail clothing/sewing
Peer	Carteret Microenterprise Loan Program	Carteret	9 loans totaling \$21,700 to fund businesses such as clothing stores, vending services, lawn care and bakery
Individual	Rural Center and 74 Microenterprise Intake Professionals affiliated with: - N.C. Institute of Minority Economic Development duplicated - Roanoke Electric Cooperative - NC REAL - Marion Downtown Business Association - Upper Coastal Plain COG - Yadkin Valley Economic Development District - 32 community development organizations* - 42 Small Business Centers**	All 85 rural counties	20 loans totaling \$156,250 to fund businesses such as trucking companies, retail stores, food stores and child care centers

* Participating community development organizations: Bayboro, Beaufort-Hyde, Columbus County, Community Empowerment Project, Countywide, East Carolina, Exceed Inc., Marion, Martin, N.C. Institute of Minority Economic Development, NC REAL, Northeastern, OIC of Wilson, Olive Hill, One Dozen Who Care Inc., Rocky Mount, Pantego Area, Pender Economic Development Alliance, Rebuilding Broken Places, River City, Roanoke Electric, Roberson, Rocky Mount/Edgecombe, Rosenwald Center for Cultural Enrichment, Sampson, Southside Alliance for Neighborhood Empowerment, Success Dynamic, Tyrrell, UHURU, Upper Coastal Plain, Warren Family Institute, Yadkin Valley Economic Development District

** Participating Small Business Centers on these community college campuses:
 Beaufort, Bladen, Blue Ridge, Brunswick, Caldwell, Carteret, Central Carolina, Cleveland, Coastal Carolina, College of the Albemarle, Craven, Edgecombe, Halifax, Haywood, Isothermal, James Sprunt, Johnston, McDowell, Martin, Mayland, Mitchell, Montgomery, Nash, Pamlico, Piedmont, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Roanoke Chowan, Rockingham, Robeson, Sandhills, Sampson, Southeastern, Southwestern, South Piedmont, Stanly, Tri-County, Vance-Granville, Western Piedmont, Wilkes and Wilson Tech.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE FUND

The Rural Center, in partnership with Golden LEAF and Self-Help, created a new small business loan program that will make up to \$27.5 million available for small businesses in North Carolina. The fund is a result of the General Assembly's appropriation of \$500,000 to the Rural Center in FY10 to "be used to support existing small businesses." Golden LEAF added \$5 million. This \$5.5 million capitalized a loan loss reserve pool (the Small Business Assistance Fund) to make more money available to businesses in a tight credit market. The loans may be used for facilities, equipment or working capital. Self-Help administers the loan fund.

FY10 Summary: The Small Business Assistance Fund was officially launched November 1, 2009. By June 30, 2010, Self-Help had closed on 47 loans backed by the state appropriation. The loans totaled \$1,417,730 and will create or retain 332 jobs in 29 counties. These numbers exclude loans related to Golden LEAF's commitment of funds. Industry representation within the portfolio includes:

agriculture/aquaculture, child care, construction trades, health care, manufacturing, retail (including a restaurant and grocery store) and services (including auto parts, auto repair and service, landscaping, and professional services such as accounting). For every \$1 invested in the loan loss reserve pool by the Rural Center, Self-Help pledges to loan \$5 to a small business. As of June 30, 2010, \$283,546 in Rural Center funds were leveraged. Self-Help is on track to fully leverage the \$500,000 by the end of the first year of fund operation.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Statement: The Rural Center has administered the Community Economic Development Grants Program since 1988. The program is designed to help new and emerging community development corporations working in low-income and minority communities build their capacity by providing grants for operations and staff support.

CDCs are community-based organizations that act as catalysts for the revitalization of their communities and local economies. In many cases, these organizations succeed where both government and the private sector have failed, by creating neighborhood partnerships to address community needs and by undertaking projects that create opportunities for home ownership, small business development and human resource improvements.

Funds administered by the Rural Center have helped CDCs spur investments from the federal government, state government, banks, foundations, corporations and other organizations. CDCs have grown from around a dozen in 1988 to as many as 80 across the state today. Although these organizations are locally based and controlled, they are a part of a national network that includes an estimated 3,000 organizations nationwide.

As part of its grant administration, the Rural Center provides technical assistance tailored to the needs of each organization. To support this work, it obtains from each grantee a work plan outlining organizational activities to be accomplished during the upcoming 12 months, along with financial reports and accounting policies. The need for technical assistance has become more acute as the CDCs have matured and taken on larger-scale projects. Another current challenge is finding financing for small business development, land acquisition, training, predevelopment and related development needs.

Reductions in state appropriations for FY10 and FY11, a result of budget shortfalls, created an especially great challenge for CDCs. Even small reductions represent a significant portion of the typical CDC annual budget. The Rural Center board, therefore, supplemented state funds with approximately \$59,000 from the center's unrestricted net assets. While center support for many of these organizations is critical to their survival, especially in the early stages of organizational development, the Rural Center stresses the need for each to develop a plan to diversify funding resources. For the Rural Center, one of the most important evaluation indicators is the grantee's ability to leverage additional resources.

FY10 Summary: The center received 33 grant applications representing \$1.7 million in requests. Twenty-three organizations were funded, with grants totaling just under \$1 million. Among applicants were 10 previously unfunded and emerging CDCs; because of limited grant funds, none was approved. Rural Center grants helped the 23 funded CDCs leverage an additional \$2 million for programs. Collectively the CDCs developed 45 housing units, prevented 587 home foreclosures, assisted 268 businesses, hosted 96 job-training workshops, created 178 jobs and served 11,200 citizens.

Community Economic Development Grants – FY10

County	Grantee	Amount requested	Amount granted
Beaufort	Southside Alliance for Neighborhood Empowerment (S.A.N.E)	\$65,000	\$45,000
Brunswick	Countywide Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$45,000
Buncombe	Eagle/Market Streets Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$48,000
Burke	Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$43,500
Cherokee	One Dozen Who Care Inc.	\$65,000	\$48,000
Columbus	Columbus County DREAM Center	\$65,000	\$48,000
Cumberland	Cumberland Regional Improvement Corp.	\$38,800	\$43,500
Forsyth	Goler-Depot Street Renaissance Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$48,000
Greene	Rosenwald Center for Cultural Enrichment	\$65,000	\$30,000
Guilford	Triad Economic Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$40,000
Hertford	Quality of Life Association (QUOLA)	\$65,000	\$50,000
Hoke	Blue Springs-Hoke County Community Development Corp.	\$50,000	\$48,000
Northampton	UHURU Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$35,000
Onslow	Northeast Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$50,000
Pamlico	Bayboro Development Center Inc.	\$66,471	\$50,000
Pasquotank, Camden, Perquimans, Gates, Currituck, Dare, Chowan	River City Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$50,000
Rutherford	Community Empowerment Project CDC	\$50,000	\$30,000
Sampson	Sampson County Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$35,000
Tyrrell, Hyde, Chowan, Washington	Tyrrell County Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$50,000
Wake, Franklin	Restoration Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$40,000
Warren	Warren Family Institute	\$65,000	\$50,000
Washington	New Life Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$40,000
Wilkes	Appalachian Housing Initiative Community Development Corp.	\$65,000	\$30,000
Total FY09 Community Economic Development Grants		\$1,440,271	\$997,000

* Ten other requests, for a total of \$259,729, were not granted.

Please refer to Appendix N for description of CDC programs.

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT CONSORTIUM

Program Statement: The Agricultural Advancement Consortium promotes the benefits of a strong farm sector and considers new ways to increase farm profitability. A key function of the consortium has been to fund projects and studies that lead to new agribusiness opportunities. It also monitors and responds to legislative, regulatory, programmatic and market changes that affect the profitability of farming. Its members include North Carolina's foremost leadership in agriculture, business and public policy.

The N.C. General Assembly established the consortium in 2000, in response to a recommendation of the Rural Prosperity Task Force. The consortium, which meets quarterly, is staffed and housed by the Rural Center.

FY10 Summary: Throughout FY10 the consortium identified opportunities and challenges facing North Carolina's agriculture industry and took steps to address these issues. Specifically:

- *Food processing opportunities.* The consortium held a meeting of major agriculture stakeholders to identify opportunities and challenges in increasing food processing facilities in North Carolina. A working group was established to meet and facilitate actions that will promote the industry as well as oversee research on food processing being conducted at North Carolina State University.
- *Family Farm Innovation Fund.* The consortium worked with the governor and General Assembly to establish the North Carolina Family Farm Innovation Fund. This fund helps farmers statewide conduct energy audits, implement energy efficiency projects and develop new markets and value-added products. It supports three state-based initiatives and increases the capacity of North Carolina farmers and businesses to take advantage of targeted federal programs.
- *Food safety.* The consortium worked with agriculture leaders and organizations statewide in addressing potential food safety issues and preparing producers for potential new regulatory requirements. Through North Carolina State University, the consortium is holding regional workshops with producers to educate and promote food safety and explain new requirements to ensure compliance.
- *Grant awards.* The consortium awards grants to eligible groups for the research and development of alternative crops, new markets, innovative production techniques and new marketing strategies to sustain or improve the profitability of farming in North Carolina. It awarded seven grants totaling \$110,759 in FY10. These have ranged from research on food processing facilities to educational workshops on food safety and reducing product contamination risks. The consortium also funded research on regulatory issues facing the state's wine industry and a program to assist farmers in becoming certified as ag-biotechnology trained producers. The consortium continues to monitor previously awarded grants.

Agricultural Advancement Consortium Grants—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Grant
Guilford	University of North Carolina Greensboro	Background Research for Multi-State Study to Compare the Regulatory Environment for Wine Industry	\$5,000
Wake	NC State University	Biotechnology Certification (B-CERT) Curriculum Development Project	\$20,000
Wake	NC State University	Copper Ionization for Inactivating Microbial Indicators and Pathogens in Irrigation/Wash Water	\$16,236
Wake	NC State University	Economic Value of Agriculture and Agribusiness Industries in North Carolina Counties	\$4,523
Wake	NC State University	Expansion of Enterprise Web Page Project	\$15,000
Wake	NC State University	Implementing Risk Management Tools in On-Farm Food Safety Programs	\$35,000
Wake	NC State University	North Carolina Food Processing Research Project	\$15,000
Total FY10 Agricultural Advancement Consortium Grants			\$110,759

Please see Appendix O for project descriptions.

INSTITUTE FOR RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Program Statement: The Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship collaborates with other organizations and with policy makers to stimulate and support the development of micro, small and medium-size enterprises in North Carolina's 85 rural counties. Its goals are to:

- ❑ Develop a culture in rural communities that views entrepreneurship as a viable option for economic opportunity
- ❑ Support overall improvement in the vitality of the small business community in rural areas
- ❑ Support self-employment as an important source of jobs and income in rural North Carolina
- ❑ Support development of entrepreneurial companies -- new and existing -- that can grow and generate jobs and wealth in rural communities

Its work has ranged from organizing a statewide alliance of business service providers to sponsoring entrepreneurship development academies for community leaders.

Since its inception in 2003, the institute has leveraged its annual operating funds with more than \$4.65 million in additional funding. This has included participation in two national demonstrations in support of rural entrepreneurship. The Kellogg-funded Rural Entrepreneurship Development System project ran from 2005 through 2008. It was designed to create a "no wrong door" approach to service delivery for rural entrepreneurs, ensuring they can readily access education and training opportunities, technical assistance, capital sources and entrepreneurial networks. A subsequent state-funded program is helping two multicounty groups create regional entrepreneurship systems. In addition, in 2008, the Rural Center and state partners won a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to become a demonstration site for Growing America through Entrepreneurship, a three-year project geared toward rural dislocated workers interested in self-employment.

RURAL EDS II DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

The state-funded Rural Entrepreneurship Development System II project supports the development of regional entrepreneurship efforts in rural North Carolina and builds on lessons learned during the earlier, three-year demonstration funded by the Kellogg Foundation. The goals are to: (1) broaden the pipeline of entrepreneurial talent of all ages; (2) create seamless systems for delivering entrepreneurship education, coaching, technical assistance, financing, networking and community support to rural entrepreneurs; and (3) create a local culture that celebrates and supports innovation and entrepreneurship. The project also is connecting entrepreneurs and communities in the regions with other Rural Center programs that support business development.

In spring 2008 the center held a statewide competitive process that resulted in the selection of two multicounty regions to participate in the Rural EDS II project. Announced in June 2008, the two regions are:

- 1) **Southeast Entrepreneurial Alliance**, covering Bladen, Columbus, Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties. The coordinator is based at UNC-Pembroke's Regional Center for Economic, Community and Professional Development.
- 2) **Northeast Entrepreneurial Team**, covering Pasquotank, Perquimans, Camden, Chowan and Gates counties. The coordinator is based at River City Community Development Corp.

FY10 Summary:

- ❑ The coordinators for the two regions participated in a variety of entrepreneurship meetings and business expos of their own initiative and with other partners, including chambers of commerce, universities, youth alliances and faith-based groups. In the southeast, key partners are the BRAC Regional Task Force and the N.C. Military Business Center. The coordinators work to weave an entrepreneurship focus into meetings and initiatives about broader economic development and education issues. In the southeast there is a collaborative relationship with American Indian organizations.
- ❑ Both coordinators are active in encouraging more entrepreneurship educational opportunities in the middle and high schools of their local systems, in part by urging teachers and community development partners to attend NC REAL training institutes.
- ❑ The southeast team supported the development of a SCORE chapter in Robeson County and a network called Robeson County Champions for Entrepreneurship. That network will be explored as a model to copy by the other rural counties in the Southeast Entrepreneurial Alliance.
- ❑ The two coordinators each fielded dozens of inquiries from aspiring entrepreneurs and invited them to local events relevant to their interests, such as green job summits or local food systems entrepreneurs groups that meet informally.
- ❑ Contractors from Good Work and Partnership for Strong Communities provided frequent consultation by phone and occasionally in person with the two coordinators.
- ❑ Each region collected information about publicly funded small business service providers that operate in its service area. This information is now captured in a database called Resource Navigator, a national tool for matching entrepreneurs by zip code to specific expertise and business services nearby. The Charlotte economic development region through Central Piedmont Community College has held the statewide license for this database since 2007 and provides technical assistance to others wanting to include their data. The Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments updated its Resource Navigator information and collected information for the northeast and southeast regions. The database can be accessed at ucpbdc.com.
- ❑ Evaluation contractors Entrenworks and the RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship conducted site visits to the northeast and southeast regions to assess progress. They had various concerns about sustainability for both projects that center staff is beginning to address through greater direct involvement in both regions, including the steps that follow.
- ❑ Center staff conducted an Energizing Entrepreneurship Express one-day training seminar in partnership with the BRAC Regional Task Force and the Southeast Entrepreneurial Alliance in March. Teams from 11 counties attended for a total of 75 individuals. A follow-up meeting was held in Bladen County in June to help the county's teams maintain momentum on their short-term plans.

- ❑ Center staff helped strengthen the connections of the Northeast Entrepreneurial Team to the industry-specific initiatives of the Northeast Commission (16 counties) and the Albemarle Commission and Workforce Development Board (10 counties). With the assistance of both regional groups, center staff scheduled an Energizing Entrepreneurship Express one-day training seminar in Windsor for Oct. 21.

OTHER INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS

Like the EDS II project, the other work of the institute involves active collaborations with other small business and economic development partners.

FY10 Summary: The Rural Center facilitates the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Alliance (formerly the Business Resource Alliance), a group of state and regional agencies that support and champion entrepreneurs. Alliance members include state and federal agencies, universities, state associations, entrepreneurial nonprofits and private capital providers. Hosts for quarterly meetings in FY10 were the N.C. Department of Commerce, the Council for Entrepreneurial Development, N.C. Central University and the N.C. Community Development Initiative.

The N.C. Entrepreneurship Summit is a creation of the alliance. The event, now held biennially, targets the champions of entrepreneurship, from policy makers to community leaders and business counselors. Center staff helped select the Southeastern North Carolina economic development region to host the 2010 summit and is assisting with planning efforts. The summit will be held in Wilmington September 19-20 (see ncentresummit.org).

The Hop on the Bus high school statewide business plan competition has involved over a thousand students from dozens of counties across the state since 2006. It is now coordinated by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction in close collaboration with NC REAL Enterprises and the N.C. Rural Center. In FY10 center staff wrote a successful grant proposal to the Citi Foundation for a project to add financial education content, reach more low-income school districts and measure impact of the Hop on the Bus competition on the students. That project will span the school year 2010-2011.

In addition, in FY10 the institute:

- ❑ Continued participation in the N.C. Department of Commerce's marketing campaign and referral system for the state's business services called Business Link NC. The effort was a natural outgrowth of the ongoing collaboration of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Alliance.
- ❑ Continued to support rural partners in developing regional service provider networks and executing high-quality community entrepreneurship expos and training workshops.
- ❑ Helped procure outside funding for innovative business development projects, including the three highlighted below.

Project GATE, or Growing America through Entrepreneurship, helps laid-off workers explore options for starting their own businesses. It provides access to free, one-on-one business counseling and scholarships

for business management and vocational training. Project GATE is part of a federally funded demonstration spanning fiscal years 2009-2011. Its statewide team includes the N.C. Department of Commerce, community colleges, JobLink Career Centers, employment security offices and NC REAL. The Rural Center manages the daily project operations and staffs a virtual site that works in tandem with eight community college-based sites to deliver services to dislocated workers interested in entrepreneurship. Workers eligible for Workforce Investment Act benefits can apply to GATE and, if admitted to the program, receive free assessment, training and coaching in starting a business to employ themselves and perhaps others. GATE is a strong demonstration in North Carolina, with more than 613 scholarships awarded in 61 counties and 69 business startups, creating 137 jobs, since the program launched to the public in April 2009. Four GATE clients have received business loans through the center's Microenterprise Loan Program.

The Rural Center won a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration to reach out to more low-income rural borrowers for the Microenterprise Loan Program. The project, Program for Investing in Micro-Entrepreneurs or PRIME, includes partnerships with several sites around the state where local small business centers and community-based organizations are working closely together. Center staff and contractor Good Work conduct small-group technical assistance sessions on the basics of creating a viable micro business with the low-income clients the site partners convene.

With a grant from the Citi Foundation, the center also is exploring ways to exploit microenterprise opportunities in the green economy. The project includes guidance in starting up green businesses and in adopting green practices in existing small businesses, a new green microenterprise loan and an opportunity for businesses to become certified under a program called GreenPlus that is expanding in North Carolina and elsewhere.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Program Statement: The Rural Center Workforce Development Office oversees workforce development demonstration projects, engages in advocacy related to training and other workforce activities, and conducts research.

FY10 Summary: Major workforce development activities in FY10 included the development and implementation of a grant program for local communities responding to the needs of the unemployed; completion of research on demand-driven workforce development; and workforce development advocacy.

Rural Community Mobilization Project. The Rural Center was awarded \$700,000 of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding through the N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Workforce Development to enable rural communities to respond to the recession and the needs of the unemployed. The project began in September 2009.

In fall 2009, the Rural Center issued an RFP for communities to apply for funding, held five training sessions around the state to highlight promising practices and then awarded a total of \$600,000 in grants to 12 organizations serving 15 rural counties hard hit by the recession. These organizations included community colleges, a local government, community-based organizations and a chamber of commerce.

Grantees developed unique strategies to fill gaps and make the most of opportunities in their communities. Their services include some or all of the following:

- Jobs and skills training (in areas such as health care, green jobs, entrepreneurship and computer skills)
- Employability training
- Career assessment and guidance
- Supportive services (paying for child care or transportation for those in training or looking for jobs)
- Job placement assistance
- Job/services expos
- Assistance accessing public services through the creation of "Benefit Bank" sites (information on tax benefits/public services) and SHARE Network Access Points (connecting people to JobLink Career Center services)

In addition, some sites have "problem-solving grants" and are working with other organizations and with dislocated workers themselves to identify and address community capacity needs.

All community mobilization grants must involve new or expanded collaboration:

- public workforce development with nonprofit organizations; and/or
- workforce development with economic development leaders or businesses

As of the end of FY10, after six months of local project activities, the community mobilization projects had produced the following activities and outcomes:

- 645 rural North Carolinians served, including 391 dislocated workers and 254 other unemployed or underemployed individuals
- 369 individuals participating in education or job-related training as a result of the project
- 311 participants assisted with case management, coaching, assessment and/or career guidance
- 288 participants provided supportive services (transportation or child care assistance) or a stipend
- More than 30,000 training contact hours
- 135 participants had earned a credential through the project
- 46 had obtained a new job with the help of the project
- 2 others (construction business owners) had procured work based on their training in the project

The ARRA-funded grant will be completed by the end of FY11.

Demand-driven workforce development. Using state funds, the Rural Center completed a contract with CD Liston Consulting to research demand-driven workforce development – training, career services or other activities to prepare the labor force for jobs in demand by area employers or projected to be in demand in the economy. The research involved an environmental scan of activities in rural and urban North Carolina and analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats related to demand-driven workforce development in rural North Carolina. It also profiled promising practices in North Carolina and from around the nation that could be replicated in rural North Carolina. A draft report based on the research was distributed to workforce partners at the beginning of FY11.

Advocacy. Rural Center staff now serves on the leadership council of the National Skills Coalition, a national advocacy organization that represents the views of a broad array of workforce development stakeholders (businesses, unions, workforce agencies and others). Staff led Capitol Hill visits in April and provided feedback to congressional staff that influenced a bill introduced in June 2010 (America WORKS Act, S. 3529).

**SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

Program Statement: Supplemental grants for infrastructure and business development help fund critical economic development projects that might otherwise be outside the timeline or geographic area of a specific grant program. They are targeted to local governments and nonprofits. These funds are administered with the same rigorous oversight and follow-up as other grant programs of the Rural Center, including requirements for contractual arrangements, a negotiated scope of work, regular monthly and quarterly reports, and final follow-up analysis.

FY10 Summary: Four grants totaling \$190,000 were awarded during FY10. One grant was awarded to a North Carolina foundation, and the other three were awarded to development organizations. These combined projects will leverage an additional \$2.4 million in funding and retain 96 jobs.

Infrastructure and Business Development—FY10

County	Grantee	Project Title	Award	Leveraged	Jobs Retained
Granville	Granville County Economic Development Commission	Support for the Retention of Dill Air Controls Products in Oxford, NC	\$80,000	\$920,000	86
Northampton	Roanoke Economic Development, Inc. (REDI)	Assist L&M Hospitality to Help Develop Roanoke Rapids Theater	\$25,000	\$4,000	
Wake	North Carolina Farm Bureau Legal Foundation, Inc.	Healthy Living Lifetime Initiative	\$60,000	\$1,445,143	
Watauga	Cove Creek Preservation and Development, Inc.	Retrofit The WPA Era Cove Creek School With An Elevator To Secure The Reaccreditation Of The School Of Chinese Medicine (Acupuncture Association).	\$25,000	\$25,000	10
Total FY10 Infrastructure and Business Development Grants			\$190,000	\$2,394,143	96

Please refer to Appendix P for project descriptions.

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTERS

Opportunities Industrialization Centers are nonprofit organizations that operate through a network of local affiliates. Founded in 1968 by the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, OIC of America has 60 affiliates in 32 states.

OICs continue to be leaders in providing quality education, training, and employment and housing services to economically disadvantaged people of all races and backgrounds, enabling them to become self-sufficient and to build wealth.

As directed by legislation, the Rural Center administers the funds appropriated to the Opportunities Industrialization Centers on behalf of the North Carolina General Assembly.

FY10 Summary: In FY10, four OICs received funding of \$53,756 each. All were certified as active under OIC of America's designation at the time of contracting. Receiving funding were OICs located in Asheville, Greensboro, Rocky Mount and Wilson. Elizabeth City OIC and Kinston OIC, which were funded in prior years, are under organizational/program review and did not receive FY10 grants. Please see Appendix R for details on OIC activity.

APPENDIX A
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Note on financial information

The information in the following table provides an unaudited summary of revenues and expenses and changes in net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The center's financial and compliance audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 is currently underway.

APPENDIX B

**SUMMARY OF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETINGS**

Summary of Rural Center Board of Directors Meetings July 2009 – June 2010

August 26, 2009

Board of Directors Meeting: Chair Tom Lambeth called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. New members were welcomed and the Nominating Committee was announced for the elections later in the year.

A video tribute to the late Edmund Aycock, longtime member of the board, was presented.

President Billy Ray Hall gave an overview of the center's work and commended the Board of Directors and Corporate Partners Group for their support and guidance in helping provide resources for the center. Mr. Hall presented a slide show giving an economic snapshot of the effects of the 2007-09 recession and the center's response.

Treasurer Curtis Wynn presented the FY 2009-10 operating budget, which was unanimously approved.

The program committee chairs presented their reports and recommendations on the Annual Plan of Work.

- Business Development – Joe Stanley
- Workforce Development – Andy Anderson
- Physical Infrastructure – Kent Chavis (vice chair)
- Civic & Social Infrastructure – Anita Brown-Graham
- Agricultural Advancement Consortium – Larry Wooten
- Research & Innovation – Mikki Sager

At the conclusion of the reports, the board approved a motion to adopt the Annual Plan of Work.

An overview of the Strategic Plan for 2010-14 was presented with special emphasis on five-year goals. The Strategic Plan was approved. It was announced that the Rural Partners Forum will be held November 5-6 at the North Raleigh Hilton. The theme is "Funding Our Rural Future."

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Tom Lambeth called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

President Billy Ray Hall gave a report on an allocation from the General Assembly through the lieutenant governor's office that is designed to help small businesses. The center is partnering with the Golden LEAF Foundation and the Health and Wellness Trust Fund to provide grants for health care projects. An announcement by the governor is being planned.

Treasurer Curtis Wynn asked Susan Dunn to present the financial report. She began with a recommendation of board-designated assets totaling \$10,698,365, which may be used for various specific purposes or operational contingencies. The committee approved this designation. Ms. Dunn then

reviewed the program budgets and line item figures for the period ended June 30, 2009. She stated that an audit is under way and that results will be available at the November meeting.

The committee approved the following: Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program -- 2 grants totaling \$912,986; Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program -- 8 grants totaling \$2,090,904 and creating 286 jobs; Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program -- 18 grants totaling \$2,011,584 and creating 163 jobs; Rural Health Care Initiative -- 13 grants totaling \$2,636,500 and creating 220 jobs; Research and Demonstration Grants Program -- 1 grant of \$55,000; and Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development Program, 1 grant of \$25,000.

Mr. Hall went over five grant requests the center has submitted, three of which involve funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. One grant of \$700,000 through the N.C. Department of Commerce's Division of Workforce Development already has been approved for the Rural Community Mobilization Project. Other grant requests include \$1 million to the U.S. Administration for Children and Families (Strengthening Communities Fund) to build the capacity of nonprofits serving populations with high poverty levels; \$2.5 million in broadband stimulus funds applied for by the e-NC Authority, which is housed in the Rural Center; \$50,000 to the Citi Foundation for the Microenterprise Loan Program Green Lending Project; and \$250,000 to the U.S. Small Business Administration (Program for Investment in Micro-Enterprise) to build the capacity of community development organizations interested in offering microenterprise development services to very low-income individuals. These funds represent \$4.5 million in requests for funding to support center programming.

An update on the Rural Venture Fund was given. The fund closed on its 10th investment and an 11th is waiting to go through the review process. Total invested to date is \$3,005,000.

The Growing America through Entrepreneurship (GATE) project is going well. More than 200 GATE scholarships have been awarded, and three microenterprise loans have been made to GATE students to date.

November 4, 2009

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Tom Lambeth called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

The chair advised the committee that the center has received another clean audit and commended the audit firm, treasurer and financial staff of the Rural Center for a job well done.

Based on auditor recommendations and requirements of the new IRS 990 forms, program committees agreed to keep minutes of all their meetings.

The committee heard the financial reports, and it was stated there was nothing significant or unusual to address in the reports.

The committee approved the following: Clean Water Bond Program -- 2 grants for unsewered communities totaling \$395,205.79, 1 capacity building grant of \$40,000 and 2 supplemental grants totaling \$590,234; Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program -- 1 crisis need grant of \$250,000; Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program -- 5 grants totaling \$623,429 and creating 80 jobs; Rural Community Mobilization Project -- 10 grants totaling \$558,000; Economic Innovations Grants Program -- 1 grant of \$215,000 for the creation of 167 jobs; Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program -- 11 grants totaling \$1,576,827 and creating 132 jobs; Rural Healthcare Initiative -- 3 grants totaling 754,900 and creating 67 jobs; and Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development Program, 1 grant of \$60,000.

The Rural Venture Fund has approved 11 investments for a total of \$3,190,000. The committee adopted the Rural Venture Fund Policy Guidelines and Operating Procedures with the modification as presented.

Project GATE (Growing America through Entrepreneurship) was overviewed. As of October 1, the project has awarded 266 scholarships. It is anticipated that by the end of the program, at least 720 rural dislocated workers will have received training through GATE. The center has received 12 applications for microenterprise loans from GATE clients and has awarded four loans totaling \$10,750. Three applications are pending.

An update was presented on five grant requests submitted by the Rural Center. Since the last meeting, the center has submitted an additional request of \$300,000 to USDA for a Rural CDCs Sustainable Leadership Project.

A handout of FY09 program statistics was provided to the committee. This document reflected that the center awarded a total of \$89,808,878 for 385 projects in FY09. The data will be made available to the Governmental Operations Committee of the N.C. General Assembly.

The committee affirmed a telephone poll vote on the use of \$500,000 appropriated by the N.C. General Assembly at the lieutenant governor's initiative. The money will be combined with funds from the Golden LEAF Foundation to capitalize the Small Business Assistance Fund, a loan-loss reserve program for small businesses. The program will leverage \$27.5 million in small business loans, which will be administered through Self-Help.

November 5, 2009

Board of Directors Meeting: The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Lambeth, who read the ethics statement and called for approval of minutes of the last meeting. The board approved the minutes as submitted.

The Microenterprise Loan Program's award of excellence, the Microenterprise Intake Professional of the Year, was presented to Mavis Hill of the Tyrrell County Community Development Corporation.

The data sheet of FY09 program statistics was given out to the directors. The document showed that the Rural Center reviewed 625 applications requesting a total of \$146,795,399 and made 385 awards totaling \$89,808,878. The awards helped 124 businesses and created a total of 2,178 jobs.

The treasurer reported that the Rural Center received a clean audit on financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2009.

The Nominating Committee gave its report and recommendations for new officers and directors to serve on the 2009-2010 Board of Directors. The board unanimously approved the report.

December 9, 2009

Executive Committee Meeting: New Chair Valeria Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. She announced a change of order on the agenda and the addition of two projects for committee action. Handouts of the two additional projects were made available to the committee.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted. The new IRS 990 form was provided to the committee, and each page of new required information was reviewed and explained.

The following were approved: Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 2 early supplemental grants totaling \$2 million and scope of work change for another project that resulted in the deobligation of \$40,519.26; Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program – 6 grants totaling \$1,942,441 and creating 245 jobs; Rural Community Mobilization Project – 1 grant of \$41,600; Research and Development Grants Program – 1 grant of \$20,000 for policy work of the Governor’s Scientific Advisory Panel on Offshore Energy; and Community Economic Development Grants Program -- 23 grants totaling \$997,000 to community development corporations.

The committee designated \$59,000 of the center’s net assets to the CDC program to increase available grant funding, and it approved a resolution of support for a proposed amendment to the federal Workforce Investment Act. The amendment is known as the Strengthening Employment Clusters to Organize Regional Success Act, or SECTORS Act.

Though there have been no further investments in the Rural Venture Fund since the last meeting, there have been 12 inquiries. In addition, two companies are in underwriting, and one borrower requested an investment modification.

Project GATE continues to do well for dislocated workers. At this time, 339 scholarships have been awarded. The center has received 16 applications from GATE clients for microenterprise loans and has awarded four loans totaling \$10,750.

A handout of an additional project was provided to the committee. After review and discussion, the committee approved a grant of \$25,000 under the Supplemental Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development Program to Cove Creek Preservation and Development Inc. in Watauga County to help with

the cost of installing an elevator for the Cove Creek School. The elevator will help enable the reaccreditation of the building's main tenant, a school of Chinese medicine.

The committee also discussed non-disclosure agreements between the center and the e-NC Authority. The Rural Center will need to modify the contractual arrangement to make sure the center is protected. The center's lawyer is working on this indemnification issue.

February 24, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting: Chair Valeria Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. She welcomed new members to the meeting. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

Chair Lee also addressed issues caused by the retirement from the Board of Directors of several members. Lee recommended that Charles Brown fill a vacancy in the Executive Committee. The full board approved the recommendation.

Board members also received the newly revised Directors Handbook, as well as an updated statistical data sheet of Rural Center programs for the last 18 months.

The treasurer presented the financial statements, pointing out that the center's total assets and liabilities were \$242,694,000 as of December 31, 2009. The center is operating within budget.

The chairs of the program committees presented their reports:

- Business Development – Joe Stanley
- Physical Infrastructure – Bill Gibson
- Civic and Social Infrastructure – Anita Brown-Graham
- Workforce Development – Andy Anderson
- Agricultural Advancement Consortium – Billy Ray Hall

The board reviewed the Advocacy Agenda resolutions. One item was tabled. All others were approved.

The new chair of the Rural Partners Corporate Group addressed the board and gave a brief report on his goals for increasing membership and additional ways the group could positively affect the lives of rural North Carolinians.

The senior vice president gave a PowerPoint presentation on a study tour the Rural Center is hosting in March. The two-day tour will cover south-central North Carolina. Participants will engage in special activities and interact with residents in each area visited.

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The board approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

The committee received a handout of PowerPoint presentation on small business. Billy Ray Hall explained that the General Assembly asked for a presentation on what the Rural Center does to support small businesses. He will make the presentation to the House Select Committee on Small Business.

The committee authorized Billy Ray Hall to seek \$26.2 million in additional funding for the Homegrown Jobs Initiative. The initiative includes four of the center's job-creating programs.

The committee also approved allocating up to \$60,000 to help place University of North Carolina Economic Revitalization Corps interns in small towns in rural Tier 1 counties. The funds will be drawn from \$100,000 remaining from money the board set aside for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act assistance

The treasurer reported on the financial statements and budget reports for the six-month period ending December 31, 2009, and stated the center is operating within budget. The committee approved an amendment to the center's 403(b) plan.

The following were approved: Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program (recurring appropriations) – 2 grants totaling \$109,398.42; Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 2 grants totaling \$42,900 and extensions to the one-year-to-construction rule for 13 projects; Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program – 11 grants totaling \$4,270,891 and creating 452 jobs; Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – 17 grants totaling \$1,928,233 and creating 144 jobs; Rural Health Care Initiative – 8 grants totaling \$846,209 and creating 71 jobs; Research and Demonstration Grants Program – 1 grant of \$30,000; and Supplement Grants for Infrastructure and Business Development -- 1 grant of \$80,000.

Updates were given on the following: Rural Philanthropy Initiative; plans for a study tour in March to south-central North Carolina; the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Study Commission; new guidelines for the Economic Innovations Grants Program; the N.C. Small Town Economic Prosperity Program; and the leadership development program, which is beginning its 20th Rural Economic Development Institute and implementing a new curriculum.

The Rural Venture Fund has had no new loan approvals since the last meeting. The fund continues to partner with the Small Business Administration in rural community lending.

Project GATE is still going strong. As of February 1, the project has awarded 452 scholarships to clients from 58 North Carolina counties. It has been reported that GATE-assisted dislocated workers are starting businesses and have submitted 16 microenterprise loan applications.

April 29, 2010

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. The committee approved the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. The committee also confirmed a telephone poll vote regarding a time-sensitive project. Chair Lee announced appointments to the President's Evaluation Committee.

Billy Ray Hall stated he was called to Washington, D.C., yesterday by Senator Kay Hagan to participate in a rural summit. Senator Hagan was complimentary of the Rural Center, and several earmarks have been introduced on the center's behalf. Hall also discussed the governor's budget as it relates to Rural Center programs.

In the absence of the treasurer, Susan Dunn presented the financial report for period ending March 31, 2010. Total assets reported were \$238,208,142. The center is operating within budget.

The Executive Committee, sitting as the Audit Committee, approved retaining McGladrey & Pullen as the center's auditors for year two of the three-year contract. The Audit Committee went back into session as the Executive Committee.

The committee approved the following: Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 30 planning grants totaling \$987,398 and 41 supplemental grants totaling \$19,128,925; Water and Sewer Supplemental Grants Program (recurring appropriation funds) – 3 grants totaling \$585,638; Clean Water Bond Program – 2 supplemental grants totaling \$318,160; Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program – 7 grants totaling \$1,514,700; Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – 14 grants totaling \$2,065,210 and creating 165 jobs; Economic Innovations Grants Program – 23 grants totaling \$3,054,424; Research and Demonstration Grants Program – 1 grant of \$17,700; and NC STEP – 11 new towns added to the program with \$1,375,000 set aside for these towns. With the committee's approval, Billy Ray Hall finalized and signed a memorandum of agreement between the Rural Center and other state funders of water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

The committee heard an update on the Agricultural Advancement Consortium that stressed the challenges of food safety for farmers. Larry Wooten talked about energy efficiency and biofuels and the existing challenges in these areas. The N.C. Farm Bureau and the consortium continue to work together on these challenges.

The committee also heard an update on the Corporate Partners Group and received a membership listing. The newly appointed chair is very engaged. The group includes companies of all sizes, and contributions range from \$3,000 to \$10,000. This funding helps cover the center's operating expenses.

The Rural Venture Fund has had 34 inquiries since the last meeting. Investments to date total \$3,190,000 in 11 companies; the investments are expected to generate 496 jobs by 2014.

The GATE program has awarded 550 scholarships to date, and 56 clients have started or are operating businesses. Sixteen clients have applied for microenterprise loans.

The committee heard updates on the Rural Community Mobilization projects, which provide training, grants and technical assistance to unemployed workers, and the e-NC Authority, which has four items in the General Assembly budget. The authority is seeking additional funding for two of these items.

June 30, 2010

Executive Committee Meeting: Chair Valeria Lee called the meeting to order and read the ethics statement. Board member Charles Brown joined the meeting via telephone. The committee approved minutes of the last meeting as submitted.

Billy Ray Hall discussed the center's appropriation from the General Assembly and plans to roll out these resources in rural North Carolina. The committee also heard updates on Rural Center budget items and federal grants for which the center has submitted applications.

In the absence of the treasurer, Susan Dunn gave the financial report. Because of uncertainty regarding the amount of state-appropriated funding the center will receive for the upcoming fiscal year, the executive committee voted to allow Rural Center spending to continue at current levels past June 30, 2010. The budget and finance committee will review a preliminary budget in July. The committee also approved the adoption of a master document for the Rural Center's Flexible Benefit Plan, which will go into effect August 1, 2010.

The following were approved: Economic Infrastructure Water and Sewer Grants Program – 3 grants totaling \$1,827,958 and creating 183 jobs, modification of an earlier grant to Northampton County, transfer of an earlier grant from Harnett County to the Town of Lillington and extension of the current (temporary) local match policy; Clean Water Partners Infrastructure Program – 1 increase of \$223,551 to a previously approved supplemental grant, 1 planning grant of \$40,000, transfer of 2 grants from Hyde County to Engelhard Sanitary District, transfer of grant from Yadkin County to the Town of Jonesville; Building Reuse and Restoration Grants Program – 13 grants totaling \$1,808,000 and creating 137 jobs, plus changes in program guidelines; Rural Health Care Initiative – 2 grants totaling \$414,000 and creating 37 jobs; Research and Demonstration Grants Program – 2 grants totaling \$88,000; and Economic Innovation Grants Program – contract transfer from the Aerospace Alliance to the Military Business Center and requirement that the alliance repay \$60,000 in grant funds.

The committee heard a presentation on the Rural Center's new website and an overview of the center's calendar of activities and events.

Susan Dunn introduced Sandra Champion, an independent consultant who will work with the committee to revise the center's investment policy. Ms. Champion gave a brief presentation on the fiduciary responsibilities of nonprofit boards and asked the committee to complete a detailed questionnaire on investment knowledge and expectations. She will then prepare a draft investment policy statement to be reviewed by the committee at the August meeting.

APPENDIX C

**CLEAN WATER PARTNERS –
SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS**

APPENDIX C

CLEAN WATER PARTNERS – SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS – FY10

Alexander County

Alexander County

Church Road Water Line

Alexander County received a grant of \$317,907 to extend water service to 57 homes where residents have had problems with water supply.

Town of Taylorsville

Hiddenite Sanitary Sewer Project

The Town of Taylorsville received a grant of \$229,095 to extend sewer service to an area where many on-site sewage treatment systems are inadequate or failing.

Anson County

Town of Lilesville

Phase 3 Water System Improvements

The Town of Lilesville received a grant of \$416,667 to replace parts of the water supply system plagued by water losses and low pressure.

Avery County

Town of Crossnore

New Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Town of Crossnore received a grant of \$498,500 to replace a 50-year-old wastewater treatment plant.

Bladen County

Town of Bladenboro

Inflow & Infiltration Improvements

The Town of Bladenboro received a grant of \$500,000 to repair and replace parts of the sewer system, eliminating problems with infiltration by rain and groundwater.

Town of Clarkton

Water System Improvements

The Town of Clarkton received a grant of \$215,942 to upgrade portions of a water system constructed in the 1940s.

Town of Elizabethtown

Meter Replacement

The Town of Elizabethtown received a grant of \$500,000 to install new water meters and equipment for automatic meter reading and bill generation.

Burke County

Town of Rhodhiss

Wastewater System Interconnect

The Town of Rhodhiss received a grant of \$500,000 to clean, assess and repair wastewater collection lines and modify the system to send wastewater to the Town of Granite Falls for treatment.

Camden County

Camden County

Sewer Extension to Serve Visitors Center

Camden County received a grant of \$649,875 to extend sewer service to an N.C. Welcome Station and 100 homes.

Chatham County

Town of Goldston

Wastewater Collection System

The Town of Goldston received a grant of \$1 million to extend sewer service to 177 customers in an area where many septic systems were failing.

Town of Pittsboro

Credle Street Sewer Rehabilitation

The Town of Pittsboro received a grant of \$496,126 to rehabilitate sections of the sewer system where infiltration by rain and groundwater is a problem.

Columbus County

Town of Chadbourn

Phase I Water System Improvements

The Town of Chadbourn received a grant of \$500,000 to install radio-read water meters, upgrade equipment at three wells and install an emergency generator at the storage tank.

Dare County

Dare County

Water System Improvements

Dare County received a grant of \$500,000 to improve water transmission and distribution lines serving the Wanchese area.

Edgecombe County

Edgecombe County

Wastewater Collection/Transport System

Edgecombe County received a grant of \$1 million to extend sewer service to the Town of Speed, where 23 of the homes to be served have pit privies, failed septic systems or straight piping that discharges untreated wastewater. Wastewater treatment will be provided by the Town of Tarboro.

Graham County

Town of Robbinsville

Main Street Water System Improvements

The Town of Robbinsville received a grant of \$500,000 to replace inadequate and failing water lines along Main Street.

Granville County

Granville County

Granville Athletic Park Water Reuse

Granville County received a grant of \$500,000 to install a system for using reclaimed water from the Town of Oxford at Granville Athletic Park.

Halifax County

Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District

Bells Creek Outfall Rehabilitation

Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District received a grant of \$400,108 to rehabilitate wastewater collection pipes to reduce infiltration by rain and groundwater.

Town of Weldon

Sewer Rehabilitation Project

The Town of Weldon received a grant of \$306,007 to rehabilitate wastewater collection lines and manholes. During wet weather, infiltration by rain and groundwater more than doubles the average daily flow to the wastewater treatment plant.

Harnett County

Town of Lillington

Pump Station and Sewer Replacement

The Town of Lillington received a grant of \$500,000 to replace a pump station and upgrade other portions of the sewer system.

Haywood County

Junaluska Sanitary District

Water & Sewer Infrastructure

Junaluska Sanitary District received a grant of \$500,000 to replace water lines and install hydrants in an area with low pressure and to extend sewer service to 94 customers in an area with failing septic systems.

Town of Waynesville

Water System Improvements

The Town of Waynesville received a grant of \$213,333 to replace and upgrade sections of water line.

Hoke County

Hoke County

Pump Station, Force Main

Hoke County received a grant of \$412,986 to replace and relocate a failing sewer pump station to relieve the burden on a second station. The two pump stations serve 256 homes, three schools and several businesses.

Jackson County

Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority

Dilliardtown Area Sewer

The Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority received a grant of \$225,000 to extend sewer service to an area with septic system problems.

Lenoir County

City of Kinston

Sewer Rehabilitation Project

The City of Kinston received a grant of \$500,000 to replace failing sewer lines.

Macon County

Town of Franklin

Sludge Digester

The Town of Franklin received a grant of \$500,000 to install a 1 million-gallon sludge digester at the wastewater treatment plant.

Madison County

Town of Mars Hill

College Sewer Line Replacement

The Town of Mars Hill received a grant of \$10,000 to augment a previous grant to replace and relocate sewer lines to prevent overflows.

Town of Marshall

Water System Improvements, Phase II

The Town of Marshall received a grant of \$500,000 to upgrade the water system in three parts of town. The town is losing 32 percent of its treated water and is out of compliance with rules on lead and copper.

McDowell County

McDowell County

Water Line Extensions

McDowell County received a grant of \$152,220 to extend water service to 18 homes where many water supplies are contaminated with coliform bacteria.

Moore County

Town of Aberdeen

Well Radium Removal

The Town of Aberdeen received a grant of \$180,000 to remove radium from the town's wells and install new equipment for water treatment. The town was issued a violation notice for exceeding the permitted level of radium in two drinking water wells.

Nash County

Central Nash Water and Sewer District

Water System Improvements, Phase IV

The Central Nash Water and Sewer District received a grant of \$500,000 to extend water service to an area north of Bailey where wells exceed allowable limits for copper and coliform bacteria. The project also will connect Bailey with an alternate water supply for emergency use.

Northampton County

Town of Rich Square

Water System Improvements, Phase I

The Town of Rich Square received a grant of \$507,281 to make critical water system improvements, including the installation of water mains, hydrants and service connections.

Pasquotank County

City of Elizabeth City

Water Main Replacement

The City of Elizabeth City received a grant of \$500,000 to replace the raw water transmission line to the treatment plant.

Pitt County

Contentnea Metropolitan Sewage District

Treatment Plant Improvements

Contentnea Metropolitan Sewage District received a grant of \$1 million to upgrade and expand the wastewater treatment plant, which serves the towns of Ayden, Grifton and Winterville in southern Pitt County.

Pitt County

Chicod Elementary School Sewer System

Pitt County received a grant of \$500,000 to install a sewer system connecting Chicod Elementary School with the Greenville Utility Commission's wastewater collection system. The school's onsite wastewater disposal system has resulted in nitrate contamination of groundwater.

Town of Farmville

Outfall Sewer Replacement

The Town of Farmville received \$500,000 to replace crumbling sewer lines and manholes.

Town of Grimesland

Critical Water System Improvements

The Town of Grimesland received a grant of \$223,551 to augment a previous grant to rehabilitate the town's water tank and replace aging water lines and meters.

Village of Simpson

Wastewater Collection Improvements

The Village of Simpson received a grant of \$500,000 to install the second phase of the community's sanitary sewer system.

Richmond County

City of Hamlet

Dam Repairs

The City of Hamlet received a grant of \$500,000 to repair the dam for the town's water supply reservoir. The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources rated the dam as a high hazard dam in 2008.

Town of Ellerbe

Wastewater Connection to Rockingham

The Town of Ellerbe received a grant of \$847,613 to connect the town with a regional wastewater system that discharges to the City of Rockingham’s treatment plant. Flow to Ellerbe’s current treatment plant exceeds its capacity, and discharges have exceeded limits for fecal coliform bacteria.

Robeson County

Town of Pembroke

Water System Improvements

The Town of Pembroke received a grant of \$338,408 to install new water mains and modify elevated storage tanks to alleviate pressure problems.

Rockingham County

Town of Mayodan

Water/Sewer Improvements

The Town of Mayodan received a grant of \$500,000 to upgrade the wastewater system to accommodate regional flow and install equipment for an emergency water interconnection with the Town of Madison.

Rutherford County

Broad River Water Authority

Water Treatment Plant Modernization

The Broad River Water Authority received a grant of \$1 million for water system improvements that will remove organic matter from the water supply. The project will serve more than 20,000 customers.

Surry County

Town of Elkin

Water System Improvements

The Town of Elkin received a grant of \$107,539 to replace failing water lines and equipment and to reconnect two areas of the water distribution system, improving service reliability. The town was losing 70 percent of its treated water.

Transylvania County

City of Brevard

Brushy Creek Sewer Infrastructure

The City of Brevard received a grant of \$394,072 to replace leaking sewer mains and manhole covers in an area that includes a floodplain.

Vance County

City of Henderson

Replacement of UV Disinfection System

The City of Henderson received a grant of \$500,000 to replace the disinfection system at the sewage treatment plant. Part of the system was destroyed in 2007 when it overheated and caught fire.

Warren County

Town of Norlina

Sewer System Rehabilitation

The Town of Norlina received a grant of \$392,593 to rehabilitate sewer lines and replace manholes.

Wilkes County

Town of North Wilkesboro

Sluice Gate Improvements

The Town of North Wilkesboro received a grant of \$377,920 to install a sluice gate with automatic controls at the raw water impoundment and to build a retaining wall to reduce erosion.

Wilson County

Town of Black Creek

Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation

The Town of Black Creek received a grant of \$500,000 to rehabilitate, repair and/or replace sewer collection lines and manholes.

APPENDIX D

**CLEAN WATER PARTNERS –
PLANNING GRANTS**

APPENDIX D

CLEAN WATER PARTNERS – PLANNING GRANTS – FY10

Alexander County

Town of Taylorsville

Water Audit & Leak Detection

The Town of Taylorsville received a grant of \$29,630 to develop a water audit and leak detection system. The water system is losing nearly 28 percent of its treated water.

Anson County

Town of Peachland

Water System Study

The Town of Peachland received a grant of \$40,000 to assess the condition of its water system and develop an improvement plan. The town is losing approximately 54 percent of its treated water.

Bladen County

Town of East Arcadia

Regional Wastewater Study

The Town of East Arcadia received a grant of \$32,000 to develop engineering plans for a regional wastewater collection and treatment system for East Arcadia and Sandyfield.

Town of White Lake

Water System Study

The Town of White Lake received a grant of \$40,000 to assess the condition of its water system and develop an improvement plan.

Burke County

City of Morganton

Inflow & Infiltration Study

The City of Morganton received a grant of \$40,000 to study rain and groundwater infiltration of the sewer system. During heavy rains, wastewater flows exceed the treatment plant's capacity.

Caldwell County

Town of Granite Falls

Water System Leak Detection

The Town of Granite Falls received a grant of \$17,037 to develop a water leak detection and repair program and to evaluate the extent to which future water needs can be met by using reclaimed water.

Caswell County

Town of Yanceyville

Water System Leak Detection

The Town of Yanceyville received a grant of \$25,000 to conduct studies of water leaks and water meters. The town is losing 27 percent of its treated water.

Cleveland County

Town of Lawndale

Water Master Planning Project

The Town of Lawndale received a grant of \$24,360 to map the existing water system and develop a capital improvement plan. The town loses 30 percent of its treated water.

Columbus County

Town of Chadbourn

Water System Study

The Town of Chadbourn received a grant of \$40,000 to develop a leak detection system and base map of the water system, leading to engineering plans for improvements. The town is losing 30 percent of its treated water.

Town of Lake Waccamaw

Water System Study

The Town of Lake Waccamaw received a grant of \$40,000 to identify deficiencies in the existing water system, assess future needs and develop plans and cost estimates for improvements. The town loses nearly 40 percent of its treated water.

Duplin County

Town of Calypso

Planning Documents Update

The Town of Calypso received a grant of \$40,000 to conduct studies of its water system, update planning documents and develop zoning and flood hazard prevention ordinances.

Edgecombe County

Edgecombe Water & Sewer District No. 5

Wastewater Collection Report

Edgecombe Water & Sewer District No. 5 received a grant of \$35,000 for an engineering report and environmental assessment for a wastewater collection system for 227 homes. Septic tank disposal fields have been problematic in the study area.

Halifax County

Meadows Sewer District

Wastewater Cluster System Study

Meadows Sewer District received a grant of \$40,000 to study affordable, decentralized wastewater cluster systems in Hollister. A survey in 2008 found a 37 percent failure rate for septic systems, as well as outhouses and straight piping that discharges untreated wastewater.

Town of Enfield

Water System Study

The Town of Enfield received a grant of \$40,000 to study water system deficiencies and develop plans for improvements. Water losses in Enfield range from 22 percent to 55 percent.

Johnston County

Town of Selma

Capital Improvement Plan

The Town of Selma received a grant of \$30,000 to develop a capital improvement plan for the water system.

Jones County

Jones County

Alternative Water Engineering Analysis

Jones County received a grant of \$40,000 to identify best solutions for developing a well field to support long-term water needs. The project also will update the county’s capital improvement plan.

Madison County

Town of Marshall

Inflow & Infiltration Study

The Town of Marshall received a grant of \$20,000 to test the northwestern sewer collection system for leaks and build an inventory of repair needs.

Martin County

Martin County Water & Sewer Authority

Water Treatment Plant Pilot Study

The Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority received a grant of \$40,000 to conduct a pilot study for a water treatment plant on the Roanoke River.

Pender County

Town of Surf City

Water Audit & Leak Detection

The Town of Surf City received a grant of \$20,000 for a water system audit and leak detection survey. The town loses 34 percent of its treated water.

Polk County

Town of Tryon

Inflow & Infiltration Study

The Town of Tryon received a grant of \$40,000 to identify and map areas of the town’s wastewater system that have problems with infiltration by rain and groundwater.

Randolph County

Town of Liberty

Leak Detection & Capacity Study

The Town of Liberty received a grant of \$40,000 for a water leak detection study and water/sewer capacity study. The town has had four sewer system overflows since October 2007.

Richmond County

Town of Ellerbe

Inflow & Infiltration Study

The Town of Ellerbe received a grant of \$32,000 to study the wastewater collection system for causes of infiltration by rain and groundwater.

Robeson County

Town of Maxton

Capital Improvement Plan

The Town of Maxton received a grant of \$40,000 to complete a capital improvement plan for the town's water and wastewater systems.

Town of Parkton

Comprehensive Land Use Plan

The Town of Parkton received a grant of \$14,815 to complete a comprehensive land use plan that will include water quality protection.

Town of Pembroke

CIP with Sewer System Mapping

The Town of Pembroke received a grant of \$40,000 to update the capital improvement plan for the sanitary sewer system.

Rockingham County

City of Reidsville

Leak Detection Study

The City of Reidsville received a grant of \$22,223 to conduct a leak detection survey of the water system and recommend corrective action.

Rutherford County

Rutherford County

Cliffside Sewer Plan

Rutherford County received a grant of \$32,900 to evaluate the possible rehabilitation of a defective wastewater collection system in the southeastern part of the county.

Town of Rutherfordton

Financial Planning and Rate Study

The Town of Rutherfordton received a grant of \$13,333 to develop a financial plan and rate study for the sanitary sewer system. Rutherford is working with Lake Lure to develop a regional sewer system.

Sampson County

City of Clinton

Water System Study and CIP

The City of Clinton received a grant of \$40,000 to study the water system and develop a capital improvement plan. The city loses 24 percent of its treated water.

Stanly County

City of Albemarle

Water Quality Improvement Study

The City of Albemarle received a grant of \$40,000 for a water system and water quality improvements study.

Vance County

City of Henderson

CIP and Rate Study

The City of Henderson received a grant of \$40,000 for a rate study and capital improvement plan for the sanitary sewer system.

Wilkes County

Town of North Wilkesboro

Water Audit & Leak Detection

The Town of North Wilkesboro received a grant of \$32,000 for a water system audit and leak detection survey.

APPENDIX E

**WATER SEWER –
RECURRING APPROPRIATION
GRANTS**

APPENDIX E

RECURRING APPROPRIATION GRANTS – FY10

Burke County

Town of Valdese

Water & Sewer Rate Study

The Town of Valdese received a grant of \$37,037 to conduct a water and sewer rates study and to develop a leak detection and repair program. The town will also evaluate the possibility of diverting partially treated wastewater to nonpotable use, to conserve treated water.

Granville County

The City of Oxford

Outfall Rehabilitation

The City of Oxford received a grant of \$450,000 to rehabilitate a sewer outfall at the Westside Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Hertford County

Town of Harrellsville

Generator Installation

The Town of Harrellsville received a grant of \$21,648 to install a generator that will allow the town to supply water to its residents during power outages.

Rutherford County

Rutherford County

Water Line Relocation

Rutherford County received a grant of \$98,601 to relocate water lines along a highway being widened.

APPENDIX F
CLEAN WATER
BONDS GRANTS

APPENDIX F

CLEAN WATER BOND FUND GRANTS – FY10

Alleghany County

Town of Sparta

Water Pump Station

The Town of Sparta received a grant of \$190,000 to construct a water booster pump station to serve the town's industrial area.

Lee County

Lee County

Water Petition Project

Lee County received a grant of \$128,160 to extend water service to 16 homes in an area with low-yielding wells and poor quality groundwater.

Rockingham County

City of Eden

Dry Creek Pump Station

The City of Eden received a grant of \$291,353 to remove a failing wastewater treatment plant and reroute collection lines to allow a manufacturing plant to remain in the city.

Tyrrell County

Tyrrell County

Wastewater Regionalization

Tyrrell County received a grant of \$250,000 to connect the county with a wastewater treatment plant and extend water service to 280 residences and businesses.

Tyrrell County Water & Sewer Districts I

Unsewered Communities

Tyrrell County Water & Sewer District I received a grant of \$200,000 to upgrade and expand the wastewater treatment plant in Creswell. The grant supplements an earlier award. (Sewer District II also is involved in this project. See below.)

Tyrrell County Water & Sewer District II

Unsewered Communities

Tyrrell County Water & Sewer District II received a grant of \$195,206 to upgrade and expand the wastewater treatment plant in Creswell. The grant supplements an earlier award. (Sewer District I also is involved in this project. See above.)

Vance County

Vance County

Kittrell Sewer Project

Vance County received a grant of \$40,000 to determine the cost and feasibility of extending water and sewer service to a vocational and job training center. The expansion has the potential to promote economic development in the southern part of the county.

APPENDIX G

**ECONOMIC
INFRASTRUCTURE
PROGRAM GRANTS**

APPENDIX G

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE – SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS – FY10

Alexander County

Alexander County

Paragon Films Water Project

Alexander County received a grant of \$150,000 to construct a water storage tank and fire pump for use by a company that manufactures stretch film for packing and shipping. The project will create 15 jobs.

Anson County

Anson County

Hornwood Sewer Project

Anson County received a grant of \$223,167 to rehabilitate 65 manholes and extend sewer service to a new restaurant and country store. The project will create 30 jobs. This funding augments a previous grant to increase sewer capacity for an expanding dyed fabric manufacturing company.

Bladen County

Bladen County

Black Swan Pellet Facility

Bladen County received a grant of \$650,000 to extend water, sewer and natural gas service to a plant that will convert wood chips and other lumber byproducts into clean fuel. The plant will create 65 jobs.

Carteret County

Town of Morehead City

Wildwood Road Project

The Town of Morehead City received a grant of \$40,000 to extend sewer service to a planned apartment community. The project will create four jobs.

Chowan County

Town of Edenton

Wendy's

The Town of Edenton received a grant of \$25,000 to create a stormwater drainage system to enable the construction of a fast food restaurant. The project will create 30 jobs.

Town of Edenton

Walgreen's Sewer Line Extension

The Town of Edenton received a grant of \$23,500 to extend a sewer line to the site of a new pharmacy. The project will create 30 jobs.

Cleveland County

Cleveland County

Spectrum Mills Water Line

Cleveland County received grants totaling \$105,000 to extend water service to the new location of a yarn dyeing company and the surrounding neighborhood. Environmental regulations required existing

groundwater contamination to be addressed before the project can move forward. The project will create 62 jobs.

Town of Polkville

Woods Diner Sewer Extension

The Town of Polkville received a grant of \$33,935 to extend sewer service to two small businesses that will create four jobs. Both businesses are currently on septic systems that are failing.

Columbus County

Town of Tabor City

Water System Improvements

The Town of Tabor City received a grant of \$30,000 to increase water capacity to allow a printing and paper distribution facility to install a sprinkler system. The project will create eight jobs.

Duplin County

Duplin County

Pipeline Project

Duplin County received a grant of \$880,000 to extend a natural gas line to a textile fibers manufacturing facility. The project will create 88 jobs.

Edgecombe County

Town of Tarboro

Sara Lee Generator Project

The Town of Tarboro received a grant of \$450,000 to provide electrical power to enable the expansion of a bakery facility. The project will create 45 jobs.

Franklin County

Town of Bunn

Veterinary Hospital Water Line

The Town of Bunn received a grant of \$20,000 to extend water service to the new location of a veterinary clinic. The relocation will allow the clinic to expand and create two jobs.

Gates County

Gates County

Family Fun Center Sewer Improvements

Gates County received a grant of \$345,000 to extend sewer service to a recreational facility that will serve Chowan College and the surrounding area. The facility will create 35 full-time positions and help the college maintain its accreditation.

Halifax County

Halifax County

Sewer Line Upgrade Project

Halifax County received a grant of \$814,530 to increase sewer capacity to allow a packaged food company to build a new facility. The project will create 82 jobs.

Harnett County

Town of Lillington

First Choice Community Health Center

The Town of Lillington received a grant of \$249,850 to extend water and sewer service to the site of a new health center. The center will create 25 jobs.

Haywood County

Maggie Valley Sanitary District

Maggie Valley Health Care Center

Maggie Valley Sanitary District received a grant of \$53,411 to extend water lines to a new skilled nursing facility. The project will create 55 jobs.

Henderson County

Town of Mills River

Jeffress Road Sewer Project

The Town of Mills River received a grant of \$301,000 to extend sewer service to the site of a new grocery store. The project will create 33 jobs.

Hoke County

Hoke County

Pennsylvania Transformer Tech.

Hoke County received a grant of \$250,000 to upgrade a sewer pump station to allow the expansion of a transformer manufacturing company. The company will add 25 jobs.

Johnston County

Johnston County

N.C. I-40/N.C. 96 Sewer Extension

Johnston County received a grant of \$160,000 to extend sewer service to the new site of a restaurant, market and gas station. The project will create 16 jobs.

Johnston County

East Clayton Water Main

Johnston County received a grant of \$1 million to extend water lines to a biotherapeutics company. The project will create 100 jobs.

Town of Clayton

Building Blocks Child Care

The Town of Clayton received grants totaling \$152,692 to extend water and sewer service to a new child care center. The project will create 12 jobs.

Town of Clayton

North East Foods Elevated Water Tank

The Town of Clayton received a grant of \$700,000 to upgrade water service to the site of a new bakery that will supply the fast-food industry. The project will create 70 jobs.

Town of Four Oaks**Four Oaks Business Park**

The Town of Four Oaks received a grant of \$737,958 to extend water and sewer service to the site of a medical device company's new distribution center. The project will create 74 jobs.

Jones County**Jones County****Pollockville Coastal Beverage**

Jones County received a grant of \$110,000 to increase water capacity to allow a beverage distribution company to install a sprinkler system in its warehouse. The project will create 11 jobs.

Jones County**Pollockville Industrial Park**

Jones County received a grant of \$380,000 to extend water and sewer service to a computer program and software development company. The project will create 38 jobs.

Lenoir County**City of Kinston****Spirit Aero Systems**

The City of Kinston received a grant of \$98,429 to augment a previous grant to extend water and sewer service to a company that constructs airplane fuselages. The additional funding will create 10 jobs.

City of Kinston**Sanderson Farms Water & Sewer**

The City of Kinston received a grant of \$560,888 to extend water and sewer service to a hatchery, feed mill and poultry processing plant. The plant will create 65 jobs.

Lenoir County**Sanderson Farms Natural Gas Line**

Lenoir County received a grant of \$1 million to install a natural gas line for a poultry processing plant in Kinston. The project will create 100 jobs.

Lincoln County**Lincoln County****HYDAC Technology Corporation**

Lincoln County received a grant of \$580,000 to provide water and sewer service to the site of a new plant that will manufacture hydraulic parts for automobiles. The project will create 58 jobs.

Moore County**Moore County****Manning & Co. Water Improvements**

Moore County received a grant of \$150,000 to install a water main to a plastic and foam products manufacturing company. The project will create 15 jobs.

Onslow County

Town of Swansboro

Hampton Inn & Suites

The Town of Swansboro received a grant of \$120,000 to provide water and sewer service to the site of a new 98-bed hotel. The project will create 12 jobs.

Pender County

Town of Surf City

Surf City Fun Center

The Town of Surf City received a grant of \$107,724 to extend water and sewer service to the planned locations of a pharmacy and recreational center. The project will create 53 jobs.

Randolph County

City of Trinity

Trinity Furniture Sewer Project

The City of Trinity received a grant of \$100,000 to provide sewer service to a furniture manufacturer that has received a violation notice for its failed septic system. The project will create 10 jobs.

Robeson County

Robeson County

Mountaire Farms Expansion Project

Robeson County received a grant of \$510,000 to construct a water tank to enable the expansion of a company that processes and packages chicken products. The project will create 51 jobs.

Rockingham County

Town of Stoneville

SANS Technical Fibers

The Town of Stoneville received a grant of \$250,000 to install a water main and upgrade two pump stations to enable the expansion of a company that manufactures industrial fibers. The project will create 25 jobs.

Sampson County

City of Clinton

Smithfield Foods Lundy Plant

The City of Clinton received a grant of \$300,000 to augment a previous grant for public sewer improvements that will serve the Smithfield Foods Lundy Plant. The additional funding will create at least 30 full-time jobs.

Wilkes County

Town of Wilkesboro

Tyson Foods Water/Sewer Improvements

The Town of Wilkesboro received a grant of \$508,589 to upgrade water and sewer service to an expanding poultry processing plant. The expansion will create 75 jobs.

APPENDIX H

**N.C. SMALL TOWNS
ECONOMIC PROSPERITY
PROGRAM**

APPENDIX H

N.C. SMALL TOWNS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY PROGRAM

Implementation Projects for Phase I Communities

Individual Towns

Town of Candor invested in the demolition of an old, condemned building in downtown and will replace it with a farmers/crafters market.

Town of Columbia continues to operate an entrepreneurial incentives fund assisting two businesses to date. A part-time economic developer position has been funded for three years to coordinate eco-tourism and economic development activities for the community.

Town of Maxton launched an entrepreneurship development initiative by offering business seminars, training, technical assistance, education and networking opportunities. It also operates a mini-seed grant program for new businesses downtown.

City of Marion invested in wireless Internet for the downtown and training seminars on marketing businesses through the Web.

Town of Marshall established an entrepreneur/business support center (an extension of the existing Very Small Business Center) and a Downtown Development Association to coordinate efforts among partners.

Town of Mount Gilead continues to operate an artisan's gallery housing three artisans/craftspeople. The town has developed a marketing campaign around the arts and tourism to attract visitors to the community.

Town of Pinetops is investing in downtown design and streetscape beautification.

Town of Plymouth created and is operating a new business incentives program for downtown and the U.S. 64 corridor and invested in wireless Internet to attract more customers for downtown businesses.

Town of Robbins created a small business incentives program and is recruiting a community theater to locate in the town. It also launched a joint marketing program with local small businesses.

Town of Scotland Neck developed and implemented a town marketing campaign and a downtown revitalization plan to attract visitors and employers and is continuing to work on downtown recovery and small business recruitment.

Town of Sparta is expanding leadership development opportunities through the Alleghany Leadership Development Program and hired a business development program coordinator.

Town of Swan Quarter conducted a streetscape design study and is restoring the historic courthouse as a museum and visitors center.

Town of Valdese continued to operate the Valdese Economic Development Investment Corp. The nonprofit VEDIC manages entrepreneurship development programs and functions as a development finance agency.

Town of Yanceyville developed a website and marketing campaign and created an artisans/crafters market in the downtown area.

Cluster Towns

Bladen's Bloomin' Cluster established a small business development revolving loan fund and promoted tourism development through a Chamber of Commerce tourism director.

East Columbus Cluster established a façade program to restore real property in the area. It also developed an infrastructure package to support light, environmentally sensitive industry and promote the area for such industries.

HandMade in America's High Country Cluster invested in tourism through the staffing and development of a visitor/welcome center in Bakersville and support services for new tourism venues in Crossnore.

HandMade in America's Western Cluster completed a market study and plan for Main Street businesses in Mars Hill, repaired and expanded Chimney Rock's River Walk, and prepared the site next to the Historical Arts Museum in Hayesville for a park.

Surry Cluster has invested in workforce training facilities in partnership with Surry Community College in Elkin and Pilot Mountain. Additionally, Surry County conducted a feasibility study for a value-added agriculture center that has materialized into Pilot Mountain Pride Ag Center.

Implementation Plans for Phase II Communities

Town of Bayboro will focus on attracting tourists by conducting an amenities inventory and a hotel complex feasibility study.

Town of Boonville will work with Surry Community College, the ASU Center for Entrepreneurship and/or SCORE to initiate a recruitment and training program for new entrepreneurs. It will also establish a network of interested businesses and service providers to address ongoing training needs and other issues in the business community.

Town of Erwin plans to support business growth through a buy-local campaign and a business expo.

Town of Forest City will support business growth and development through a business apprentice program to support and provide training and assistance to individuals interested in establishing a business.

Town of Franklin is promoting tourism through the creation and implementation of a river development plan for the Little Tennessee River. It also is developing a marketing program to attract more tourists, second-home buyers and retirees into the Franklin area.

Town of Lansing plans to invest in a public computer center to focus on technology education and business development and support.

Town of Rowland will invest in a retiree attraction program and the development of a website to market the town.

Town of Tabor City will develop a logo and branding strategy to attract new businesses and residents.

Town of Weldon will invest in streetscape improvements, façade improvements and signage to attract people from I-95 into the town.

Town of Whitakers wants to focus on workforce training and development by expanding the library for educational and training purposes and upgrading the Del Center's learning equipment and infrastructure.

Andrews and Old Fort joined the existing High Country and Western clusters coordinated by Handmade in America. Andrews will establish a community-based broadband network to improve Internet access, and Old Fort will develop a community brand and logo and improve the Mill Creek Trail to attract tourists to the community.

APPENDIX I
RESEARCH
AND DEMONSTRATION
GRANTS

APPENDIX I

RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION GRANTS – FY10

Durham County

Corporation for Enterprise Development

The Corporation for Enterprise Development received \$30,000 to adapt a "work-ready" certification process for North Carolina. This process assists communities in surveying their workforce development systems and targeting areas for improvement.

Work-Ready Certification Process

Wake County

Department of the State Treasurer

The N.C. Department of State Treasurer's Local Government Commission received \$17,700 to support development of an online financial management tool for small towns. The tool, being developed in conjunction with the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government, will help small towns track their financial data over time and compare their standing with that of other towns.

Financial Indicators Dashboard

Office of the Governor

The Office of the Governor received a grant of \$20,000 to support the Scientific Advisory Panel on Offshore Energy, which evaluates various energy sources and makes recommendations regarding their potential use in North Carolina.

Offshore Energy Research

Watauga County

Appalachian State University

The Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis at Appalachian State University received a grant of \$10,000 to continue its work producing a typology of rural and urban residents living on the economic margins in the state, identifying successful strategies to help small communities decrease poverty rates and producing a directory of resources for asset building, community wealth development and poverty reduction.

Rural Economic Opportunity

Other

RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship

The Center for Rural Entrepreneurship at the Rural Policy Research Institute received \$78,000 to administer a survey to youth in 20 rural North Carolina counties to help determine their personal aspirations and attitudes toward their communities. The survey is designed to be a first step in assessing the reasons for out-migration of young people from rural areas.

Youth Engagement/Youth Survey

APPENDIX J
ECONOMIC
INNOVATION
GRANTS

APPENDIX J

ECONOMIC INNOVATIONS FUND GRANTS – FY10

Alamance County

Friends of W. Kerr Scott Lake

Environmental Education Center

Friends of W. Kerr Scott Lake received a grant of \$7,000 to hire an intern at the W. Kerr Scott Regional Environmental Education Center responsible for coordinating educational programs for disadvantaged teens. Program participants will plan and implement site improvements, including a backyard garden habitat with a recycling center.

Buncombe County

Land-of-Sky Regional Council

Building the Clean Energy Economy

The Land-of-Sky Regional Council received a grant of \$220,000 to support growth of the clean energy economy in 31 western North Carolina counties. The project is expected to create 55 jobs.

Camden County

Camden County

Camden Gateway Eco-Business Complex

Camden County received a grant of \$160,000 to support development of a master plan and financing strategy for the proposed Camden Gateway Eco-Business Complex. A feasibility study suggests the park could create 260 jobs within three years.

Carteret County

Core Sound Waterfowl Museum

Sustaining Coastal N.C. Economy

The Core Sound Waterfowl Museum received a grant of \$350,000 to encourage sustainable economic development based on the central coastal region's natural assets, with a special focus on commercial fishing and eco- and heritage tourism. The project is expected to create five jobs and five businesses while retaining 75 jobs and 15 businesses in Carteret, Hyde and Dare counties.

Chowan County

Northeast Economic Development Foundation

New Pilot Extraction Facility

North Carolina's Northeast Economic Development Foundation received a grant of \$400,000 to develop a pilot facility for processing small-scale, research-oriented botanical extractions. The facility, on the grounds of the Vernon James Research and Extension Station in Bertie County, will promote advances in biotechnology and support consumer test marketing. The project will seed biotechnology jobs in an economically distressed region and create new markets for agricultural products. The project is expected to create 600 jobs and retain another 260 in an 11-county region.

Durham County

NC REAL Enterprises

Rural Home Health Care Project

NC REAL Enterprises received a grant of \$66,000 to develop a home health care training curriculum and test it in five rural community colleges. At least 100 students are expected to complete the course within two years, resulting in 20 new home health care businesses.

Edgecombe County

Connectinc

Benefit Bank of North Carolina

Connectinc received a grant of \$200,000 to implement the Benefit Bank of North Carolina, part of a national outreach effort using a Web-based service to connect low- to moderate-income Americans with tax credits, public benefits and other assistance that supports economic stability and employment. The project will hire and train 257 previously unemployed persons as counselors.

Graham County

Stecoah Valley Arts Center

Stecoah Textiles Project

The Stecoah Valley Arts, Crafts and Educational Center received a grant of \$50,000 to offer classes that encourage the development of textile crafts businesses among former textile mill workers. The project is expected to create 10 businesses and 16 jobs in Graham and Swain counties.

Halifax County

N.C. Zoological Society

Youth Conservation Training Program

The N.C. Zoological Society received a grant of \$10,000 to support a training program at Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park for low-income teens in Halifax County. Participants will receive on-the-job training at a destination eco-tourism facility, as well as educational opportunities in biology, ecology, environmental protection and life skills.

Johnston County

Eastern Area Rehabilitation Network

Business Development Initiative

The Eastern Area Rehabilitation Network received a grant of \$119,924 to support a joint business development initiative by three centers that employ persons with disabilities. The partners are located in Wilson, Selma and Rocky Mount and serve eight counties. The project will be modeled on a successful collaboration in the west under the Marketing Association of Rehabilitation Centers and is expected to create 40 jobs.

Lenoir County

N.C. Aerospace Alliance

Strengthening Aerospace Opportunities

The North Carolina Aerospace Alliance received a grant of \$215,000 to support the SourceNC website, which links small and medium-sized businesses in economically distressed counties with U.S.

Department of Defense contract bidding opportunities. The grant also will fund a detailed business plan to develop the alliance and help it achieve sustainability within two years. The project is expected to create or retain 167 jobs.

Pasquotank County

Arts of the Albemarle

Arts of the Albemarle received a grant of \$100,000 for an analysis of and support for strengthening the regional creative economy. The project is expected to create 20 jobs and three businesses in Pasquotank, Camden, Gates and Currituck counties.

Community-Based Creative Economy

Pitt County

Mid-East Resource Council

The Mid-East Resource and Conservation Development Council received a grant of \$73,500 to develop sustainable, community-based tourism focused on the Roanoke River. Mayors from Bertie, Halifax, Martin and Washington counties are collaborating on the project, which is expected to create 10 jobs and five businesses.

Sustainable Tourism in Roanoke River

Rutherford County

Foothills Connect

The Foothills Connect Business & Technology Development Center received a grant of \$300,000 to develop greenhouses, powered by landfill gas, in which farmers may grow crops during winter months. The project will create 25 jobs in Rutherford County and retain another 25. Organizers also anticipate creating 20 businesses.

Gas to Green

Isothermal Planning & Development Comm.

The Isothermal Planning and Development Commission received a grant of \$75,000 for a marketing, equipment purchase and leasing program for the weatherization and building diagnostics trade. The project is expected to train at least 30 people and to create five businesses and 10 jobs while retaining others. The project will serve Rutherford, Cleveland, Polk and McDowell counties.

STEM Weatherization Program

Surry County

Surry County

Surry County received a grant of \$75,000 to increase sales of local farm products to markets in the Winston-Salem area. The project will include establishing a facility for cleaning, grading and packing produce and an intermediary to aggregate products for sale and delivery. The project is expected to create 20 jobs and retain 40 more.

Pilot Mountain Pride

Tyrrell County

Pocosin Arts

Craft Metals Business Incubator

Pocosin Arts received a grant of \$75,000 to support the creation of a craft metals business incubator in the Tyrrell County town of Columbia. The incubator program will include coursework in crafts production and business skills. The project is expected to create two businesses and 12 jobs.

Wake County

N.C. Community Development Initiative

Building Nonprofit Partnerships

The N.C. Community Development Initiative received a grant of \$75,000 to support two partnerships of community organizations in collaborating to leverage federal stimulus funds. The federal funding would support the development of weatherization programs for low-income families in Brunswick and Wilson counties. The project is expected to create 20 jobs.

N.C. State University

Creativity Inc.

N.C. State University's Cooperative Extension Service received a grant of \$150,000 to promote a creativity-based approach to economic development in distressed rural regions of the state. The project will be tested in Anson and Stanly counties and is expected to create five jobs.

N.C. State University

E3: Economy, Energy & the Environment

N.C. State University's Industrial Extension Service received a grant of \$73,000 for a pilot project to maximize energy efficiency and waste reduction by manufacturers in Burke and Cleveland counties. The project is expected to create 50 jobs and retain another 150.

N.C. Agricultural Foundation

Farmhand Foods

The N.C. Agricultural Foundation received a grant of \$75,000 to support the launch of Farmhand Foods, a project to connect rural producers of pasture-fed livestock with emerging retail and restaurant markets in the state's population centers. The project is expected to create one business and 15 jobs.

N.C. Indian Economic Development Initiative

Native Pathways Collaboratives

The N.C. Indian Economic Development Initiative received a grant of \$200,000 to promote economic literacy, entrepreneurship, workforce development and access to Earned Income Tax Credit and Individual Development Account services among North Carolina's American Indian communities. The project is expected to result in 200 jobs and six businesses.

SBTDC

Rural Green Technology Development

The Small Business & Technology Development Center of the UNC System received a grant of \$75,000 to provide technology development and commercialization assistance to small rural businesses developing innovative green technologies. The three-year project is expected to create four businesses and four jobs.

Wilkes County

Wilkes County

Yadkin River Heritage Corridor

Wilkes County received a grant of \$125,000 to expand tourism initiatives focusing on the Yadkin River. The project involves local governments and tourism organizations in Caldwell, Wilkes, Surry and Yadkin counties and is expected to create 75 jobs.

APPENDIX K

**BUILDING REUSE
AND RESTORATION
GRANTS**

APPENDIX K

BUILDING REUSE AND RESTORATION GRANTS – FY10

Alexander County

Alexander County

Piedmont Wood Products

Alexander County received a grant of \$37,847 to renovate a facility for use by a wood product manufacturer. The facility will be used to develop a new furniture line for medical applications. The project will create four jobs.

Alexander County

Composite Fabrics of America

Alexander County received a grant of \$19,000 to renovate a building for reuse by a company that manufactures composite fabrics. The project will create two jobs.

Alleghany County

Alleghany County

Village Park Bowling Center & Tavern

Alleghany County received a grant of \$72,000 to renovate a vacant building for reuse as a tavern and bowling alley. The project will create six jobs.

Anson County

Anson County

Wallace & Wallace Properties

Anson County received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former hosiery building by a company that raises genetically altered silkworms.

Town of Morven

Lemeul CTC Pre-Development Project

The Town of Morven received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former school building as a construction trades training center.

Ashe County

Ashe County

Blevins Building Supply

Ashe County received a grant of \$168,000 to renovate a former car dealership for reuse by a building supply company. The project will create 14 jobs.

Avery County

Avery Co. Economic Dev. Commission

Cocoon Creations

The Avery County Economic Development Commission received a grant of \$155,000 to renovate a former manufacturing facility for reuse by a startup company that manufactures covers for boats, motorcycles and recreational vehicles. The company will create 13 jobs.

Beaufort County

Beaufort County

Pamlico Street Project

Beaufort County received a grant of \$24,000 to renovate a historic building in downtown Belhaven for reuse as an event space and antique center. The project will create two jobs.

Bertie County

Town of Windsor

A2A Living Oil Building

The Town of Windsor received a grant of \$36,000 to augment a previous grant to renovate a former manufacturing facility for reuse by a company that seeks to produce oilseed-based biodiesel. The company will create three jobs as a result of the grant increase.

Bladen County

Town of Elizabethtown

Coffee Shop

The Town of Elizabethtown received a grant of \$20,000 to study the reuse of the former post office as a coffee shop and retail space.

Town of Elizabethtown

Farmer's Market

The Town of Elizabethtown received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former grocery as a local foods market.

Burke County

Burke County

Marves Industries

Burke County received a grant of \$222,000 to renovate a building to allow for the expansion of a mattress padding manufacturer. The project will create 12 jobs.

Town of Longview

Maple Springs Laundry

The Town of Longview received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a former industrial building to allow for the expansion of a laundry service company. The expansion will create 40 jobs.

Burke County

VSA

Burke County received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a building for a new plant that will reclaim precious metals from used catalytic converters and recycle residual materials. The project will create 40 jobs.

City of Morgantown

Fair Value

The City of Morgantown received a grant of \$336,000 to renovate a building for reuse as a grocery store. The project will create 28 jobs.

Caldwell County

Caldwell County

Global Shippers Association

Caldwell County received a grant of \$16,000 to renovate a small office building for reuse by a shipping company. The company will create two jobs.

City of Lenoir

Dacentec Inc.

The City of Lenoir received a grant of \$60,000 to renovate a building for reuse by an information technology service company, which will create five jobs.

City of Lenoir

Demco Group

The City of Lenoir received a grant of \$109,876 to renovate two vacant buildings for reuse by a defense contractor that manufactures spare parts for weapons systems. The company will create 10 jobs.

Town of Sawmills

Automated Solutions

The Town of Sawmills received a grant of \$312,500 to renovate a building for the expansion of a company that develops and sells automated manufacturing solutions. The project will create 25 jobs.

Town of Granite Falls

MSR

The Town of Granite Falls received a grant of \$60,000 to renovate a vacant building for reuse by a tire supply company. The project will create five jobs.

Cleveland County

City of Kings Mountain

Body Junction/Shapes by Jodi

The City of Kings Mountain received a grant of \$12,000 to renovate a former retail furniture building for use by a locally owned physical fitness company. The project will create one job.

City of Kings Mountain

QualTech Industries

The City of Kings Mountain received a grant of \$82,678 to renovate a former manufacturing building for reuse by a company that produces machine parts for use in water treatment, food processing, airplane construction and other applications. The project will create five jobs.

City of Kings Mountain

Old Stone Steakhouse

The City of Kings Mountain received a grant of \$96,000 to renovate a building for a new restaurant. The project will create eight jobs.

Cleveland County

Parker Farm Services Building

Cleveland County received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a building to enable the relocation and expansion of a farm equipment sales and repair company. The project will create 20 jobs.

Columbus County

Columbus County

Project Dawn East, Discovery Textiles

Columbus County received a grant of \$42,210 to renovate a manufacturing building for reuse by a company that produces textiles for the hospitality and health care industries. The project will create three jobs.

Town of Lake Waccamaw

Marina, Restaurant & Convenience Store

The Town of Lake Waccamaw received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former marina and resort as a restaurant, convenience store and ice cream shop.

Davie County

Davie County

ATEC

Davie County received a grant of \$220,000 to renovate a manufacturing plant in Mocksville for use by an industrial coatings company. The project will create 11 jobs.

Franklin County

Town of Louisburg

Clifton Building Restoration

The Town of Louisburg received a grant of \$18,000 to renovate a former manufacturing facility for reuse by a local attorney to expand his practice. The practice will create two jobs.

Town of Franklinton

Volunteers in Medicine Project

The Town of Franklinton received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a historic structure downtown as a medical clinic, thrift store and food pantry.

Gaston County

City of Cherryville

Farris Fabrication and Machine

The City of Cherryville received a grant of \$400,000 to renovate a former manufacturing facility for reuse by a fabrication and machine company. The project will create 20 jobs.

Graham County

Graham County

Stecoah Valley Center Gymnasium

Graham County received a grant of \$25,000 to develop architectural plans for the renovation of a former gymnasium as a multi-use convention center.

Halifax County

Town of Scotland Neck

Abram's BBQ and Seafood

The Town of Scotland Neck received a grant of \$198,250 to renovate a building for a new restaurant. The project will create 17 jobs.

Hertford County

Hertford County

LaFayette's Tavern

Hertford County received a grant of \$48,000 to renovate a building in Murfreesboro for use as a restaurant and tavern. The project will create four jobs.

Hoke County

City of Raeford

Alpla Inc.

The City of Raeford received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a vacant building for reuse by a plastic packaging manufacturer. The city also received \$750,000 for the project from the CDBG Building Reuse Program of the N.C. Department of Commerce. The company will create 40 jobs.

Iredell County

Iredell County

Longitude 80

Iredell County received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a former truck stop and gas station for use by a dairy for the production of ice cream and yogurt products. The project will create 24 jobs.

Iredell County

Talon Systems

Iredell County received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a building for reuse as a furniture manufacturing facility. The project will create 24 jobs.

Johnston County

Town of Smithfield

Gabriel Johnston Hotel

The Town of Smithfield received a grant of \$25,000 to develop a plan for the reuse of a former hotel.

Madison County

Town of Marshall

Capitola Mill Redevelopment

The Town of Marshall received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former mill for a variety of business operations.

Martin County

Town of Williamston

Domino's

The Town of Williamston received a grant of \$37,900 to renovate a vacant retail building for reuse by a pizza franchise. The project will create four jobs.

Mitchell County

Town of Spruce Pine

CITGO Service

The Town of Spruce Pine received a grant of \$199,124 to renovate a former gas station in the central business district for use by a manufacturer of specialty wood products. The project will create 10 jobs.

Montgomery County

Town of Candor

Carolina Growler

The Town of Candor received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former manufacturing facility to enable the expansion of a company that manufactures off-road utility vehicles, primarily for use by the military.

Moore County

Town of Southern Pines

MoldStoppers

The Town of Southern Pines received a grant of \$100,000 to renovate a building for use by a mold eradication company. The project will create 10 jobs.

Town of Carthage

Connectinc

The Town of Carthage received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a vacant manufacturing facility for reuse as a nonprofit call center that connects low-income individuals with social and financial services. The project will create 24 jobs.

Moore County

K2 Project

Moore County received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a building for reuse by a defense consulting company. The project will create 24 jobs.

Nash County

City of Rocky Mount

Four Seasons Restaurant

The City of Rocky Mount received a grant of \$250,000 to renovate a building for use as a restaurant, catering operation and conference center. The project will create 21 jobs.

City of Rocky Mount

J&J Bookstore

The City of Rocky Mount received a grant of \$24,000 to renovate a downtown building for reuse as a bookstore. The project will create two jobs.

Northampton County

Town of Gaston

Gaston Center for Business

The Town of Gaston received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former school building as a mixed-use business center.

Onslow County

City of Jacksonville

Onslow County Child Development

The City of Jacksonville received a grant of \$7,808 to augment a previous grant to renovate a former residence for reuse as a day care facility. The company will create one job as a result of the grant increase.

Pasquotank County

City of Elizabeth City

Project Millwright

The City of Elizabeth City received a grant of \$144,031 to renovate a manufacturing plant for use by a contractor specializing in process piping, steel fabrication, plant modification and equipment installation. The project will create 20 jobs.

Pitt County

Pitt County

Project Mustang

Pitt County received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a former manufacturing building for reuse by a cable manufacturing operation. The project will create 40 jobs.

City of Greenville

State Theatre Restoration Study

The City of Greenville received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a downtown theater building.

Polk County

Town of Tryon

Marilyn's Melrose Inn

The Town of Tryon received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former inn as a mixed-use business center.

Randolph County

Town of Franklinville

Franklinville Manufacturing Co.

The Town of Franklinville received a grant of \$20,000 to study a former mill for reuse as a museum to exhibit historic textile machinery.

City of Asheboro

Premiere Fibers

The City of Asheboro received a grant of \$40,000 to renovate a former fiber manufacturing plant for use as a warehouse. The project will create two jobs.

Robeson County

Town of Red Springs

Red Springs Business Center

The Town of Red Springs received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a former manufacturing facility as a business incubator.

Rockingham County

City of Reidsville

High Real Estate Holdings

The City of Reidsville received a grant of \$216,000 to renovate a historic former bank building for reuse by a restaurant. The company will create 18 jobs.

City of Eden

National Banjo Museum

The City of Eden received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of the Nantucket Mill and adjacent structures by the proposed National Banjo Center.

Rutherford County

Rutherford County

Project AGI

Rutherford County received a grant of \$150,000 to renovate a former textiles building for use by a carpentry service to expand its pallet repair and production. The project will create eight jobs.

Town of Forest City

Fireside Books & Gifts

The Town of Forest City received a grant of \$25,000 to study the reuse of a theater as a book and gift store.

Rutherford County

Forest City Associates Park

Rutherford County received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a vacant building for reuse by a startup laundry operation. The project will create 40 jobs.

Scotland County

Town of Gibson

Project Play

The Town of Gibson received a grant of \$36,000 to renovate an industrial building for use by a company that makes swing sets and is relocating from out of state. The project will create three jobs.

Scotland County

Project Mac

Scotland County received a grant of \$49,000 to renovate the former post office in Wagram for use by a locally owned grocery. The project will create five jobs.

Stanly County

Stanly County

New Finish Building Renovation

Stanly County received a grant of \$48,345 to renovate a former knitting mill for reuse by a sandblasting and power coating company. The project will create four jobs.

Stanly County

Michelin Plant Expansion

Stanly County received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a vacant building in Norwood to allow for the expansion of a tire manufacturing facility. The project will create 74 jobs.

Tyrrell County

Town of Columbia

Hollis LLC

The Town of Columbia received a grant of \$30,000 to renovate a former residence for reuse as a sales area and showroom for a modular home company. The project will create three jobs.

Vance County

Vance County

Harriet & Henderson Mill, Phase II

Vance County received a grant of \$75,000 to renovate part of a mill building for reuse by a paint recycling, reformulating and packaging facility. The project will create four jobs.

Vance County

Harriet & Henderson Mill, Phase III

Vance County received a grant of \$117,305 to renovate a mill building for reuse by a materials recovery and recycling company. The project will create 10 jobs.

Wayne County

Town of Fremont

Sonny's Wrecker/C&S Auto Repair

The Town of Fremont received a grant of \$45,500 to renovate a former gas station for use by a wrecker service and auto repair shop. The project will create four jobs.

Wilkes County

Wilkes County

The Storehouse

Wilkes County received a grant of \$48,000 to renovate a cold storage facility for use by a nonprofit organization. The organization, which will create four jobs, will rent refrigeration and warehouse space to area farmers, tree growers and consumers.

Wilson County

City of Wilson

Fikewood Development Project

The City of Wilson received a grant of \$100,000 to renovate a vacant strip mall to house a commercial bakery specializing in Mexican goods. The project will create 10 jobs.

APPENDIX L
**RURAL HEALTH
CARE INITIATIVE
GRANTS**

APPENDIX L

RURAL HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE GRANTS – FY10

Beaufort County

City of Washington

A.G. Dunston Manor

The City of Washington received a grant of \$120,000 to help Metropolitan Housing and CDC Inc. construct a 50-bed assisted living facility. The project will create 10 jobs.

Bladen County

Town of White Lake

White Lake Family Medicine

The Town of White Lake received grants totaling \$54,362 to renovate a manufactured home for use as an urgent care center. The project will create five jobs.

Caldwell County

Town of Hudson

Hudson Hospice Project

The Town of Hudson received a grant of \$240,000 to help Caldwell Hospice and Palliative Care construct a 12-bed inpatient hospice facility and professional center. The project will create 20 jobs.

Camden County

Camden County

Camden Town Center, Phase I

Camden County received a grant of \$168,000 to support the construction of a 15,000-square-foot building to house locations for Todd's Pharmacy and Albemarle Family Practice. The project will create 14 jobs.

Carteret County

Carteret County

Snug Harbor Special Care Unit

Carteret County received a grant of \$32,500 to create a 10-room special care unit for Alzheimer's patients at Snug Harbor on Nelson Bay, an assisted living facility. The project will create three jobs.

Cherokee County

Cherokee County

IOI Expansion Project

Cherokee County received \$480,000 to help construct a 22,400-square-foot addition to the Andrews-based Industrial Opportunities Inc. facility, which provides developmental and vocational training to people with disabilities. The organization will create 40 full-time jobs.

Cleveland County

Cleveland County

Regional Detoxification Center

Cleveland County received \$336,000 to support construction of a 16-bed detoxification facility for Pathways LME in Shelby. The company provides services related to mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse. The company will create 28 jobs.

Haywood County

Haywood County

Homestead at Haywood Regional Medical

Haywood County received a grant of \$132,000 to construct a six-bed hospice facility. The project will create 11 jobs.

Town of Waynesville

Haywood Vocational Opportunities

The Town of Waynesville received a grant of \$240,000 to renovate a manufacturing building for use by a nonprofit that serves people with disabilities. The project will create 24 jobs.

Henderson County

Henderson County

BRCHS New Medical Building

Henderson County received a grant of \$150,000 to construct a medical facility to house a family practice, a pediatric practice and a mental health services office. The project will create 15 jobs.

Lenoir County

Lenoir County

Psychiatric Residential Facility

Lenoir County received a grant of \$480,000 to support the construction of an 18-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility for NOVA Behavioral Healthcare Corp. The facility will provide medical and psychiatric services to children and youth with severe mental illness diagnoses in a secure setting. The facility will create 40 jobs.

Macon County

Town of Franklin

Angel Physician Practice Renovation

The Town of Franklin received a grant of \$22,747 to renovate a vacant commercial building for reuse by a pediatric practice. The project will create two jobs.

Martin County

Town of Williamston

Expansion, Martin General Hospital

The Town of Williamston received a grant of \$36,000 to assist Martin General Hospital in the renovation of a vacant building for reuse as a physician's office. The project will create three jobs.

McDowell County

McDowell County

Family Practice Office / OB-GYN

McDowell County received a grant of \$120,000 to construct a facility that will house a new family practice office and enable the relocation of an obstetrics and gynecology office. The project will create 10 jobs.

Pender County

Pender County

Pender County Port Facility

Pender County received a grant of \$144,000 to help PORT Human Services build a nine-bed facility for the treatment of adolescents with mental health and substance abuse issues. The company will create 12 jobs.

Person County

City of Roxboro

Roxboro MedAccess Primary Care

The City of Roxboro received grants totaling \$192,000 to expand Roxboro MedAccess Urgent Care to allow the company to provide primary care services. The company will create 16 jobs.

Robeson County

City of Lumberton

Comforcare Senior Services

The City of Lumberton received a grant of \$180,000 to construct an adult day care and administrative facility for an existing home health care company. The project will create 15 jobs.

Robeson County

Caring Touch Home Health

Robeson County received a grant of \$480,000 to renovate a vacant manufacturing building in Maxton for use by a home health care company. The company will expand its clinical and corporate services, creating 40 jobs.

Rutherford County

Town of Spindale

Project Smile

The Town of Spindale received a grant of \$156,000 to renovate a former strip mall for reuse by an expanding dental practice. The project will create 13 jobs.

Scotland County

City of Laurinburg

SHCS Multi Renovation Project

The City of Laurinburg received a grant of \$144,000 to renovate existing hospital facilities to expand several of the hospital's medical departments. The project will create 12 jobs.

Vance County

Vance County

Rural Health Group

Vance County received a grant of \$360,000 to renovate a vacant building in Henderson for reuse by the Rural Health Group, a full-service community health center. The company will create 30 jobs.

Wayne County

Wayne County

Kitty Askins Hospice Center Expansion

Wayne County received a grant of \$264,000 to expand a hospice facility to include a 12-bed residential wing. The project will create 22 jobs.

APPENDIX M

**RURAL VENTURE
FUND PROJECTS**

APPENDIX M

RURAL VENTURE FUND INVESTMENTS/COMPANY PROFILES – FY10

Montgomery County

Bendiner Technologies, \$185,000

Bendiner Technologies produces and markets a proprietary line of products that inhibit the growth of mold. The product is designed for use in animal feed, food and beverages, and pulp and paper products, and in the construction industry. The firm is moving from Pinehurst to Candor. Matt Dyer, chief executive officer, expects to add eight jobs to the company's workforce within a year as a result of the investment.

Vance County

Rice Wrap Manufacturing, \$105,000

Rice Wrap Manufacturing produces frozen sushi roll products, which it plans to market to food service providers with a special focus on cruise lines. The center's investment allowed the company to purchase raw materials and also will be used for working capital. The privately owned company is based in Henderson. Richard Cronk Jr., general manager and one of seven co-owners, expects to add 18 jobs to the company's workforce over the next three years as a result of the investment.

APPENDIX N

**COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATIONS**

APPENDIX N

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROFILES

Appalachian Housing Initiative

Wilkes County

The initiative works to create affordable rental and homeownership opportunities and to provide programming related to youth and adult financial literacy, homebuyer education and counseling, and entrepreneurship and job training for low- to moderate-income families.

Bayboro Development Center

Pamlico County

The center focuses on helping low- and moderate-income families/individuals qualify for and obtain affordable mortgages, build assets and repair substandard homes. It also provides foreclosure prevention and homebuyer education services.

Blue Springs-Hoke County

Hoke County

The organization works in the areas of housing renovation and construction, microenterprise development, foreclosure prevention, homebuyer education, and projects and programs that provide academic and cultural enrichment.

Columbus County Dream Center

Columbus County

The center addresses housing issues, technology literacy and job training. Efforts continue to increase the quality of life for children and families with a particular focus on low- to moderate-income families. Program activities include increasing community-based financial literacy among the low- to moderate-income families, adults and youth; providing home foreclosure counseling and or referrals; sponsoring homebuyer education and counseling services; and supporting the construction of affordable homeowner and rental properties.

Community Empowerment Project

Rutherford County

The project provides opportunities for small business incubation, after-school and summer youth programs, vocational and technical assistance, and other human services. It seeks to galvanize community action toward the elimination of sickness, poverty, crime and discrimination.

Countywide Community Development Corp.

Brunswick County

The CDC provides community-based training in money management, financial literacy, asset acquisition and small business development. Countywide CDC currently operates three major programs -- the Affordable Housing Program, Project UPLIFT and Entrepreneurship Training for Historically Underutilized Businesses -- and collaborates with Brunswick Community College in sponsoring the Minority Contractor Support Center.

Cumberland Regional Improvement Corporation

Cumberland County

The organization provides program support and technical assistance for economic development initiatives. With the support of strategic partners, it works to identify and eliminate barriers faced by historically underutilized businesses, to promote greater access to construction contracts, and to provide management training, technical assistance and general contracting counseling.

Eagle Market Streets Development Corporation

Buncombe County

EMSDC's chief aims are to restore buildings and businesses as assets in the immediate and surrounding area and to provide employment and business development services to people of low-wealth communities living in Asheville and Buncombe County.

Goler Community Development Corporation**Forsyth County**

The organization focuses on providing housing opportunities for moderate-income citizens living in blighted areas of Winston-Salem and to create jobs in the construction trades. Goler engages in multifamily housing projects, condominium development and commercial construction.

New Life Community Development Corporation**Washington County**

The mission of the organization is to improve the quality of life for families and neighborhoods and to empower the area's low-income residents with the knowledge, skills and resources to gain self sufficiency. This is accomplished through the provision of affordable housing, homebuyer education, financial literacy training and job skills training.

Northeast Community Development Corporation**Onslow County**

Northeast CDC is a certified HUD housing counseling agency and provides community and economic development opportunities to low- and moderate-income families and individuals. It develops affordable housing for first-time homebuyers and offers entrepreneurship training, minority contractor training, financial literacy education and workshops on how to secure government contracts.

Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corporation**Burke County**

OHCEDC is a certified HUD housing counseling agency committed to providing a variety of self-sufficiency programs. These include programs in affordable homeownership, foreclosure prevention, financial management skills, IDA strategies, maternity health and transitional housing.

One Dozen Who Care**Cherokee County**

The purpose of ODWC is to strengthen local leadership and create strong community bonds through cultural events and the social and economic interaction of the community. Projects focus on providing leadership development, entrepreneurship and job training, photography training, community advocacy support and on preserving the African-American culture and heritage.

Quality of Life Association of Hertford County**Hertford County**

The organization's core programs focus on helping low- to moderate-income families and individuals to qualify for, obtain and retain affordable rental housing or home ownership. The organization also sponsors financial literacy and youth after-school projects.

Restoration Community Development Corp.**Wake County**

Restoration CDC addresses housing, social and economic parity issues in low-wealth communities of northern Wake and southern Franklin counties. The program focuses on mentoring, tutoring, social development and community service. Three core program components are youth enrichment, financial literacy, and housing education and counseling.

River City Community Development**Pasquotank County**

River City CDC is a certified HUD housing counseling agency that provides programs related to affordable housing, economic and workforce development, health and wellness, cultural awareness, financial literacy and entrepreneurial job training opportunities.

Rosenwald Center for Cultural Enrichment**Greene County**

The organization supports community development through computer training, summer youth camps, after-school programs, homeownership education and counseling, financial literacy training, small business development training and affordable housing development.

Sampson County CDC

Sampson County CDC provides affordable rental and homeownership opportunities to low-income families, credit and financial literacy training, leadership development for local churches, entrepreneurial development, and educational programming for at-risk children and parents.

Sampson County

Southside Alliance

Southside Alliance promotes affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, homebuyer education and loss mitigation housing counseling, financial literacy, and computer training for seniors.

Beaufort County

Triad Economic Development Corp.

Triad EDC focuses on community blight, affordable housing, job training, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, youth job-skills training and community building.

Guilford County

Tyrrell County Community Development Corporation

Tyrrell County CDC provides entrepreneurship education and financial literacy training to adults and youth, offers regional business and technology development training, assists residents in securing loans for business ventures, and provides technical assistance to mushroom growers in Tyrrell County.

Tyrrell County

UHURU Community Development Corp.

Programs of UHURU include housing counseling, loan counseling, foreclosure mitigation assistance, single-family and multifamily housing development, fatherhood training, youth entrepreneurial training and minority business development services.

Northampton County

Warren Family Institute

WFI encourages asset-building strategies through affordable homeownership opportunities and promotes job creation. It also provides direct services to parents and youth, such as free tax preparation services, financial literacy training, and after-school mentoring and tutoring.

Warren County

APPENDIX O
AGRICULTURAL
ADVANCEMENT
CONSORTIUM GRANTS

APPENDIX O

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT CONSORTIUM GRANTS – FY10

North Carolina State University

On-Farm Food Safety Program

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$35,000 to implement a food safety program to help local farmers meet risk management requirements.

North Carolina State University

Economic Value Study

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$4,523 to determine the economic value of the agriculture and agribusiness industries in each of North Carolina's 100 counties in 2008, the most recent year for which data was available.

North Carolina State University

Biotechnology Curriculum

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$20,000 to begin development of a biotechnology certification curriculum to train cooperative extension agents and farmers.

North Carolina State University

Value-Added Website Expansion

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$15,000 to expand the website of the Program for Value-added and Alternative Agriculture at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The website will serve as a source of information for farmers interested in adopting value-added practices.

North Carolina State University

Copper Ionization Study

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$16,236 to research the effectiveness of copper ionization for removing harmful pathogens from irrigation and wash water.

North Carolina State University

Food Processing Research

North Carolina State University received a grant of \$15,000 to complete a report on current issues in North Carolina's agricultural processing sector. These include the number of food-processing facilities, where they are located, how many people they employ and their infrastructure needs.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Wine Industry Research

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro received a grant of \$5,000 to conduct a study that compares wine industry regulation from state to state. The study would determine which regulatory issues stakeholders consider most critical to the growth and profitability of the industry.

APPENDIX P

**SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS
FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

APPENDIX P

SUPPLEMENTAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS – FY10

Granville County

Granville County Economic Dev. Comm.

Retention of Dill Air Controls Products

The Granville County Economic Development Commission received a grant of \$80,000 to help pay for a roof replacement at a facility that manufactures valves and pressure monitoring systems for tires. The project will allow the company to remain at its current site, retain its 86 employees and position itself for growth.

Northampton County

Roanoke Economic Development Center

Development of Roanoke Rapids Theater

The Roanoke Economic Development Center received a grant of \$25,000 to promote the Roanoke Rapids Theater by hiring a marketing firm to attract recognition to the area, identify partners for development, recruit a manager, develop a public relations campaign and create a website.

Wake County

N.C. Farm Bureau Legal Foundation

Healthy Living for a Lifetime Initiative

The North Carolina Farm Bureau Legal Foundation received a grant of \$60,000 to implement the Healthy Living for a Lifetime Initiative, which addresses the immediate health care needs of rural North Carolinians and promotes healthy lifestyle choices. The project will conduct statewide health screenings and events to serve more than 10,000 people over the next year.

Watauga County

Cove Creek Preservation and Development

Elevator for School of Chinese Medicine

Cove Creek Preservation and Development received a grant of \$25,000 to install an elevator in the historic Cove Creek School building to secure the reaccreditation of the building's primary tenant, a school of Chinese medicine.

APPENDIX Q

**OPPORTUNITES
INDUSTRIALIZATION
CENTERS**

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER
(OIC) OF WILSON INC.

**RURAL CENTER
OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER OF WILSON, INC.**

Organization: OIC of Wilson, Inc.

Contract Number: 2010-143-60103-102

Reporting Period: September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Activities:

- **Secure apprenticeship, work experience, and regular employment opportunity commitments from major area industry and prepare and refer candidates to fill these positions.**
- **To enroll students into appropriate non-remedial curricula a Wilson Community College.**
- **To provide after-school tutoring and leadership development activities to in-school youth.**
- **To provide alternative educational and vocational services to out0of0school youth including dropouts, students who are long-term suspended or expelled from public schools and court involved youth.**
- **To provide free comprehensive health screenings to individuals throughout the community through the mobile health unit.**
- **To distribute free supplemental food in the form of commodities to eligible individuals and families and to churches and community-based organizations in the area.**

Apprenticeship Work Experience:

Apprenticeships and temporary work experiences were secured by OIC for **165** individuals with employment, duration ranging from six-weeks to one year in job opportunities with local government, non-profits and businesses. **119** individuals secured unsubsidized employment in area industry at an average salary of \$22,000 annually thereby generating **\$2,618,000** into our state economy.

Community College Enrollments for Non-Remedial Curricula:

OIC recruited for enrollment at Wilson Community College **243** students for curricula training in areas of nursing, healthcare, education, computer networking, accounting, bio-technology, and HVAC to name a few. Upon completion of courses of study, students receive job readiness/job preparation and job search sessions at OIC.

Alternative Education

OIC in collaboration with Wilson Community College provided alternative education to **32** high school dropouts to prepare them for successfully passing the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) exam.

After School Enrollments

150 in-school youth ages 13-19 and grades 6-12th at-risk of school dropout, teen parenthood and justice system involvement were enrolled in OIC after-school youth development programs that included tutoring, career exploration, college exploration, cultural exposure, character and sex education. **82%** showed an increase in math skills by one grade level and **84%** showed one grade level increase in reading literacy. **83%** of enrolled seniors graduated in June 2010.

Health Screenings:

OIC provided free comprehensive health screenings in non-traditional settings (i.e. seasonal migrant camps, and different areas in the community) to help detect poor health conditions that contribute to a poor quality of life, including: diabetes, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Through a unique partnership with the Wilson County Sheriff, inmates in detention were targeted for testing. **230** inmates were screened. Through the OIC Mobile Health Unit and screening days offered four times yearly at the OIC quarterly food distribution, **1,000** individuals received free screenings.

Food Distribution

Commodities distributions during September '09, November '09, March '10 and May '10 served more than **13,176** people who received food that could provide three meals daily for three days.

Leveraging/fundraising

We hope all activities and services (distribution of free supplemental food in the form of commodities, free comprehensive health screenings to individuals, families, churches, and community based organizations, providing alternative educational and vocational services to out of school youth, including dropouts, students who are long-term suspended or expelled from public schools and court-involved youth, after-school tutoring and leadership development activities to in-school youth, enrolling students into appropriate non-remedial curricula and case managing them throughout their enrollment to ensure successful completion, and securing apprenticeship, work experience, and regular employment opportunity commitments from major area industry) will continue in the upcoming fiscal year. It is our hope that these programs are funded as a result of the Rural Center's and General Assembly's recognition of the value of services of non-governmental organizations in general and OIC in particular in these vital areas. Funds leveraged: **\$672,602** approximately **\$10** for each **\$1** funded by the General Assembly.

Meetings: Board minutes forwarded previously

Training: None

Other: Photos forwarded previously

ASHEVILLE BUNCOMBE COUNTY
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES – OIC

Rural Center
ANNUAL Progress Reporting Form
Opportunities Industrialization Centers

- **Organization:** ABCCM-OIC
- **Contract Number:** 2006-083-601030-102
- **Reporting Period/Year:** September 9, 2009 – June 30, 2010
- **Prepared by:** Meredith Hammond and Rev. Scott Rogers
- **Date Submitted:** 7-28-2010

Complete Items I-VII

- I. List work task(s) scheduled for the period (activities listed as part of your “work plan” submitted).
- Transitional Housing
 - 63 single women
 - 26 moms with 43 children
 - Total of 89 women and 43 children
 - Average daily occupancy: 44.42

 - Life-skills training
 - 89 women participated in 273 classes through 9/1/09 – 6/30/10
 - Classes included money management, meal planning and preparation; housing education and training, proper personal hygiene and housekeeping skills; parenting and stress management. This program has led to local property managers to collaborate with us when they have open vacancies.

 - Employment training/Steps to Success
 - 89 women participated in 280 classes through 7/1/08 – 6/30/09. We had 14 complete the Steps to Success Program, we had 26 complete classes at the Job Link/ One Stop Career Center, 28 complete classes at Goodwill Ind., 19 participated in GED classes at AB-Tech or Goodwill, 41 participated through the Employment Security Commission, 59 participated in Jobs for Life, 12 participated with HVRP and CWT Veterans training program and 51 participated with On Track financial credit services, and 23 participated with Vocational Rehabilitation services.

 - Employment placement
 - 67 total placements
 - 42 full time and 25 part time placements
 - 27 full time @ 7.25 or below an hr; 15 full time @ 7.25 or higher an hr
 - 9 part time @ 7.25 or below an hr; 16 part time @ 7.25 or higher an hr

 - Participants receiving public assistance
 - 39 total participants applied for SSD/SSI;

- 17 received SSD/SSDI and 22 are pending decisions
- 53 participants received assistance through main stream resources
- 11 were referred and enrolled to AFDC
- 16 received Medicaid/Medicare
- 41 children had medical coverage
- 14 received assistance through Work 1st program
- 11 received assistance through the Veteran's Administration

Housing placements: through 9/1/2009 – 6/30/2010

- 8 Public Housing
- 14 Private Housing
- 10 Supportive Housing
- 3 Transitional Housing
- 6 left the emergency shelter to unknown destinations
- Total 41 women and 16 children placed into public, private, supportive and transitional housing.

II. Work task(s) completed.

The Steadfast House Transitional Program sets out to help the women and children build on their strengths, encourage their interests, create stability through employment and education and develop internal and external skills to be productive in society. This past year we have focused our attention on integrating education, creating financial plans through budgeting and savings and paying off existing long term debt as a large part of our program. Some of the areas residents are engaged in are: educational programs through local Community Colleges for their GED or College courses, Goodwill Industries for their GED or technical skill trainings, local four-year Colleges, and local four-year Universities. Our employment statistics show the success rate of our ladies around employment. We encourage the women to obtain full-time employment so they can create a savings account and save 85% to 90% of their monthly income after expenses are paid. This will allow them to be proactive for when it is time for them to transition out of the program. We have also implemented a program fee for residents who have been able to pay off a considerable amount of existing debt and /or established a savings of \$2,000.00; to help get ready for future responsibilities such as rent, utilities, repairs and food.

III. Program Update

Through Follow-Up Services we have offered here at the Steadfast House we have researched and studied the residents who have transitioned out of our facility within the last year into their own housing and determined that 83% of them have been able to sustain their own housing due to the life skills training, job training and readiness skills, emotional and physical support and other services we have linked and referred them to in the community. Also, some of those residents were able to transition into housing on their own with no subsidy in place, due to their amount of savings they were able to accrue while in our program. Our program goal is to secure stability, shelter, safe place to reside while at the same time create an atmosphere that breeds transformation and growth. I believe the partnership between staff and residents has allowed this to happen through creating a supportive and accountable environment for all to mature.

Another area the Steadfast House has determined to be a strong part of their program is the dedication and commitment to teach staff and residents the importance of giving back to the community. Once a quarter staff and residents volunteer their time and services in the community to express their gratitude and appreciation for what the community has given to them through the Steadfast House and other programs and services in the local catchment area. This allows us to provide a sense of pride and dignity to the residents, so they do not always feel as though they are on the receiving end, but giving back to others as they are given. We have volunteered so far with two nursing homes creating programs and activities to nurture and love on their residents, help build a house for a homeless family through Habitat for Humanity in Asheville City, and help a local church move and set up their new church home in the local area. We are excited about this new endeavor and looking forward to many more opportunities to serve others in our community.

IV. Describe any unusual problems that have occurred since the last year especially, if it prevented you from completing the work task(s) or program activities described in the work plan.

Due to the economy we continue to witness employers being more selective in the hiring process which directly affects our residents with a criminal background. Because there are more applicants to choose from, employers can be more choosy and more careful in the hiring process. Our case managers work with our ladies to help them draft a letter (Explanation of Past Criminal History) explaining their past, with patterns of the changes they have made up until that point in their lives. This shows employers their commitment and dedication to making that transformation and learning from their mistakes of the past, without excusing them.

V. Leveraging/fundraising. Please list any fundraising activities conducted or proposed during the quarter and/or receipt of funds (i.e. proposal writing, donations and grants).

ABCCM is supported by 271 churches who have matched the \$48,000 contribution with an additional \$75,000 in general contributions from the community. Our supporting churches as well as community groups have provided three meals a day to an average of 34 women and 12 children a day, which is over 51,000 meals. At \$2/meal, this would be over \$100,000 in in-kind support. Volunteers have contributed over 12,000 hours through the participation of 390 people. Their volunteer time at the national rate of \$18/hr. would be \$216,000 worth of services. In the last year 67 women have gone to work at an average wage of \$9.00/ hour: annualized this would mean \$1,567,300 in payroll which is a 42:1 return on investment for OIC funding. We continue to write grants such as Jobs for Life through the Junior League, Veterans Administration Grant (know as our Per Diem Grant yearly), and other small grant we determine will help our program sustain itself and bring new and exciting opportunities to or women and children served.

VI. Attached are two case examples of successes.

Jane (alias) is a forty-two year old veteran who relocated here from Tennessee. Jane relocated to Asheville due to the services that were offered through the VA hospital. Jane had struggled with substance abuse for the past seven years on and off. Jane was admitted into the VA hospital in the early part of July in their substance abuse treatment program. When she was released mid

July, she had inquired about our transitional facility. She came to reside in our program in the early part of August. Since then Jane has enrolled herself in group and individual counseling through the VA hospital, attends weekly AA/NA meetings in the community and has obtained a full-time job with the VA in their Compensated Work Therapy Program. Jane has moved to a CWT employee to a full-time staff member in the VA hospital. Since, Jane has transitioned out of our program into her own apartment with no supportive assistance. Jane is doing well and continues to maintain her supports with the VA hospital, community programs and services as well as her contact with her case manager through our program. Jane states that she is interested in doing some volunteer work with us in hopes to give back to others as she once needed herself and of course we welcome her support.

Sally (alias) is a thirty-six year old mom with three children. Sally came to us because she had lost her job due to missing too many days of work, which she reports was due to her oldest son's behavior problems. Sally's son, Jimmy (alias) was diagnosed with Bi-polar and Conduct Disorder eight months before they came to live with us in the program. Sally stated that she was missing work a lot due to her son's doctor's appointments and him acting out in school and afterschool. Sally was depressed, alone and didn't understand how to navigate through the mental health services in order to find the help her son needed. When entering the program we immediately identified the need for Jimmy to obtain community support both in the school environment as well as at home to help mom understand and implement some techniques to support her son. Although Sally still struggled with juggling Jimmy's doctor's appointments and mental health needs, she was able to obtain full-time employment while at the same time work out a schedule to attend her son's medical appointments. Sally since has been promoted to one of the Assistant Shift Managers in a local McDonalds. Sally and her children have since transitioned out of our program into an apartment through the Asheville Public Housing Authority and is doing well.

WELFARE REFORM LIASON PROJECT INC.

OIC—COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

**NC Rural Economic Development Center
Opportunities Industrialization Center
Summary of Activity by Quarter
FY 2009-2010**

Organization Name: Welfare Reform Liaison Project – OIC – CAA (WRLP)

**Fourth Quarter 2008-2009 Activity Summary
June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009**

Objective Statement: Provide comprehensive self-sufficiency services to families 15 new families and 60 continuing families (115 Cumulative). Note: All cumulative information reflects the September 1, 2008 – August 31, 2009 time period.

Achievements:

1. Recruit and enrolled 23 families (145 cumulative) to participate in self sufficiency model. Enrollment includes assessment for eligibility and fit, using ROMA scales and development of casework plan. Families received comprehensive case management & employment assistance services in order to assist them eliminate barriers to self-sufficiency. One set of 4 week classes began during the period, but was not completed until the following quarter. Families are monitored on a 30-60-90 day basis.
2. Provide training to 6 students (16 cumulative) in areas such as duplicating DVD's, film services for video creation including capturing, editing, digital camera and film mixing, sound and lighting. Four videos were completed.
3. Provided American Management Association Certification Classes to 12 individuals (22 cumulative). By the end of the quarter 16 of the 22 completed the program, while six remained in the program.
4. Five partnership participants (WorkFirst) participated in specialized training, as well as 3 developmental disability program participants.
5. Celebrate Success, which recognized program graduates with work histories, was attended by almost 200 program participants, graduates and family members.
6. 17 individuals achieved income above the poverty level (cumulative for year).

First Quarter 2009- 2010 Activity Summary September 1, 2009 – November 30, 2009

Objective Statement: Provide comprehensive self-sufficiency services to 65 continuing families. Provide classroom and simulated job training support to 20 partnership program participants as part of cooperative agreements with other self-sufficiency programs. Note: Cumulative information reflects the period of September 1, 2009 through November 30, 2009 and is identical to the quarter totals.

Achievements:

1. Provided comprehensive case management & employment assistance services to 70 families, 37 that enrolled during the quarter and 33 who were carried over from the previous program year.
2. Completed one 4-week job training classes for 20 participants in employability skills, basic computer skills, personal finance and processing and distribution.
3. Provided training to 6 returning students and 13 new students in areas such as video creation, editing, digital camera operation, lighting and sound. Classes were on-going as of end of quarter. Completed 5 videos.
4. Created digital imaging training program and trained 17 students in digital imaging.
5. Provided American Management Association certificate classes to 6 individuals. Ended program following graduation.
6. Worked with 5 DSS WorkfFrst program participants, 8 Salvation Army program participants and 6 developmentally disabled individuals develop job skills in partnership with other agencies.
7. Received American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding to expand training program for a one year period, through September 30, 2010. ARRA enabled the creation of the digital imaging program, expansion of video production, development of an entrepreneurial development program (starting in December), development of a foreclosure assistance program, (starting in January 2010), basic need kit production and distribution (distribution starting in December) and construction training (Starting in January 2010). The foreclosure assistance program is in partnership with Salvation Army, the construction training program is in partnership with the local Workforce Investment Board and the Entrepreneurial Training is in partnership with the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.
8. Verified 3 program participants gained employment.

Second Quarter Benchmarks
December 1, 2009 – February 28, 2010

Objective Statement: Provide comprehensive self-sufficiency services to 20 new families and 50 continuing families (Cumulative 85 families). Provide classroom and simulated job training support to 20 partnership program participants as part of cooperative agreements with other self-sufficiency programs. (Cumulative 30). Note: Cumulative information reflects the period of September 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010.

Achievements:

1. Recruited and enrolled 96 families (133 cumulative) to participate in self sufficiency model. Enrollment includes assessment for eligibility and fit, using ROMA scales and development of casework plan.
2. Provided comprehensive case management & employment assistance services to assist families to eliminate barriers to self-sufficiency.
3. Conducted 4 week job training classes for 23 individuals in employability skills, basic computer skills, personal finance and processing and distribution.
4. Provided training to 12 students (cumulative 31) in areas such as video creation, editing, digital camera operation, lighting and sound.
5. Provide digital imaging training (classroom and field based) to 25 new students (43 cumulative). Developed four simulated job training digital imaging sites and provided students an opportunity for on-site training.
6. Developed a direct care worker training program and trained 12 individuals (one class was on-going at the end of the quarter).
7. Conducted construction training program for 19 participants.
8. Work with 11 partnership program participants (29 cumulative).
9. Assisted and coached 9 potential entrepreneurs in business plan development.
10. Verified 13 program participants gained employment

Third Quarter Benchmarks
March 1, 2010 – May 31, 2010

Objective Statement: Provide comprehensive self-sufficiency services to families and 15 new families and 60 continuing families (100 Cumulative). Provide classroom and simulated job training support to 20 partnership program participants as part of cooperative agreements with other self-sufficiency programs. (Cumulative 40)

Achievements:

1. Recruited and enrolled 87 families (220 cumulative) to participate in self sufficiency model. Enrollment includes assessment for eligibility and fit, using ROMA scales and development of casework plan.
2. Provided comprehensive case management & employment assistance services to assist families to eliminate barriers to self-sufficiency.
3. Conducted 4 week job training classes in employability skills, basic computer skills, personal finance and processing and distribution for 58 individuals.
4. Provide training to 3 students (cumulative 34) in areas such as video creation, editing, digital camera operation, lighting and sound.
5. Provide digital imaging training (classroom and field based) to 20 new students (63 cumulative). Developed two new simulated job training digital imaging sites and provided students an opportunity for on-site training.
6. Completed direct care worker training class for 6 individuals.
7. Conducted construction training program for 22 participants (41 cumulative).
8. Work with 6 partnership program participants (35 cumulative).
9. Provided Entrepreneurial counseling and micro-loans to 9 small business owners.
10. Verified 37 program participants gained employment
11. Verified 8 program participants achieved incomes above the poverty level. (Cumulative)

WELFARE REFORM LIASON PROJECT INC. OIC COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY GREENSBORO, NC

The Rural Center did not receive requested financial information from this organization by the deadline for submission of this report. We will submit the information as soon as it is received.

OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION
CENTER INC.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Project Goal & Activities: September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Project Goals: To provide comprehensive education, training, business development, health outreach, primary care and program support services that will enable economically disadvantaged persons of all races and backgrounds to become self-sufficient.

Objective Statement: To help clients eliminate their barriers to self-sufficiency.

Time Period Covering
September 1, 2009 – November 30, 2009

Activities:

1. Provide basic skills education, job training and job placement assistance to 85 youth and adults.
2. Provide HIV/AIDS outreach activities to 100 individuals through the Mobile Area Health Clinic.
3. Provide quality care to 1,000 patients in the Family Medical Center

Projected Outcomes: The desired outcomes for the listed above activities are:

1. Enhance the capability of at least 75% of clients enrolled in classes to find employment.
2. Ensure that 50% of individuals understand and can articulate how HIV/AIDS is transmitted and give two methods of reducing their risk for infection and transmission.
3. Provide access to primary care to uninsured individuals.

Accomplishments:

1. Provided basic GED educational skills, technical job training and job placement assistance to over 85 youth and adults successfully improving their skill base to become more competitive in an increasingly declining labor market.
2. The Mobile Area Health Clinic Unit provided Health Outreach activities, flyers, and educational presentations to over 550 individuals to improve their awareness. The Mobile Area Health Clinic Unit tested over 600 individuals for HIV/AIDS and provided test results to over 75 individuals.
3. The Family Medical Center provided quality medical care to over 1900 patients reaching both uninsured and underinsured clients.

Narrative:

OIC continues to reach out to the economically disadvantaged persons of all races and backgrounds and assist them in becoming self-sufficient, while in improving their quality

of life through comprehensive GED basic education, job training skills, CNA, Truck driving and assistance in job placement.

The Mobile Health Unit continue to reach the high risk clients through teaching HIV/AIDS awareness providing testing, condom, results and educational material on prevention methods.

The Family Medical Center continues to improve the quality of life and wellness by offering the under privileged a medical home. FMC offers quality medical care to an increasing number of families and individuals, especially the uninsured and the underinsured.

Time Period Covering:

December 1, 2009 – February 28, 2010

Activities:

1. Provide enhanced tutorial services to 90 high school students who have been suspended from school.
2. Provide warehouse and recycling operations to area industries.

Projected Outcomes: The desired outcomes for the listed above activities are:

1. Equip in-school students and their parents with coping skills, support and a safe environment while they were suspended, however firm counseling on reintroduction into the mainstream of the public school.
2. Increase capability of OIC, Inc. to maintain operations and expand our revenue-generating options.

Accomplishments:

1. Provided enhanced tutorial services to over 90 students as a means of keeping these at-risk high school students focused through their attendance in an alternative education environment program.
2. Provided over 400 hours per week of warehousing, shipping, kitting and recycling services to area industrial site.

Narrative:

OIC provided tutorial services to over 90 high school students who had been suspended from school for five days or more offering counseling, alternative and safe environments for learning.

OIC continue to provide Warehousing and recycling services to the Rocky Mount Engine Plant. We continue to work on contract stability with RMEP plant management staff.

Time Period Covering

March 1, 2010 – May 31, 2010

Activities:

1. Provided case management and career development services to 50 participants in our Training and Education programs.

2. Provided nutritious lunches to 50 participants in our GED programs.
3. Provided administrative and fiscal support to OIC programs.

Projected Outcomes: The desired outcomes for the listed above activities are:

1. Supported students' goals by developing clear objectives that help them achieve career and education objectives and addressing challenges/barriers that impede them from reaching their life objectives.
2. Help at-risk students perform better in academic settings with fulfilling healthy meals.
3. Provide critical infrastructure support for all program activities and ensure accurate and timely reports to agency funders.

Accomplishments:

1. We provided Case management and career development services to 242 participants in our Training and Education Programs.
2. We provided over 500 nutritious lunches to students in our GED programs.
3. Our Administrative and Finance department provided infrastructure support for all programs activities and reports.

Narrative:

1. Our Case Managers spent over 7,000 minutes with students during the 3rd quarter. Each student was allotted a 30 minute block of time per month. The case manager met with over 200 students, during this time the case manager assisted the students in developing clear objectives and staying on track in an effort to reach their goals. The block of time did not include the incidental time that was use to assist students with personal needs such as finding and keeping a home, food and clothing for themselves and for their babies and pampers.
2. We provided at-risk students with nutritious lunches to enhance their performance in an academic setting by providing fulfilling healthy meals. The meals also enhanced class morale.
3. Our administrative and fiscal department supported all programs by ensuring reports were completed and filed on time with the proper documentation. They assisted in Health Fairs and other events. Our administrative and fiscal department supports all deadlines and keeps the budget on track.

Time Period Covering

June 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010

Activities:

1. Successfully place 50 youth in meaningful employment throughout the summer months.
2. Support community outreach and education activities to 500 individuals.

Projected Outcomes:

1. Help economically disadvantaged and academically challenged youth to find incentives to complete their education and to find a career focus in an increasingly difficult labor market.

2. Work with other community agencies to increase wellness, healthy lifestyles and enhanced quality of life to individuals living in low wealth, at-risk environments and communities.

Accomplishments:

1. OIC successfully placed over 50 youth in summer employment. The jobs were recruited by the training staff.
2. OIC worked with other agencies in sponsoring Prostate and HIV/STD screenings, Blood Sugar and Blood Pressure screening.

Narrative:

1. OIC assisted over 50 youth in securing summer jobs. Our raining staff prepared the students for their new endeavor and contacted numerous businesses to secure the jobs.
2. OIC worked with other community agencies to increase wellness and healthy lifestyles in at-risk communities. OIC worked with 10 other agencies to host a NC Healthy Living Summit in Rocky Mount with over 300 people in attendance. We provided HIV and prostate cancer screenings in tandem with the NC Institute of Minority Economic Development's Health Division. OIC also provided our mobile medical unit with a mid-level provider on board at the homeless shelter to provide primary care and screenings to our most vulnerable citizens. OIC's partnership with other agencies has reached over 1,500 clients throughout eastern NC.

