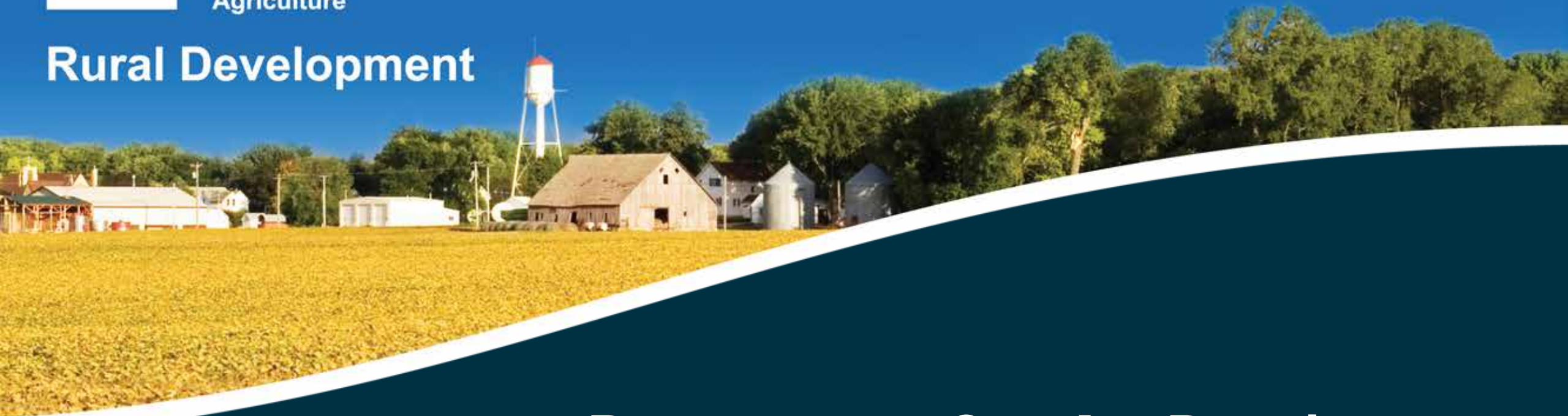




United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Rural Development



# Resources for Ag Producers

Jessica Bowser, USDA Public Affairs Specialist, [Jessica.bowser@ks.usda.gov](mailto:Jessica.bowser@ks.usda.gov)  
Kansas Rural Center Conference, November 18, 2016

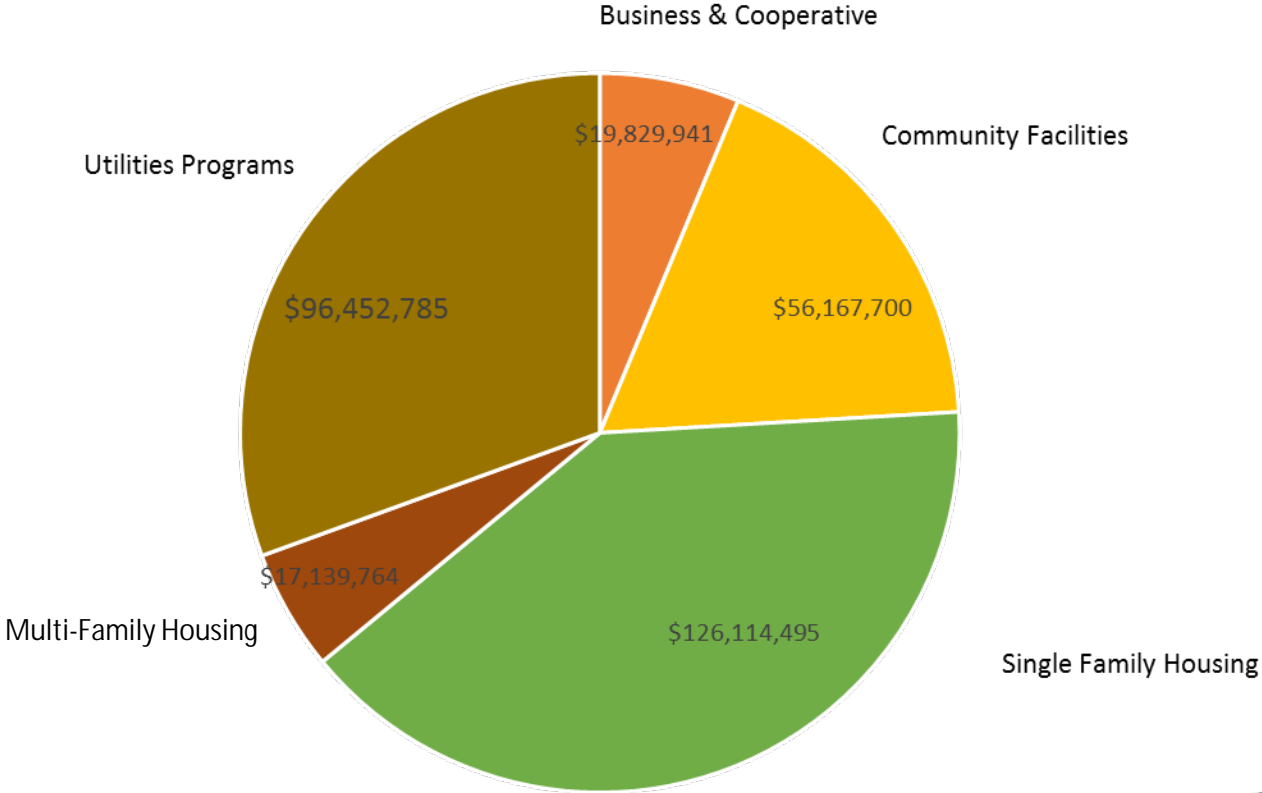
# USDA Rural Development's Mission

We are committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America

- More than 40 loan and grant programs
- Business Programs
- Community Programs
- Housing Programs
- Utilities Programs

# Investment in Rural Kansas

In 2016, USDA invested \$315 million in rural Kansas



# USDA RD Programs for Ag Producers

## Business Programs

- Value-Added Producer Grant
- Rural Energy for America Program

# Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

## VAPG Details

- VAPG awards can be used to develop new product lines from raw agricultural products or to expand a market for established products
- Working capital grants up to \$250,000
- Planning grants up to \$75,000
- Requires a \$1 producer match for each grant \$1

# Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

## VAPG Details

- Eligible Applicants
  - Independent producers, Farmer and rancher cooperatives, Agricultural producer groups, Majority controlled producer-based business ventures
- Funds Can Be Used For:
  - Processing cost
  - Marketing and advertising expenses
  - Some inventory and salary expenses
- VAPG funds cannot be used to build facilities, produce the raw commodity or purchase equipment

# 2016 VAPG Awardees

## 2016 VAPG Awards Totaled \$785,000

- Bauman's Cedar Valley Farms, Garnett, To purchase inputs for the company's **feed mill** to produce non-GMO, non-medicated livestock feed
- Holy-Field Vineyard & Winery, Basehor, To expand marketing of the company's **wine** into Johnson County and the Leavenworth Farmers Market
- Holy Goat Creamery, Manhattan, To launch the production of farmstead **cheeses** made from goat's milk
- Munson Angus Farm, Junction City, Kan., To develop a marketing campaign that would sell all cuts of **beef** from Munson Angus Farm's cattle
- Schenker Family Farms, McCune, Kan., To launch sales of **meat-based soups** and entrees made with chicken, pork, and beef raised on the farm
- White Tail Run Winery, Edgerton, To increase the production of the **winery's** Seyval Blanc wines

# 2016 – Value-Added Producer Grant Award

## Bauman's CVF

- Garnett, Kansas
- \$49,948 VAPG
- In 2015, Bauman's opened the feed mill because of a need for non-GMO poultry feed, and now they produce feed for swine and small and large ruminants as well
- Funds will help purchase inputs for the feed, as well as marketing the feed with new feed sack design





# 2015 – Value-Added Producer Grant

## Hildebrand Dairy

- Junction City, Kansas
- VAPG award was to expand the company's sales of processed milk into western and southeast Kansas
- The company's milk is sold in glass bottles in more than 105 grocery stores across the state



# 2014 – Value-Added Producer Grant Award

## Wiebe Cheese

- Durham, Kansas
- Funds will be used to expand Wiebe Dairy's production of farmstead cheeses
- Dill Weed, Garlic & Herb, White Cheddar with Garden Vegetable, Jalapeño, Colby, Hot Habanero, Cajun Cheese, Southwest Chipotle, Raw milk cheeses, Cottonwood River Cheddar (Reserve)

















# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## REAP Details

- Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.
- Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvements
  - Grants
  - Guaranteed Loans
- Eligible Applicants
  - Agricultural Producer
  - Rural Small Business

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Energy Efficiency		Renewable Energy	
	Lighting		Solar
	Heating		Wind
	Cooling		Small Hydroelectric
	Ventilation		Anaerobic Digesters
	Fans		Biomass
	Automated Controls		Geothermal
	Insulation		Wave/Ocean Power

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## ARC Technology

- 12.2 kilowatt solar array in Whitewater, Kansas
- Family owned and operated rural small business with 8 full-time employees who provide Engineering Services



# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Foster Dairy

- Family Farm in Fort Scott, Kansas
- Six fans were purchased in total, three 12-foot fans, and three 16-foot fans
- The six new fans replaced, 24 fans that were 36-inch fans



# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Ag REAP Projects

- Upgrade lighting and equipment for dairy, swine, poultry facilities
- Update an inefficient grain dryer
- Solar waters/fencers
- Irrigation motor/pump conversions

# Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

## Next REAP Deadline

- Continuously accept applications throughout the year
- Next deadline for grants and combination grant/loan request is March 31, 2017
- In 2016, awarded nearly \$500,000 in REAP grants





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For more information, contact:

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